

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

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

Anti-Christianity Ascending – Part 2

T. A. McMahon

IT USED TO BE that if I wanted a confirmation of what Dave Hunt and I were writing regarding the spiritual changes we observed taking place in the US and, more specifically, in Christendom, I'd talk to missionaries who had returned home on furlough after spending a couple of years ministering overseas. Many were quite shaken by what had transpired here in their absence, especially in their local churches. Among the changes they saw were the strong influences of so-called Christian psychology, the Purpose Driven and seeker-sensitive approach to church growth, militant Calvinism, Replacement theology with its tendency toward anti-Semitism, the Contemplative movement, the Hebrew Roots movements, the Emerging Church movement, kingdom dominionism, etc. Some found themselves in situations in which they had to decide whether or not they could continue fellowshiping in the church that had sent them into the mission field and was their primary support. “Heartbreaking” only partially describes their reactions.

It *used to be* that their responses were clear indicators of changes that we here in the US often miss or don't immediately realize because they appear slowly and even stealthily. It's much like the old “frog in the pot” parable, in which a frog was placed in a pot of tepid water, with the water temperature being very gently increased. The frog adapted to the warmer water until it eventually cooked to death. Now it appears that Christendom is being cooked at a fast-food rate. False teachers have abandoned trying to ease in “new teachings” and are now racing headlong into heresy after heresy. One example among a multitude of shockers that could be given: pews are pushed back in the sanctuaries of many evangelical churches to make room for the practice of Jesus Yoga, Yahweh Yoga, Holy Yoga and Kid's Holy Yoga, Praise Moves, Yogafaith, or Christoga (see “New Age Mysticism Déjà Vu Part 2”)! Forget subtlety. It's anti-Christianity, full speed ahead!

How could such a thing happen? Samuel Andrews's book *Christianity and Anti-Christianity In Their Final Conflict* gives us answers. But how did he acquire his acute awareness? Simply from the same source that he challenges readers of his book to seek out answers regarding such things—the Bible: “It is only through Scriptural light that we can fully know the character and work of the Anti-Christ; and to this light it is of vital importance that we give heed, for we are forewarned that he will present himself to men under an aspect best fitted to deceive.” Andrews claims no special prophetic insights, and although his approach is somewhat unique, it isn't complex. Reading the Bible and taking it at its word is the first prerequisite. The Scriptures prophetically declare that apostasy *will* take place in the last days before Jesus returns, and it begins with what Hebrews 2 warns believers against: “Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip” (v.1). That slippage has become a landslide today. Jesus is more specific in Revelation 2 as He addresses the church at Ephesus, first acknowledging their good works, and then: “Nevertheless I

have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.”

The departure from one's love of Jesus, no matter how slight, is still a departure. Good works, regardless of how seemingly good, without the love of Christ included, will result in a slip-page. At what cost? Jesus told the “church of many good deeds” that if they didn't return to their love for Him, He would remove the lampstand (i.e., the light given to them), and they would no longer reflect Jesus, who is that “true Light” (John 1:9). So began the bride of Christ's slide into apostasy.

Andrews realized that if there is a departure from the faith it will have serious consequences that will escalate to an awful conclusion resulting in devastating spiritual wreckage. He found this stated, in no uncertain terms, in the Book of Revelation. Andrews's rather unique approach was to ascertain all that Scripture said about the last days prior to Christ's return and, in particular, about the man who is the embodiment of wickedness, the Antichrist. Using those characteristics of the “man of sin” and what he is enabled by Satan to do, Andrews searches through the chronology of the Bible and church history, looking for traces and traits of the apostasy and its numerous elements that will contribute to the formation of the religion of the Antichrist.

Andrews provides an example based on this statement: “Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God” (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4). Andrews surmises that the reception by the entire world of someone who claims to be God and who will be worshiped as God is not something that humanity will readily accept without great cause and expectancy. He recognizes that the conditioning of the world by Satan is necessary in order to make his “man of sin” credible: “It need not be said that this man and his kingdom are not the accidents of an hour; there is a long preparatory process.” The world's rejection of Christ, the only true God manifested in the flesh, demonstrates that there must be more to convince people that worshiping the man of sin (rather than the sinless God/Man) is both advantageous and right. Andrews finds in Scripture what has been referred to as “the lie” (Romans 1:25), the belief that finite created beings can be as God, or are a part of God. The lie began in heaven when Lucifer declared, “I will be like the most High” (Isaiah 14:14). The lie came to earth in Satan's offer to Eve: “For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil” (Genesis 3:5).

Throughout Scripture and history we find examples of people worshiping mortal men, from the Caesars to the Roman and Greek gods to individuals such as Herod Agrippa (Acts 12:22). Even the Apostle Paul was thought to be a god by the barbarians on the Island of Melita, and the people at Lystra, referring to him, exclaimed: “The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men.” Yet those local incidents were a far cry from what will take place regarding the worldwide worship of the Antichrist.

Andrews's approach to end-times prophecy is not complicated. He read what the Bible declares will take place just prior

to the Lord's return, and then he surveyed his own time (the late 1800s) to see if what was being popularized had any relevance to the fulfillment of latter-day prophecy. Unlike some in our day who turn every news event into a literal prophetic fulfillment, Andrews addressed the big picture conceptually: mankind *will* universally come to believe in the deification of man and the worship of man. The evidence that this development was well on its way was plentiful in Andrews's day, primarily due to the belief in pantheism and panentheism. They are the belief that God isn't personal but a Force, the substance of which everything consists and which is in everything. Thus, man is God or is a part of God.

The teaching that God is an impersonal Force is foundational to Eastern mysticism, especially Hinduism. In the West, Andrews saw that the philosophers who greatly influenced his era (Kant, Hegel, Spinoza, etc.) drew upon Eastern mystical concepts in formulating their views of God. He quotes a well-known historian of the early 1800s who recognized the same: "Among the different systems, by whose aid philosophy endeavours to explain the universe, I believe Pantheism to be one of those most fitted to seduce the human mind in democratic ages...."

The belief in Pantheism was further promoted by well-known literary figures (Emerson, Thoreau, Whitman, Shelley, Browning, et al.), whose writings advanced their belief in the exaltation of nature and the deification of mankind. Many in the sciences joined their ranks based on the endorsements of Huxley and others promoting evolution, especially in the rejection of a Creator.

As the affinity for the pseudoscience of evolution grew, ideas were added that reinforced the belief in mankind's evolution to a higher state. Darwin predicted that "in the distant future man will be a far more perfect creature than he now is." Andrews writes, "In this belief as to the future of man, the leading evolutionists...look chiefly to the gradual evolution of humanity under the law of the survival of the fittest.... Philosophy and science in many eminent representatives agree in affirming that there is no personal God, only a universal, impersonal Spirit or Energy, of which everything that exists is a part. This, viewed on the material side, is atheism; on the spiritual, is pantheism [with its deifying affirmations]."

Andrews wrote extensively of the many things taking place in his time period of 120 years ago that advanced the idea that all humanity is God. The abundant information on that one prophetic point alone brought him to a conclusion that was evident in much of what he observed: worshipping the Antichrist will surely include the recognition of one's own godhood. He further explains: "It is also to be remembered that in rendering homage to one who appears as the rival of Christ, men will not do homage to *one who differs in his nature from themselves*, and superior to them; but to *their own nature as embodied in him*. In exalting him, they exalt themselves" [with the *only* difference being] "that they recognize in him one in whom is a larger measure of Divinity" (emphasis added).

Christianity and Anti-Christianity In Their Final Conflict reads as though it were written today, with two differences: 1) All the things that Andrews identified in his era are found today albeit in widely diverse, yet connected and expanded, versions, and 2) Their exposition and promotion in our day seems to be taking place worldwide at light speed by comparison.

The following brief summary of just some of his insights leaves one in awe of his biblical and historical discernment:

- As a result of the loss of the bride of Christ's main focus upon Jesus and her love for Him, her desire to please Him through obedience to His commands will decrease, and apostasy will follow.
- Though a remnant will remain steadfast, the end-time church will supplant the headship of Christ with the rule of men, organizations, and the state. All attempts within Christendom to set up Christ's Kingdom prior to His return will fail.

- The state will rule over the church very likely through some form of socialism, and Christ will be regarded as little more than a model of social and moral correctness.
- The world will look forward to a more highly evolved human instead of looking back to one in the archaic past, like Jesus.
- Biblical Christianity will be ultimately disparaged and rejected, especially with its doctrine of the sinfulness of man in need of salvation through Jesus Christ alone.
- Neo-Christianity will conform to the ways, means, and beliefs of the world.
- Christ, when He is considered, is said to be simply a revealer of the divinity that exists in all mankind.
- Mankind will look to all of its accomplishments in science as proof of its superior human potential.
- Pantheism, as noted above, will be the primary belief that sets the stage for acknowledging and worshipping the Antichrist, as well as humanity's own divinity.
- The Antichrist will be the chief human adversary of Christ as well as a counterfeit substitute who will set up a false worldwide kingdom. He and his kingdom will be destroyed when Jesus returns to set up His Millennial Kingdom.

Samuel Andrews is clearly a watchman on the wall who, from the Scriptures and his understanding of the times, has set about warning the body of Christ of the evil that is looming and will take its toll on both professing and true Christians. His book was criticized in his day as being too negative, although "proof" of his so-called negativity was drawn from Paul, Peter, Jude, John, not to mention the words of Jesus to the seven churches in Revelation. Some of his detractors thought he should put humanity in a more positive light, recognizing that man is evolving upward, although such an idea had no scriptural support. Prophecy, of course, was disparaged then as it is today. Nevertheless, Andrews forewarned that "Those despising the prophetic word, and not believing in his appearing, will be attracted and fettered by the power of his person: and those whose conception of him is that of an open blasphemer of God, a bitter enemy of all religion, detestable because of his vices, will not discern him should he appear as a saviour of society and a religious leader."

We believe the Scriptures teach that the Antichrist will not be revealed until after the church has been removed from the world in the Rapture (2 Thessalonians 2:2-8, John 14:1-3), and at Christ's return His saints will accompany Him (Jude 1:14) as He destroys the Wicked [one] (2 Thessalonians 2:8). Yet the acceptance of the kingdom of the Antichrist and his religion, as Andrews well supports through the Word of God and to which the history of the church testifies, involves "a long preparatory process" that finally seduces the entire world. Our succumbing to the accelerating spiritual deception of our day can be prevented only by God's grace as we put our love for Jesus first, do diligence in reading and doing what His Word says, praying without ceasing, and maintaining the fellowship of like-minded believers.

One of the endorsers of *Christianity and Anti-Christianity In Their Final Conflict*, James M. Gray, who followed D. L. Moody and R. A. Torrey as president (1904-1934) of the Moody Bible Institute, wrote, "Pastors, missionaries, Sunday-school teachers and social workers, bear with me if I say, you must read [Samuel J. Andrews's] book.... Here are no wild fancies, no foolish setting of times and seasons, no crude and sensational interpretations of prophecy, but a calm setting forth of what the Bible says on the most important subject for these times. The Christian leader who does not know these things is no leader, but the blind leading the blind. And, oh, there are so many of such leaders!" To that we can only add our "Amen."

TBC

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Submit your own questions to: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708
or e-mail: editorial@thebereanall.org

QUESTION: Jesus said, “I will give unto you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven...if two of you shall agree on anything it shall be given you....” Why can’t we make this work today?

RESPONSE: The Catholic Church teaches that the “keys” were only for Peter (and his “successors,” the popes) and that the “binding and loosing” authority was for all of the apostles (including Peter) and their “successors,” the bishops et al. But what does the Bible say?

Jesus promised Peter, “And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven” (Mt 16:19). But He also said virtually the same thing to the rest of the apostles (18:18). Clearly the “keys” in Matthew 16 are connected with the “binding and loosing” authority given to Peter at that time, and later to all the disciples in Matthew 18. And, again, to all of the disciples after His resurrection Christ declared, “Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained” (Jn 20:23).

Surely, the gospel and sound doctrine (which all true disciples are to preach) are the “keys” to the Kingdom. Peter used these keys to unlock the Kingdom to the Jews through his sermon on the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2, and in Acts 15:7 Peter seems to indicate that he used these keys again when he preached the gospel to the Gentiles in Cornelius’s house in Acts 10. Every Christian is a successor to the apostles, and we have the same authority they had to bind and loose. What does it mean?

The “binding and loosing” in Matthew 16 is further illustrative of “keys.” Keys are used both to lock (bind) and unlock (loose). The gospel of Jesus Christ that we preach sets free from sin (looses) those who receive it and condemns (binds) those who reject it. Furthermore, in Matthew 18, “binding and loosing” is linked with the promise, “Where two or more are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” That promise applies not to some special “prophet” or “official church hierarchy” but to all Christians.

The context and the entire tenor of Scripture make it clear that Jesus is not handing His disciples a magic power to wield as they please. He is telling them that as His representatives they are to act in His name. This is no different from His promise that “Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it to you” (Jn 16:23). Invoking His name in prayer is not a magic formula whereby we receive automatic answers to our requests. His name must be stamped on our character and engraved in our hearts, not just on our lips. To ask in His name means to ask according to His will and to His glory. The same is true with “binding and loosing”—it must be in His name and through His Word.

QUESTION: One commentator suggested that you do not know the difference between redemption and salvation. He claimed that they are not the same—indeed, we are all redeemed, whether Christians, Jews, Muslims, or animists, because this is basic Christian doctrine held even by traditional Protestants. How would you respond?

RESPONSE: This idea is just plain wrong. In fact, there is no distinction between “redemption and salvation,” and I have not seen any biblical references to prove there is. Anyone who is

redeemed is saved, and one can only be saved by being redeemed, as numerous verses prove. Take, for example, “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins” (Eph 1:7; Col 1:14); and “...the gospel is the power of God unto *salvation*” (Rom 1:16). Redemption is tied to forgiveness of sins and comes through Christ’s blood being shed for us—but salvation comes the same way, through believing the gospel, which is about Christ dying in our place to obtain forgiveness of sins for us. Hebrews 9:15 states that redemption gives the promise of “eternal inheritance [life]”; and Galatians 4:5 says that we receive the “adoption of sons” (i.e., are born again) through being redeemed by Christ. But to be born again and to receive eternal life is what it means to be saved—or to be redeemed; both terms have the same meaning.

Beyond that, it is *not* “basic Christian doctrine, even [held by] traditional Protestants,” that “we are all redeemed—Christians, Jews, Muslims, animists.” The Bible teaches that Christ paid the price for the redemption of all mankind; redemption from Satan’s power is *offered* to all, but it is only *effective* for those who personally accept Christ as Redeemer. They are known as “the redeemed”; for example: “Let the redeemed of the LORD say so” (Ps 107:2). That’s a definite group of people, not the whole world. Consider also, “they sung a new song, saying...thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood *out of* every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation” (Rv 5:9). If the redeemed were redeemed *out of* the rest of mankind, then one cannot say that all mankind is redeemed!

Look up the words “redemption,” “redeemed,” and “redeemer” in a concordance. These words are *never* used of the world in general but only of God’s people, whether Israel in the Old Testament, or the saints (believers in Jesus Christ) in the New. To be redeemed means to be set free “from the curse of the law” (Gal 3:13), to be “justified freely by his grace” (Rom 3:24) and to have “the forgiveness of sins” (Eph 1:7; Col 1:14). *None* of these blessings accrue to Jews, Muslims, or animists, but *only* to those who have received the LORD Jesus Christ as personal Savior.

QUESTION: God tells Abraham and Isaac that their descendants (Hebrews) will be as numerous as the stars. Considering the number of stars there are in the universe, that would have to be on the order of 10²⁰ Jewish people. Is this not a failed prophecy?

RESPONSE: In Genesis 15:5 we read, “And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell [count] the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.”

To Abraham, a man whose wife was barren, the Lord issued a challenge to him to count the stars with his unaided eye (if he were able) and promised that in a like manner, “so shall thy seed be.” With no telescope, Abraham could hardly arrive at a total of 10²⁰ stars.

Indeed, there is no indication that Abraham even began counting stars before it was said, “And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness” (Gn 15:6). The simple point is that Abraham looked at the sheer number of stars that the unaided eye could see and he believed God.

The Lord also speaks of the “sand along the seashore” and this hyperbole is clearly indicating a number of descendants far more than he could imagine.

LETTERS

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or e-mail: editorial@thebereancall.org

Dear TA,

I just finished reading Part 1 of “Anti-Christianity Ascending,” in the *Berean Call* newsletter Vol XXXII No 8 for August 2017. I share your enthusiasm for the information you shared with us re your comments from the book, *Christianity and Anti-Christianity in Their Final Conflict* by Samuel Andrews. Can’t wait to read part 2, and for sure would request a copy of the reprint which you indicate may be available in the fall. KS (CO)

Dear TBC,

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart; for all the back newsletters you sent me. I truly enjoyed all the articles. I believe that you are spot on when addressing the issues you write about—especially the ones on the HRM. I have personally dealt with and read some of their stuff. Thanks for filling me in with more information. DF (CA, prisoner)

Dear TBC Staff,

I am so thankful for the newsletter. We have 5 or 6 men together on Wednesdays for Bible Study and quite often we use *TBC* for reference and or subject matter. The latest article, “Christ and Antichrist,” was used this week. I made copies for those that are not (but will be) [believers.] Thank you again for your steadfast position on the inerrant Word. JA (OR)

Dear Tom and Staff of TBC,

First, let me express our deep appreciation for your steadfast commitment to the unpopular ministry of “rightly dividing” the unchanged Word of the Living God. We so appreciate your ministry. We will be viewing the Conference online. AH (Canada)

Dear TBC,

I’ve been a Messianic believer since 1986, though the majority of Messianic Jews (we call ourselves Messianic Nazarenes now) refuse to accept us as siblings in Messiah/Christ. Today, I had a look at *TBC*’s pages on Hebrew Roots and discovered this, which supposedly validates your statement that Hebrew Roots/Messianic isn’t a “movement.” Your article states, “There is no national organization or hierarchy of leadership among this group, yet there are leaders and writers from diverse ad hoc organizations, churches, and ministries who favor the trend.” That sentence is true—there is no national organization or hierarchy for the Hebraic Roots “movement,” though pretenders to the Throne abound, as do the Jewish Studies programs to ordain or just teach on the subjects.

What is not true is that it is not a movement. Because, if you use the same criteria, there was no Protestant movement freeing [those whom] Christ died to save from Catholicism. It was done in exactly the same type of “manifestation” of our common God’s Holy Spirit. AD (email)

Dear T.A. and Staff,

Thank you so much for your timely newsletters that are a light in the darkness we face. You bring great confirmation to what we sense in the Spirit: i.e., time is short and it gets darker and darker around us with false teaching and the accepted lies and violence that surround us. We so need to stay close to our Lord and let His peace flow over and through us.

Thanks again for following what the Lord has given you to do in the Body of Christ. MT (NY)

QUOTABLE.....

Some are now making an attempt to accredit the Bible by presenting it as a book for literary study. It is said that by “a judicious selection” of its most graphic and eloquent passages it may be made a source of literary, as well as spiritual, stimulation. As expressed by one writer: “Who shall say that it is not to be included in the curriculum of polite learning as a theme, perhaps of equal moment with Shakespeare?”

This is meant to do the Bible high honour. But how could we find a more significant sign that it is ceasing to be regarded as an inspired book, unfolding to men the character and purpose of God, His mercy and grace in His Son, salvation from sin, and the terrors of judgment? Instead of being read as a book in which the voice of God is heard calling all to repentance, to obedience, and to righteousness, a voice which no man may disregard but at the peril of his soul, we are told to read it as literature—a collection of elegant extracts, of biblical masterpieces. Doubtless the purpose is by appealing to the literary taste, the imagination, the sense of the beautiful and sublime, to obtain for the Bible a new hold upon the attention of cultivated people.

But its sacred character is thus lost. It is merely a book among books—of value for intellectual culture, but no more the one book, able to make us wise unto salvation, to which we come, upon the bended knee, praying for that light from the Spirit who inspired it, without which we read in vain.

—SAMUEL ANDREWS,
Christianity and Anti-Christianity In Their Final Conflict

TBC NOTES

Re-establishing Our First Love

As was mentioned in this and last month’s newsletter articles, any good work that doesn’t reflect or is not enabled by one’s love of Jesus is not a good work, and a build up of such works has dire consequences. They may have some temporal value, and very likely they will bless others, but they have no eternal value for the one who works such works without the love of Jesus.

Too often we are deluded into thinking of our love for Jesus in terms of our emotions. That may be okay to some degree, but our emotions should never be more than a “feelings” by-product of our genuine love for Him. In John 14:23, Jesus declared, “If a man love Me, he will keep my words.” Obedience motivated by one’s love for Him is the true criterion for biblical love. Jesus said in Luke 6:46, “Why call ye Me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?” That is the basis for our slipping away from the love of Christ that He commands us to repent of and restore (Revelation 2:4-5).

T. A. McMAHON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NEWSWATCH

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

THE WESTERN BABY BUST

CHRISTIANHEADLINES.COM, 8/10/17, "THE WESTERN BABY BUST: WHO WILL THE LEADERS LEAD?" [EXCERPTS]: A recurring topic is the demographic challenge—"crisis" isn't too strong a word—facing the industrialized world. From Tokyo to London, people are having fewer and fewer children: In some cases, they're having barely half as many kids as are needed to maintain a stable population without relying on mass immigration.

This "birth dearth," as it's called, poses economic and social challenges to much of Europe, as well as Japan, South Korea, and even China.

The impact of this "birth dearth" is not lost on European leaders and their counterparts in Asia. They've gone to extreme, and even comical, lengths to reverse the trend. Last year, we told you about the Danish government's "Do it for Denmark" ad campaign. Russia offered women who had a second child not only money but also "cars, refrigerators, and other prizes."

Singapore even went so far as to establish a government-run dating service in a bid to increase one of the lowest fertility rates in the developed world.

Not surprisingly, few, if any, of these measures met with much success. It could scarcely be otherwise since, especially in Europe, the message from leaders seems to be, "do as we say, not as we do." The leaders of four of Europe's five largest economies are childless: Germany's Angela Merkel, Britain's Theresa May, France's Emmanuel Macron, and Italy's Paolo Gentiloni. The sole exception is Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, who has an increasingly un-European two children.

According to the historian Niall Ferguson, Europe's low birth rates have put it on track for "the greatest sustained reduction in European population since the Black Death in the fourteenth century."

(<https://goo.gl/K2qHtk>)

INDIVIDUALS TO SELF-IDENTIFY GENDER

CHRISTIANCONCERN.COM, 7/25/17, "INDIVIDUALS TO SELF-IDENTIFY GENDER UNDER NEW GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS" [EXCERPTS]: Individuals will be able to self-identify their gender, under new government proposals.

The [British] government is to review the Gender Recognition Act 2004, to remove the need for an individual to have

lived for two years as their desired gender before acquiring a Gender Recognition Certificate (GRC).

A consultation on the Gender Recognition bill, which will be published this autumn, will also suggest 'demedicalising' gender identity, by removing the requirement for an individual to be diagnosed with 'gender dysphoria', before applying to 'change' their gender.

Both the Prime Minister Theresa May and Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn have spoken in support of the plans.

The government's announcement is timed to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the 1967 Act to partially decriminalise homosexuality.

[Education Secretary Justine Greening] said that the Church of England should "keep up with modern society" by allowing same-sex 'marriages' to take place in its churches.

(<https://goo.gl/WViLcA>)

FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE? FEWER CHILDREN

THEGUARDIAN.COM, 7/12/17, "WANT TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE? HAVE FEWER CHILDREN" [EXCERPTS]: The greatest impact individuals can have in fighting climate change is to have one fewer child, according to a new study that identifies the most effective ways people can cut their carbon emissions.

The next best actions are selling your car, avoiding long flights, and eating a vegetarian diet. These reduce emissions many times more than common green activities, such as recycling, using low energy light bulbs or drying washing on a line. However, the high impact actions are rarely mentioned in government advice and school textbooks, researchers found.

The new study, published in Environmental Research Letters, sets out the impact of different actions on a comparable basis. By far the biggest ultimate impact is having one fewer child, which the researchers calculated equated to a reduction of 58 tons of CO2 for each year of a parent's life.

The figure was calculated by totting up the emissions of the child and all their descendants, then dividing this total by the parent's lifespan. Each parent was ascribed 50% of the child's emissions, 25% of their grandchildren's emissions and so on.

(<https://goo.gl/w2NTFX>)

THE BEREAN CALL

Founder: Dave Hunt
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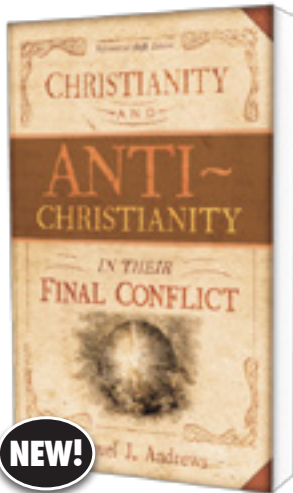
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