

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

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

Missing the Mark — Missing the Solution

T. A. McMahon

MOST OF US understand that “missing the mark” is one of the biblical definitions of sin. The Apostle Paul uses the Greek verb *hamartano* for sin in Romans 3:23: “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” That may seem to some as a bit unfair, since rarely would we think that not measuring up to a goal or standard is *sin*. “Missing the mark” doesn’t seem like much of an offense, considering most sins that we’re aware of, especially the horrendous ones. An arrow that falls short of the target is sin? Seriously? To react in such a way reveals much about ourselves and the condition of our hearts in relationship to our Creator.

God is perfect. Everything He says and does is perfect. Therefore, His standard is perfect. Anything that “come[s] short” of His standard must be *sin*. As James tells us, “For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one *point*, he is guilty of all” (James 2:10). That’s God’s criterion for being with Him. We sin, we die. And we have all sinned. Death involves physical and spiritual separation from God. Without repentance, it will last forever.

One might ask, as the disciples did on one occasion, “Who then can be saved?” Jesus responded, “With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:25-26). God’s judgment and justice are perfect. The penalty for sin is eternal separation from Him. It’s an infinite punishment, and finite mankind can never pay the full sentence. But God can, and did! “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). Jesus, the perfect, sinless God/Man, satisfied perfect justice by fully paying for the sins of mankind—past, present, and future.

Although God has provided salvation for all humanity through Jesus, it’s only effectual for those who put their faith in Him as their Savior, understanding that He and He alone can save them. No one and *nothing* else can be added as a solution—not good works, not church attendance, not a denomination, not rituals, not sacraments, not canonized saints or religious leaders, not baptism—*nothing else*. *Solus Christus*—only by Christ.

Once we are saved, we are transformed—but not perfectly. Not yet. That takes place when we go to be with Jesus. Prior to that perfect transformation we are given a new nature, yet we still retain our old nature. We can sin, but we are no longer in bondage to or controlled by sin. As new creatures in Christ, our lives are enabled to please God by His grace and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit who lives within us (1 Corinthians 3:16). Nevertheless, our new life in Christ involves a struggle between our old nature and our new nature.

How important is that struggle? Although our salvation doesn’t depend on it, since salvation was given to all who received it by faith as a free gift, it does relate to a host of things pertaining to our temporal life in Christ. Such as? Our relationship with Jesus—in other words, our love for Him, our pleasing Him, our

maturity in Him, our fruitfulness, our obedience, our witness, our rewards in heaven. Such things and many others are dependent to a degree upon our *not* “missing the mark.” In other words, they must be handled God’s way.

Perfectly? Yes. That must be our goal. Scripture tells us, “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect” (Matthew 5:48). “But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation [conduct]; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy” (1 Peter 1:15-16). “Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may *stand perfect and complete in all the will of God*” (emphasis added - Colossians 4:12). That must be every believer’s goal.

Is it attainable? No, not in perfection or completely. Then why make the effort? That may sound like a silly question for those who are biblical Christians and who believe that whatever they do, they are to do to the glory of the Lord (1 Corinthians 10:31). Yet even the world gets it. The popular refrain of the self-help and motivational gurus is “Be the best that you can be.” They recognize that even an effort that falls short of the individual’s goal will nevertheless prove to be of benefit. Of course that’s all about self, and far removed from a believer’s motivation...hopefully.

The fervent prayers of Epaphras for his brothers and sisters in Christ in Colosse tell us two important things: a) We are exhorted to stand perfect and complete in all the will of God, and b) As a prayer, the efforts of the believers in Colosse will be helped to that end by the Lord. Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, writes similarly to those in Thessalonica: “Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us *how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more*. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus” (emphasis added - 1 Thessalonians 4:1-2). Those two verses pretty much sum up and support the points and concerns I have in writing this article.

Here they are: 1) Throughout the Scriptures, we believers are exhorted to do things God’s way as perfectly and completely as we can by His grace. 2) Through His Word He has given us all the instructions we need in order to do things His way (2 Peter 1:3-4; 2 Timothy 3:16-17). 3) He has given us His Holy Spirit to help us understand and do what He commands (1 Corinthians 3:16; John 16:13). 4) To the degree that we don’t take to heart and do not only what God has provided for us but what He commands us to do and in the way He wants us to do it, that carelessness involves actively “missing the mark.” It’s sin. And sin leads to separation.

Sin, for the believer in Christ (as I hope we know), has consequences that are temporal and not eternal. Christ’s payment on our behalf makes our destiny with Him eternally secure. As Christians, our sins have the temporal effect of destroying our fruitfulness as well as adversely affecting our relationship with Jesus. He will never leave us nor forsake us. Our sins, however, cause us to draw away from Him until we repent. “Behold, the LORD’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: *But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will*

not hear” (emphasis added - Isaiah 59:1-2). However, true repentance of our sins (no matter what those sins may be) enables us to draw near to God, thereby restoring our relationship (James 4:8).

How serious can “missing the mark” become? What follows is an observation that grieves me deeply, which is why I have begun this article by trying to clarify the necessity of God calling us to perfection. His Word, His instructions, His commands, are *perfect*. Furthermore, they are God’s words, not men’s: “But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ” (Galatians 1:11-12). God’s words are truth; man’s words added to the Lord’s are “profane and vain” leaven. They may seem godly at first, but “they will increase unto more ungodliness” (2 Timothy 2:16). Moreover, adding to or subtracting from God’s Word is condemned: “Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar” (Proverbs 30:5-6).

We are in a time of overwhelming apostasy, which should be obvious to those who are committed to Jesus and, therefore, to biblical discernment. Scripture indicates that such a spiritual condition will increase dramatically as we draw nearer to the Lord’s return. Jesus characterized that time as one of unprecedented deception (Matthew 24). Paul states that a major reason for believers being deceived is because “...they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables” (2 Timothy 4:3-4).

Fables? Fables are stories. Stories can be true or false, but what they are *not* is God’s Word, His *doctrine*, His truth. I’m not talking about illustrations that help us to explain biblical doctrine but man’s input that takes on a life of its own and, in the process, departs from what God has said. Warnings are given throughout the Bible regarding this, as in Hebrews 2:1: “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*” [emphasis added]. Sadly, the slippage today in the church is of avalanche proportions.

The Emerging Church Movement (ECM), having begun not too long ago, made a huge impact among young adult Christians. It seduced many away from adhering to sound doctrine and led them into subjective conversations *about* God, the contemplative approach to knowing God, traditional rituals, the sacramentals of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches, and the use of allegory and spiritualization of the interpretation of Scripture. That debris of the ECM continues to find fertile ground among millennials. But there is a far more devastating and widespread example in the church of drifting away from sound doctrine, and that, tragically, is through the ministries of some of the most influential women in Christendom.

In the March 2019 *TBC* newsletter’s main article, I mentioned the names of Beth Moore, Joyce Meyer, Priscilla Shirer, and Sarah Young. All are prolific writers, have huge followings, and are guilty of supplanting the Word of God and Jesus himself through drifting away from sound doctrine. They all take teachings, many of which have a biblical basis, and “miss the mark” by pushing them far beyond biblical truth. Their “ongoing conversations” with God have led them and consequently their followers to numerous false teachings. Certainly God can speak to the hearts of His children, but nowhere in the Epistles do we find continuous dialogue between the Lord and believers. We find in the book of Acts that the Holy Spirit at times personally guides and directs the saints but never in the sense that these women teach! God’s personal communication with people is for His purpose and at His choosing and timing. Even His prophets didn’t have ongoing two-way conversations with Him. Jeremiah had to wait ten days for the Lord to speak to Him regarding his enquiry.

The errors that follow these women’s “conversations” (which their numerous books encourage their admirers to emulate) suggest to their readers that the communication content can be taken as “thus saith the Lord.” For those who spend more time reading their many books than they do the Bible, a false teaching that sounds biblical can readily be accepted as such. That distorts not only the authority and content of Scripture but also the character of God. Often the claimed dialogue demeans the Lord, as though He were one of their familiar peers. Beth Moore declares that God calls her “Baby” and “Honey” and participates in playfulness with her. Worse yet is what these ladies assert they have heard from Him that *contradicts what His Word says*. That would make Him at the very least “another Jesus” (2 Corinthians 11:4), certainly not the Word Himself.

All of these women promote some form of mysticism, which is an abandonment of the objective truth of God’s Word, giving preference to personal experiences, intuitions, subjective understandings, and feelings. Some teach techniques that are “Christianized alterations” of Eastern mystical techniques and practices. They misinterpret and corrupt the “Be still” of Psalm 46:10 to mean a clearing of the mind in silence in order to hear from God. No. God is simply declaring to those fearful of their enemies (and to their enemies themselves) that He has protected and will protect Israel!

These women all fall into the trap of counseling from the errors of so-called Christian psychology, the principles of which are diametrically opposed to God’s Word. All promote the false teaching of self-esteem-building in order to help their followers feel better about themselves.

Ecumenism is rampant in their writings and their video series, and particularly in their acceptance of Roman Catholics as brothers and sisters in Christ. It may be that they are unaware of the official gospel of Rome, which declares that heaven is available only to those who are baptized, and entrance is dependent upon one’s good works after their sins have been expiated in purgatory. That ignorance is not just related to an ignorance of Catholicism and other “Christian” cults and aberrational groups, but it seems to stem from a lack of knowledge of the basic doctrines of biblical Christianity!

Having gone through many of the materials authored by these women, I’ve yet to find a clear presentation of the gospel, particularly an explanation of what one needs to believe in order to be saved. Although they seem sincere in wanting to help women “go deeper with Jesus,” and “develop a more intimate relationship” with Him, that cannot happen unless a person has been born-again. The doctrine of the gospel of salvation is given simply in response to the Philippian jailor who cried out: “...Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved....” Furthermore, one must believe that He “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” (Acts 16:30-31; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4). I found only one clear explanation of the gospel among these women teachers, and that was by Joyce Meyer. However, for the millions who follow her, tragically, she declares that Jesus paid the penalty for our sins by descending into hell, where He was tortured by Satan and his demons. That is clearly a false gospel and a false Jesus.

Presenting a comprehensive presentation of all the false teachings of these ladies would take volumes, certainly far beyond what could be contained in this one article. Other troubling points can be found in this newsletter’s Q&A. My challenge to those who are enamored with the books of Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer, Joyce Meyer, and Sarah Young is that they prayerfully consider what I’ve pointed out, and then be a Berean (Acts 17:11), and compare their teachings with God’s Word. I also exhort pastors, as shepherds who have a responsibility to protect their sheep, to come alongside the women in their fellowship, helping them to grow in biblical discernment.

TBC

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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

QUESTION: You seem to have an issue with women. Rarely have I found in your newsletter articles either discussing or extolling our virtues, and now you mention four highly influential women in service to our Lord with no evidence of their “heresies.” I’m terribly disappointed.

RESPONSE: You are correct that I have an “issue” with women. My issue, however, is the same as I have with men. I want them both to know and love the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to live their lives according to God’s Word. Additionally, I’ve been married to a woman for fifty years who excels far beyond me in numerous categories, which, by the way, gives me great joy to point out, and which I do often because I’m so proud of her (not failing to mention that she’s been my best friend for more than half a century).

You brought to my attention the fact that Dave and I rarely addressed women in our writings. Looking back, I realized that less than a handful of ladies were cited in *The Seduction of Christianity* and only a few (e.g., Agnes Sanford, Marilyn Ferguson, and Rita Bennett) were dealt with at length. That may have been because few women were as influential in Christendom then as they are today. Furthermore, most people are not happy to be mentioned in our writings.

Our calling here at TBC is to be watchmen (see Ezekiel chapters 3 and 33) and to encourage our readers to compare what they are being taught with the Scriptures in order to judge its truthfulness. Christendom has many good teachers and many false teachers, both men and women. Although we name some of the false teachers, we cite them mainly as examples of the false doctrines that seem to abound today. We don’t try to major on the individuals because unbiblical doctrine can show up anywhere, anytime, and from anyone. Encouraging men and women to grow in discernment is one of our main objectives.

Even so, I could give you an extensive list of women writers and researchers whose work has contributed a great deal to The Berean Call and others, and to the cause of biblical discernment. Here are just a few: Carol Matrisciana, Jewel Grewe, Deidre Bobgan, Sarah Leslie, Deborah Dombroski, Gaylene Goodroad, Berit Kjos, and Opel Reddin.

QUESTION: I’m aware that you do not agree with some of the things that the women you listed in your March 2019 newsletter teach, but I hope you would agree that they have helped many women by the things they taught that are biblically sound.

RESPONSE: They have at times presented some sound doctrines, but those are mostly scattered atop quicksand that heartbreakingly draws readers in, only to be suffocated by their many false teachings. Consider this collection of just some of their false teachings and practices: 1) They all claim to have continual two-way conversations with God. 2) Much of what they say they hear from God is received as God’s doctrine, even though it contradicts His Word and character. 3) They promote contemplative theology and practices, which are based primarily on subjective content, e.g., feelings, intuition, and experiences. 4) Their “counseling” is psychotherapeutic, contrary to Scripture, and majors in the unbiblical teaching of self-love and self-esteem. 5) They regard generational sins as the basis for life’s problems. 6) They promote numerous

false teachers of the Word-Faith Movement and the Contemplative Movement. 7) They are highly ecumenical and ignorant of the false gospel of Roman Catholicism as well as other aberrational groups and cults. 8) They all corrupt the Scriptures by adding their own thoughts, meanings, and words to them. Stepping into all of this theological quagmire hoping to find a gem of truth is spiritually destructive at best.

Our archives contain numerous resources that address all the issues that are pertinent to what Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer, Joyce Meyer, and Sarah Young are teaching.

QUESTION: I’m concerned about a book a friend gave me written by Jackie Green and Lauren Green McAfee titled *Only One Life*. I was reluctant to read it because it was endorsed by Priscilla Shirer, who is into contemplative spirituality, but then I saw that Joni Eareckson Tada and Kay Arthur were also endorsers, so I was more confident about reading it. I’d like to get your impression if you have time to review it.

RESPONSE: There are a number of things about the book that trouble me for the sake of the women reading it. I’ll give you just two, and you decide how critical they are in regard to understanding what God’s Word says and what man or woman has added to it—the latter, which I’m hopeful you know, is condemned (Proverbs 30:5-6; Revelation 22:18-19). Chapter one includes “information about Esther” that is found nowhere in the Book of Esther. It tells us that she sang Psalm 23 to calm her “racing heart” in fear of the king. “Esther doesn’t belong,” we are told. “She is not of royal descent. She is no princess, let alone a Queen—at least that’s what the voices inside her head are telling her. Worse still, she’s Jewish.” And, “Every day her heart cries out in wonder, *What am I doing here?*... We suspect that the voices inside Esther’s head are the voices you’ve heard as well.”; “Outside the king’s chambers, her feet scuffle on the palace floor, and her heart catches in her throat. And twenty seconds of insane courage seize the outcast girl as she enters the forbidden room for permission to speak.” Those are not God’s words. They are an example of what man *thinks*, not what God has said. That’s called eisegesis.

The women selected throughout the book as models to be followed are a mixture of believers, false teachers, and unbelievers. For example, Saint Elizabeth of Thuringia was thoroughly Roman Catholic. Her generosity may have had temporal value, but her Catholic beliefs could save no one.

Sarah Young’s and Beth Moore’s two-way “conversations” with God are favorably approved. Marilyn Hickey and Christine Caine, both a part of the heretical word/faith-prosperity gospel movement are advocated as models for women to follow. Caine’s mentor is Joyce Meyer, who preaches a false Christ.

The most serious error of the book is that it contains no clear gospel, nor a well-defined salvation statement from those who gave a testimony. Without the biblical gospel presented, the book points toward “works salvation,” especially to its unsaved readers and implies “another gospel” for those who may be saved. Our prayer in exposing these is that even a few eyes will be opened and hearts will be pricked by recognizing the distortion of truth that is taking place right before our eyes in our churches and among “Christian” women’s conferences. The If:Gathering is just one example among many conferences that are leading Christian women away from God’s Word.

LETTERS

To connect with TBC, write: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708
or e-mail: editorial@thebereanall.org

Dear T. A.,

I read through a list of groups that are called cults. The Catholic Church is rarely listed because people do not know what they teach. When I was a Catholic, I was taught in the Catholic Catechism that salvation requires good works, the sacraments, and Purgatory. This denies John 14:6—Jesus’s perfect and complete sacrifice on the Cross. It is very evident that Rick Warren is helping the Catholic Church in promoting unity and paving the road to the One World Religion. Thank you for exposing what is not of God. KS (UK)

TBC,

Thank you for the excellent monthly letter! Usually, you explain errors in Christian doctrinal teachings. We really enjoy reading it. The articles on Hebrew Roots were really good. IF (Puerto Rico)

Dear Berean Call

It has been a good number of years since I began receiving your newsletter. It has been about the only one out there exposing the wolves in sheep’s clothing—apart from a very few today. For whatever reason, they keep falling away. For [several] months now, I’ve noticed that you haven’t been identifying many of the tares. It was good to see your January issue do it! With all of the TV ministries out there and the understanding of the many that will fall away in the last days, can you give us a better look at who they are by name, as the scriptures say to “mark them”? WR (email)

Dear TBC,

There’s a brother here that is new to “the Relationship,” and your article entitled “The Love of God” was right on time for him. We would appreciate it if you keep our account open and active until the Day of the Lord (won’t need TBC after that) and keep

The Berean Call newsletter coming. From all your extended family here in the Texas prison system, we say, “Howdy and God bless y’all.” JP (TX, prisoner)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Enclosed is my annual “widow’s mite”—down from last year, but the Lord is still blessing. I read from Proverbs 3:9-10: “Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the fruits of all thine increase; so shall thy barns be filled with plenty and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.” I am not in want or need. Warren Wiersbe said, “If we don’t faithfully give to the Lord, we don’t really trust the Lord.” Please continue in the work of the Lord Jesus till He comes. (Anon)

Dear Mr. McMahon,

I must say, this recent article is one of your best. I appreciate your knowledge, perseverance, and dedication to the Lord. However in this issue, you proceed with judging yourself out of your own mouth on the subject of baptism [relying] upon these four scriptures: Matthew 28:19-10, Mark 16:16, 1 Peter 3:21, and Acts 2:38. If the Lord wants to save someone without baptism (such as the thief on the cross), that’s the Lord’s business—not yours and not mine. Even though I believe God would save him without being baptized under those conditions, that is most definitely not the criteria the Bible [indicates]. Your thinking regarding baptism continues to be antithetical to the “terms” God has set forth concerning baptism. TK (IN)

Dear T. A. and Staff,

In your December newsletter you put in perspective the importance of seeking first the kingdom of God—and the need to examine our hearts and consider whether there are things we want to accomplish, places we want to go, or even victories we want to win for God ahead of a real desire to see the Lord’s imminent return. That surely should cause folks to see the seriousness of their attitudes and motives at this time. Again, thanks for the exhortation. MT (NY)

Hello TBC,

Thank you for these resources and your books. Many of my sisters in Christ have been hooked into yoga, and it is replacing all their priorities. I have only read a few pages of your book on this topic and I’m so very appreciative for the background and scripture. My husband found it and recommended it to me as this topic has caused some friction in relationships. CC (email)

QUOTABLE.....

And when thou prayest, 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. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. —MATTHEW 6:5

Watch your motive; does it arise from a real enchantment? (The word “hypocrites” here is really “play actors.”) The main idea in the region of religion is—your eyes must be upon God, not on men. Do not have as your motive the desire to be known as a praying man. Get an inner chamber in which to pray where no one knows you are praying, shut the door, and talk to God in secret. Have no other motive than to know your Father in heaven.

—OSWALD CHAMBERS

TBC NOTES

Getting It Right!

In this issue’s feature article, I emphasize the importance of getting a true understanding of what God has said in His Word. If that’s not our objective when we study the Bible, things can get off track very quickly and rather easily. The consequence of such an occurrence is termed *eisegesis*, which has more to do with man inserting his own ideas regarding what the Bible is saying instead of understanding what God is actually communicating.

Second Timothy 2:15 encourages every believer to “Study [‘be diligent’—NKJV] to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” This verse may contain the best exhortation and instructions found in the Scriptures regarding being “approved unto God,” not being “ashamed” when we stand before Jesus, and for growing in discernment as we “rightly divide the word of truth.”

Any lesser effort will cause us to slip from the “Good News” to bad news!

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.

PAKISTAN, HOME OF "RENT-A-MOB"

ONE NEWS NOW.COM, 3/15/19, "PAKISTAN, HOME OF 'RENT-A-MOB'" [EXCERPTS]: Christians in Pakistan are facing more violent mob attacks at the hands of enraged Muslims—and in most cases, it all starts with a false accusation of blasphemy.

Four Christian women last month were falsely accused of blasphemy in Pakistan, which erupted into mob violence that resulted in 200 Christian families being displaced. According to the reports, it all started over a property dispute.

Meanwhile, earlier this month in the South Asian country, a mentally disabled Christian was accused of blasphemy, resulting in his family being attacked.

William Stark, with the persecution watchdog International Christian Concern, explains why mob violence is quite common in Pakistan. "Some of my Pakistani co-workers, they like to say in Pakistan you have kind of a rent-a-mob culture," he says. "So mobs form pretty easily [here], mob violence is pretty easily stoked—and blasphemy accusations are one of the easiest ways to get a mob going."

Stark tells *OneNewsNow* the mob violence associated with accusations of blasphemy is really the most powerful threat that the blasphemy laws carry in a place like Pakistan.

"What people are really afraid of is the mob violence that happens in and around that," he laments. "You have whole neighborhoods that get burned down, you've had individuals shot outside of the courthouse, you've had individuals beaten."

(<http://bit.ly/2UwZlWu>)

STUNNING CHINESE FOSSILS SUPPORT CREATION

ICR.ORG, 4/02/19, "STUNNING CHINESE FOSSILS SUPPORT CREATION" [EXCERPTS]: News reports reverberated with details from a fantastic new fossil site in southern China. The Cambrian remains supposedly represent some of the earliest creatures to have evolved on Earth, but two telling details show why these fossils fit better with biblical creation.

The study authors wrote, "The Qingjiang biota, however, is marked by high abundance and diversity of exceptionally preserved cnidarian fossils, which fills a major gap in knowledge of the [body shapes] and diversity of Cambrian basal metazoans." Cnidarians include jellyfish and sea anemones. Metazoan refers to

any animal made of a variety of different tissues like jellyfish, hagfish, and people. But what do the authors mean when they speak of a major knowledge gap?

The "major gap in knowledge" points back to the challenge of the Cambrian explosion. In short, all basic life forms suddenly appear in their completed forms in these early rocks.... [Evolution] points to simple creatures with few tissue types that supposedly evolved into completely different creatures.... Unfortunately, the only fossil information available to fill this stunning knowledge gap is the presence of regular old jellyfish.

Stable life forms point to Genesis creation according to kinds. Extinct animal fossils show no evolution either. Extensive rapid burial beneath ancient waters points to Noah's Flood. That's why biblical creation best explains the Qingjiang biota's main features.

(<http://bit.ly/2VBPz7m>)

MOTHER & FATHER REMOVED FROM SCHOOL FORMS

ANSWERS IN GENESIS.ORG, 2/28/19, "FRANCE REMOVES MOTHER AND FATHER FROM SCHOOL FORMS" [EXCERPTS]: The attack on the family continues, this time in France. New legislation erases the words "mother" and "father" from school forms, instead replacing them with the terms "parent 1" and "parent 2". It will be no big shock for you to read that this is considered necessary "to bring France's schools into line with the European nation's 2013 same-sex marriage law."

The increasing elimination of the terms mother and father is happening in the name of "family diversity," to appeal to the very small number of same-sex couples with children. But it's really just an attack on the family, which is the first and most fundamental human institution which God ordained in Scripture (in Genesis). We don't get to define marriage and family—God does. But the further the West drifts from a biblical worldview or any understanding of reality based in God's Word, the more we're going to see "family diversity" championed over God's very good design of one man and one woman for life (Genesis 2:24) who produce godly offspring (Malachi 2:15).

More and more, sexuality, gender, and family diversity are topics that will come up in moms' groups, around the water cooler, and at your own kitchen table.

(<http://bit.ly/2IntXIh>)

THE BEREAN CALL

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

TBC ONLINE

To receive The Berean Call by email or to access our online archives, please go to www.thebereancall.org

To order items from this newsletter or to see additional resources, visit www.thebereancall.com

DONATIONS

The Berean Call (TBC) has always operated on the belief that God will provide as we seek His face, so we do not make appeals for financial help. Although the ministry operates primarily on donations, these are freewill and not solicited. Through the years, TBC has seen God "do exceeding abundantly above" all that was asked or thought.

CONTACTING US

tel: (541) 382-6210 • fax: (541) 385-6025
orders and donations: (800) 937-6638 or
(541) 382-6210

e-mail: editorial@thebereancall.org

website: www.thebereancall.org

online store: www.thebereancall.com

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. (05/19)

SHIPPING RATES & OPTIONS

\$3 - DISCOUNT SHIPPING (US)

Your items will be shipped by the cheapest method, delivers in 7 - 21 days.

\$7 - FASTER SHIPPING (US)

Your items will be shipped by USPS First Class Mail or faster, delivers in 3 - 7 days. (Street address required.)

If you require a specific shipping method, or want FedEx expedited shipping, we will charge you the actual shipping cost. Customers who buy at wholesale or ministry discounted pricing also pay actual shipping cost. Please provide a street address to get the lowest shipping cost.

FOR INTERNATIONAL ORDERS ONLY:

Please use the calculation below to estimate your shipping costs. If actual shipping costs are less, we will adjust what we charge you. If shipping charges are more, we will contact you.

First pound is \$15, each additional pound is \$5

Example: a 10-pound package is \$15 (first pound) + \$45 (9 additional pounds) = \$60

We will use International Priority Flat Rate Boxes whenever possible to reduce postage costs.

If you pay with a credit card, we will charge the actual amount of shipping. If you pay by check or cash, we prefer to refund you with store credit. You may also choose to receive a refund by check or specify that the difference be used as a donation.

NEW! DAVE HUNT DVDs



Ubuntu: Where Are We Heading?

Kerugma Productions—When the disciples asked Jesus when the end of the world would be, Jesus' answer started with the words, "Take heed that ye be not deceived; for many shall come in My name ..." (Luke 21:8). With that in mind, Dave Hunt points to secular leaders who are promoting the incorporation of indigenous religious practices into the workplace. He quotes Lovemore Mbigi from his book, *Ubuntu*, where Mr. Mbigi states that there is very little difference between Christianity and the Afrocentric Religions. One of Dave Hunt's most serious and "must watch" messages. 1 DVD, 52 min.

DVD361

wt .2 \$17.50



Faith

Kerugma Productions—Jesus asked in Luke 18:8, "... when the Son of Man comes, shall he find faith on the earth"? Dave Hunt shows that many church leaders, in their eagerness to win people for Christ, are tempted to repackage the Bible message to make it more acceptable to people. As an example of this, he exposes the foundation of the "Movement" that invaded the Christian church to the extent that many mysterious teachings are accepted and practiced today as common belief. Dave Hunt clearly demonstrates that the proponents of these teachings are false prophets, leading the church astray. 1 DVD, 84 min.

DVD362

wt .2 \$17.50



Evolution

Kerugma Productions—Evolution is taught in schools and universities today and many accept evolution as fact. In accordance with that, the Christian faith is criticized, especially by academics who doubt the authenticity of the Bible. In this DVD, Dave Hunt provides proof that it is mathematically impossible that the universe came into being of itself. From that he argues that Christians should not be intimidated by science. The Bible gives answers to life's ultimate questions—questions for which science has no answers. This DVD is a must-see for everyone who desires to be a credible witness. 1 DVD, 71 min.

DVD363

wt .2 \$17.50

BEHIND THE VENEER OF GOODNESS LIGHTHOUSE TRAILS BOOKLETS



The Alpha Course

Danielsen/Lawson—The Alpha Course fits perfectly into today's emergent "progressive" culture with its experiential mysticism and its ecumenical merging of all faiths, beginning with Rome. This booklet answers the question, "Should Christians who love the Bible be comfortable with a program like The Alpha Course?" Lighthouse Trails, 19 pp.

LTP01

wt .1 \$1.95



The Message "Bible" — A Breach of Truth

Lanagan—An excellent synopsis on how Eugene Peterson's *The Message* omits homosexual sin and exposes other strange deletions, additions, and alterations. Lighthouse Trails, 15 pp.

LTP03

wt .1 \$1.95



The Spiritual Truth behind Alcoholics Anonymous...

Lanagan—Christians in Alcoholics Anonymous may not see it this way, but in their participation of A.A., they are standing in agreement with a belief system that lifts up strange gods. Lighthouse Trails, 19 pp.

LTP04R

wt .1 \$1.95



Beth Moore & Priscilla Shirer — Their History of Contemplative Prayer

Lanagan—Contemplative prayer, which Priscilla Shirer refers to as her "brand new way" and which Beth Moore says is essential for really knowing God, is an ancient prayer practice that is essentially the same as Eastern meditation. This booklet is a concise report on these two individuals and the issue of contemplative prayer. Lighthouse Trails, 19 pp.

LTP02

wt .1 \$1.95



10 Scriptural Reasons Why Jesus Calling Is a Dangerous Book

Smith—Warren Smith provides ten concise and powerful reasons why believers need to steer clear of the dangerous book, *Jesus Calling*. Lighthouse Trails, 19 pp.

LTP05

wt .1 \$1.95

"BEHIND THE VENEER OF GOODNESS" BOOKLET SET

This set includes all five fantastic booklets from Lighthouse Trails publishers, written by Warren Smith, John Lanagan, Mary Danielsen, and Chris Lawson. Readers will enjoy a wealth of discernment knowledge on topics from contemplative prayer, *Jesus Calling*, *The Message*, and more!

LT001 5 booklets wt .4 \$9.00



New Evangelicalism: The New World Order

Smith—Why have so many evangelicals identified themselves as "new" evangelicals? Paul Smith unfolds the shocking progression of ideas that was birthed in a nest of aberrant church beliefs. Calvary Chapel Publishing, 215 pp.

B19779

wt .6 \$10.00



Leonard Sweet: A More Magnificent Way of Seeing Christ?

Smith—Lighthouse Trails 100th booklet is about emerging-church leader Leonard Sweet. Many of you may not know who he is or know very little about him, but his influence in the church has been significant. Lighthouse Trails, 19 pp.

LTP20

wt .1 \$1.95



The New Age Implications of Jesus Calling

Smith—There are many New Age implications—both direct and indirect—in Sarah Young's best selling book *Jesus Calling*. In this booklet, the author, former New Ager Warren Smith, presents ten examples of those New Age implications. Lighthouse Trails, 19 pp.

LTP16

wt .1 \$1.95

NEW! BIBLICALLY THINKING ABOUT ECUMENISM



Biblically Thinking about— Ecumenism

TBC—Some would claim that the Bible calls for religious unity. No, it calls for Christians who are true followers of Jesus Christ to unite themselves in the truth of God's Word. Ecumenism is not only a major factor in the development of the religion of the Antichrist, but it is also a leading movement that undermines the teachings of the Scriptures held by those committed to Christ. It dismisses the warn-

ings given throughout God's Word regarding deception and the drifting away from biblical truth. Behold the emergence of the ecumenical apostate church, the bride of Antichrist! "Positive Christianity" is the enemy of the Cross. Includes study guide and audio CD. Booklet 38 pp., Study Guide 24 pp., and CD 45 min. **Price includes shipping in the USA!**

BBSET17

wt .3 \$7.00



The False "Unity" of Ecumenism

Kerugma Productions—Dave Hunt addresses the issue of unity. Does it mean that people from different Christian denominations, or even from different religions, must gather together to demonstrate their unity for the sake of addressing certain issues of society? Allow Dave Hunt to explain the character of true unity, according to the Word of God. 1 DVD, 90 min.

DVD352

wt .2 \$17.50



Reaching Catholics for Christ Conferences

TBC—Digitally remastered audio from the Reaching Catholics for Christ conferences, including *ECT+5 A: Biblical Response; The Reformation 500 Years Later; Religious Babylon and End-time Prophecy*, and *Defending the Faith*. A fascinating look at how the ecumenical movement has compromised God's Word and how it fits into last-days prophecies. 4 MP3-discs, 40 hrs.

MP3103

wt .2 \$18.00

PRAYER AND MEDITATING ON GOD'S WORD



The Calvary Road

Hession—This is an updated edition of a book written by missionary and evangelist Roy Hession in 1950 in which he profiles the nature of religious revival and lays out the prerequisites and consequences of the activity of God in the heart of the hungry seeker. This book is the result of that testimony. Hession shows us how brokenness, humility, and repentance prepare our hearts to receive the fullness God wants us to have. Seize this opportunity to learn how Jesus can fill you with His Spirit through brokenness, repentance, and confession. CLC Publications, 131 pp.

B82363

wt .3 \$6.50



The Nonnegotiable Gospel

Hunt—Most people are surprised to learn that the gospel contains nothing about baptism, church membership or attendance, tithing, sacraments or rituals, diet or clothing. In fact, if we add anything to the gospel, we have perverted it. This evangelistic booklet reveals the gem of the gospel in every clear-cut facet for anyone desiring a precise biblical definition of the gospel. The Berean Call, 44 pp.

B45645

wt .1 \$3.25

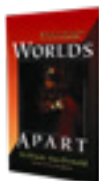


True Happiness

Lloyd-Jones—In this short but powerful book, a beloved preacher takes an in-depth look at two of the psalmist's writings. The verses of Psalm 1 poetically state the essence of the Bible and reveal the secret of true happiness. Psalm 107, on the other hand, is a hymn of praise from one who has lived that secret and wants everyone to know it for themselves. Martyn Lloyd-Jones faithfully offers eternal truths from these psalms in a way that is sure to cause you to pause and ponder your own life—and your quest for true happiness. Crossway Books, 206 pp.

B42871

wt .6 \$14.00



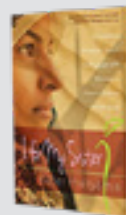
Worlds Apart

MacDonal—Biblical insights into the battlefield where two kingdoms vie for loyalties. There is the kingdom that the Bible calls "the world" and there is the kingdom of God—they are worlds apart. *Worlds Apart* is a battle plan calling the church to action. With the author, we tour the battlefield, inspect the armory, meet the combatants, and learn the strategies for victory. Gospel Folio Press, 101 pp.

B01054

wt .3 \$8.00

I FOR MY SISTER BRINGING THE GOSPEL TO MUSLIM WOMEN



I For My Sister

Burger—Are you prepared to capture the next wave of women's souls for the kingdom of heaven? Having given her testimony of coming to Christ in her inspiring autobiography, *From the Crescent to the Cross: My Extraordinary Journey to the Heart of God*, Sister Maryama now presents an invitation and exhortation to women in the Body of Christ—equipping them "to connect with women in Islamic [and] other cultures." It is not the church as an organization that can change the world but individual believers within the body of Christ, acting as an "Organism" that can change others, one heart at a time. After all, is this not how our Jesus engages us—one heart at a time? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"—Romans 10:14-15. Maryama Salaad Burger, 196 pp. ***For a limited time, get Biblically Thinking About - Islam (Booklet) FREE with purchase of I For My Sister!**

B16623

wt .7 \$15.00



Biblically Thinking about - Islam (Booklet)

TBC—Islam (which means "submission") is a monotheistic religion that has more than one-and-a-half-billion adherents. They are known as Muslims (meaning "those who submit"). Muslims worship Allah, whom they regard as the supreme God. This booklet not only sheds light on the critical differences between biblical Christianity and Islam—it also exposes the lie that Islam is a religion of "peace and tolerance." 30 pp. **FREE with purchase of I For My Sister!**

BBB04

wt .1 \$4.00



A Twist of Faith

Kjos—A probing look at the confusion raging through the church in light of “feminist theology.” From the recent Re-Imagining Conference, to doctrine controversies in local churches, this book offers an up-close look at biblical re-interpretation. The author has traveled from San Francisco to Istanbul in researching

both subtle and obvious subversions of Scripture. Read about churches where traditional communion has been replaced by the “milk and honey” ceremony, the invocation of the Mother Goddess in traditional worship, and much more. A shocking book for all Christians. New Leaf Publishing, 238 pp.

B09599

wt .6 **\$12.50**

NOTE: Quantities of A Twist of Faith are limited—order while supplies last.

• TBC ORDER FORM — PLEASE SUBMIT ENTIRE PAGE •

① ORDERED BY: ☐ address correction or change below

Account No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

② CONTACT INFO: In case we need to contact you regarding your order

Phone Number (_____) _____

E-Mail _____

To sign up for automatic e-mail news, please visit our website: www.thebereancall.org and click on “subscribe” to create a user name and to see the newsletter options.

⑤ ORDER RESOURCES: Please print all information clearly and use catalog item codes

Item Code	Title/Product Description	Price	Weight (Int'l Only)	Quantity Ordered	Total Weight (Int'l Only)	Total Price

★ **SHIPPING NOTE:** U.S. CUSTOMERS MUST CHOOSE \$3 SLOWER SHIPPING OR \$7 FASTER SHIPPING. INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMERS SEE PAGE 5 FOR SHIPPING RATES.

⑥ **WEIGHT:** _____ (Int'l only) ⑦ **TOTAL ORDER:** Product Total _____ Shipping Fees _____ Donation _____ Total Enclosed _____

☐ IF MY FUNDS EXCEED PRODUCT AND SHIPPING COSTS, PLEASE KEEP BALANCE AS A GIFT **Thank You!**