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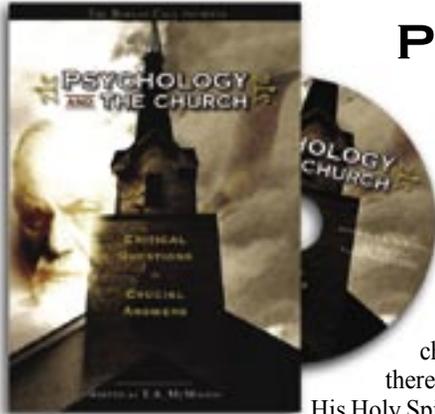
*PSYCHOLOGY AND THE DOCTRINES OF DEVILS*

*by T.A. McMAHON*

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“THE NIGHT IS FAR SPENT, THE DAY IS AT HAND: LET US THEREFORE CAST OFF THE WORKS OF DARKNESS, AND LET US PUT ON THE ARMOUR OF LIGHT.” —Romans 13:12

While the content of this issue is certain to spark needed discussion, our sincere intent is to help awaken as many saints of God from slumber as we can in preparation for the return of Christ as the Bridegroom (Matthew 25:1-13). To this end, we feel compelled once again to offer unprecedented discounts for our newest video, *Psychology and the Church*, with the hope and prayer that this information will be distributed as widely as possible through individuals and churches nationwide.



## PSYCHOLOGY & THE CHURCH CRITICAL QUESTIONS...CRUCIAL ANSWERS

FOR NEARLY TWO THOUSAND YEARS prior to the rise of modern psychiatry and psychotherapy, the church has ministered to believers experiencing mental, emotional, and behavioral problems by using the teachings of the Scriptures and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Contemporary Christianity's embrace of psychology, then, raises an important question: Was there an insufficiency on the part of God's Word and His Holy Spirit during those two millennia that made it necessary for the church to turn to modern psychotherapy in order to more effectively address a Christian's problems of living? Crucial answers to that question will be the focus of this program, as we consider the influence of psychological counseling upon the church. In the history of contemporary Christendom, no secular enterprise has had such a profound influence on Christianity as has psychological counseling. The critical question raised by these developments is: Have they been helpful or harmful to the body of Christ?

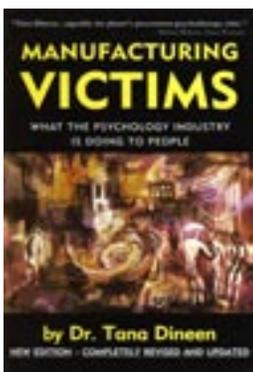
T.A. McMahon, co-author of *The Seduction of Christianity*, is your host for this ground-breaking documentary. Featuring perspectives and insights of both Christian and secular experts including Martin and Deidre Bobgan, Tana Dineen, and Dave Hunt, this powerful presentation exposes the roots—and results—of Christianity's embrace of the beliefs of Freud, Jung, Rogers, Maslow, and others. Produced by The Berean Call. About 55 minutes (DVD only—not available on VHS).

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## MANUFACTURING VICTIMS: WHAT THE PSYCHOLOGY INDUSTRY IS DOING TO PEOPLE

by Tana Dineen—featured commentator in *PSYCHOLOGY & THE CHURCH*

PSYCHOLOGY is an influential and accepted force in our culture. It has become a kind of industry that generates a great deal of money for its practitioners—sometimes at the expense of the patient. *Manufacturing Victims: What the Psychology Industry Is Doing to People* describes the various types of psychological techniques and assumptions that create and cater to “victims,” often to the damage of the patient, the division of families, the distortion of justice, the destruction of businesses, and the weakening of the nation. Individual chapters address Victim-Making; Fabricated Victims; Selling Psychology as Science; The Business of Psychology; The Technology of Victim-Making; The Rise to Power of the Psychology Industry; and more. *Manufacturing Victims* is a serious and long-needed assessment of what is happening with increasing frequency in this lucrative and widespread area of mental health services.

**B00123** Robert Davies / Studio 9, softcover, 320 pp. • Retail \$12.99 (wt 1.4) **\$12.00**

**ON THE COVER:** With a crystal ball representing the terrestrial sphere in which Satan currently “walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8), the cover symbolizes the occult origin of psycho-spiritual practices that have grown as a tree spread over the earth, but whose roots can be traced to the original lie of the serpent in the garden of Eden: “ye shall be as gods.” The branches of the Greek letter “psi” (the universal symbol for psychology) yield fruit that promises “knowledge” apart from our Creator, Lord, and Savior—but ultimately fail to deliver what is Christ's alone to offer. If the cover looks familiar, it's because we've intentionally re-purposed some elements originally appearing on the October 2004 cover with the admonition: “Caveat Emptor: Let the Biblical Buyer Beware!” The same warning is certainly applicable today as many professing evangelicals embrace the lies of “science falsely so-called” (1 Timothy 6:20) and increasingly “depart from the faith” (1 Timothy 4:1).

# THE BEREAN CALL

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

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## Psychology and Doctrines of Devils

T.A. McMahon

“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.” —1 Timothy 4:1

In my two previous *TBC* articles this year (Mar and Apr '06), I addressed the destructive influence psychological counseling is having on the evangelical church. Simply put, the church has turned from God's Word to man's bankrupt theories in attempting to resolve mental, emotional, and behavioral problems. The greater part of the church no longer believes what the Scriptures proclaim: that God, in His Word, has given us “all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue” (2 Peter 1:3). The results, sadly, are what one might expect: there is often little statistical difference between those who profess to be Christians and those who do not, regarding the number of divorces, the reliance upon psychological counseling theories and methods, living together outside of marriage, illegitimate childbirths, pornography, sexual and physical abuse, and so forth.

Although such consequences are shocking, they shouldn't be surprising to anyone who believes the Bible. Twice in the Book of Proverbs we are told, “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Proverbs 14:12; 16:25). Death throughout Scripture implies separation, whether of the soul and spirit from the body in physical death or, in another sense, the separation of light from darkness and truth from error—and ultimately, from God eternally. Just as the body without life corrupts, so do one's life choices result in corruption when they are separated from God's truth.

Psychology, with its psychotherapeutic counseling, has been embraced by evangelicals more than almost any other unbiblical endeavor that has entered the church in the last half-century. “Christian psychologists” are generally more popular and influential than preachers and teachers of the Word. What evangelical in America doesn't know of psychologist Dr. James Dobson? The psychologically oriented American Association of Christian Counselors boasts 50,000 members. The evangelical church

is one of the leading referral services for secular counselors (whether they claim to be Christians or not!). Like their secular counterparts, the second-most popular career choice for students at Christian colleges is psychology. What makes this information truly shocking is the fact that the roots, concepts, and many of the psychological counseling practices come from “seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.”

First Timothy 4:1 is a prophetic verse. It foretells that “in the latter times,” that is, the time near the return of our Lord, “some will depart from the faith.” This is supported by other verses such as Luke 18:8: Jesus asked, “...when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?” The implied answer is no. Paul, in 2 Thessalonians 2:3, declares under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that a “falling away” from the faith will characterize the Last Days. But haven't many professing Christians departed from the faith since the time of the Apostles? Yes. The rest of the verse, however, indicates a condition that is unique to our present day. Those who profess to be Christians will give “heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.”

Doctrines of devils are designed to undermine what is taught in the Scriptures. They reflect the strategy that Satan instituted in the Garden of Eden when he seduced Eve into disobeying God. The chief of the seducing spirits began his direct communication with Eve by raising doubts in her mind as to what God had commanded: “Yea, hath God said...?” (Genesis 3:1). The serpent's dialogue with her led her to believe that God had lied to her: “And the serpent said unto the woman, ye shall not surely die.” Although God instructed Adam and Eve that the punishment for disobeying Him by eating the fruit of a certain tree in the Garden would be death (Genesis 2:17), Satan twisted that around, making God not only a liar but also the one who was withholding what they needed for their self-improvement and for realizing a supposed higher potential.

Genesis 3:1-5 contains Satan's basic strategy for the seduction and destruction of mankind. His deception began by *questioning* God's Word, and offering tempting alternatives. Eve responded by believing Satan, *rejecting* God's Word, and turning to her own self-interests. The enticements were so desirable to the flesh, including immortality, enlightenment, godhood, and knowledge (Genesis 3:5), that she eagerly embraced the lie. At that tragic moment in the history of

mankind, self became a god, an autonomous rebel bent on doing its own thing. What Satan offered to Eve, he likewise has presented to all of her descendants, with similar success. His deadly allurements—*immortality, enlightenment, godhood, and knowledge*—comprise the foundational teachings of “doctrines of devils.”

Even in a cursory review of psychotherapeutic concepts, Satan's primary lies are clearly revealed. Teachings (i.e., doctrines) such as the following are found in nearly all psychotherapeutic theories. *Immortality*: There is no death in the sense that it should be feared. Materialist psychotherapists teach a judgment-free mortality; spiritually oriented counselors claim that we either evolve to a higher consciousness or reincarnate to improve our next temporal state of being. *Enlightenment*: Knowing the self, who we are, why we do what we do, and how we change, all open the critical gate to establishing our mental wellbeing. Some systems teach that our problems of living are determined by traumas related to our past (including past lives), our parental upbringing, our environment, or our having been oppressed by religious dogmas. *Godhood*: The solution to humanity's problems is found within the self. Self is deified, whether directly or indirectly. For instance, psychology's “self-actualization” is a process that leads to self-deification, which ultimately replaces any need for salvation outside humanity. *Knowledge*: The deification process for humanity involves methods of plumbing the depths of the unconscious, which is alleged to be the infinite reservoir that holds all mysteries of life.

Sadly, these doctrines of devils now permeate “Christian psychology.” Few evangelicals realize that these demonic teachings were introduced to the “founding fathers of psychological counseling” *literally* by “seducing spirits.”

It was Sigmund Freud who declared that “religion is the universal obsessional neurosis of humanity.” Furthermore, there is evidence that Freud hated Christianity, which he erroneously regarded as anti-Semitic. How then would this atheistic rejecter of organized religion advance doctrines of devils? By founding the “religion” of psychoanalysis. None of Freud's theories, whether psychic determinism or psychosexual development or belief in the unconscious, have *any* scientific validity; moreover, they are religious beliefs that are antithetical to the doctrines

of the Bible. Research psychiatrist Thomas Szasz had Freud primarily in mind when he declared, "...modern psychotherapy...is not merely a religion that pretends to be a science, it is actually a fake religion that seeks to destroy true religion."<sup>1</sup>

Given the fact that psychoanalysis and its associated concepts are so diametrically opposed to biblical Christianity, there's no doubt that Freud's "fake religion" is the product of "doctrines of devils." Furthermore, a strong case could be made that Freud's theories came both directly and indirectly from "seducing spirits" through the techniques he employed in analyzing his patients. He put them into altered states of consciousness through hypnosis and the highly suggestible technique of "free association." Early on, when he was formulating some of his theories, Freud was a regular user of the mind-altering drug cocaine for his bouts with depression.<sup>2</sup> Calling it his *magical drug*, "he pressed it on his friends and colleagues, both for themselves and their patients."<sup>3</sup>

Psychiatrist and historian Henri F. Ellenberger's classic work, *The Discovery of the Unconscious*, reveals, "Historically, modern dynamic psychotherapy derives from primitive medicine, and an uninterrupted continuity...through the exorcists, magicians, and hypnotists that led to the fruition of dynamic psychiatry in the systems of Janet, Freud, Adler, and Jung."<sup>4</sup> Psychotherapy is a modern form of shamanism, which explains why psychiatrist E. Fuller Torrey rightly observes, "The techniques used by Western psychiatrists are, with few exceptions, on exactly the same scientific plane as the techniques used by witchdoctors [medicine men and shamans]."<sup>5</sup>

Shamanism is all about contacting spirit entities to gain their help, wisdom, insights, and so forth. In an interview with a former Yanamamo shaman who resides in the Amazonian rain forest of Venezuela, I was told rather bluntly that his spirit guides were liars and deceivers, from his first contact with them through ingesting hallucinogenic drugs until they left him when he turned to Christ. Their lies reinforced what he wanted to hear. It seems the same for Freud, whose concepts were a reflection not of science but rather removing his own guilt and satisfying his flesh. Freud's theories were based mainly upon his own personal problems, most of which were sexual perversions.

In Freudian thought, the "*unconscious*" is a God-replacement realm without laws and judgment; *morality* is an oppressive neurosis-generating structure imposed by society and organized religion; *sexual freedom* (including adultery, homosexuality, incest, etc.) is paramount for normal mental health; *dreams* are symbolic messages from the unconscious

and can be scientifically interpreted through psychoanalysis. These beliefs represent doctrines of devils. Although a materialist, Freud acknowledged the existence of spirit entities. He was influenced from that source, either indirectly, through his patients, or directly, through his own drug use, the ancient statuettes he used to help him write,<sup>6</sup> and other techniques he used to explore the unconscious.

The life and works of psychiatrist Carl Gustav Jung clearly reveal that his psychological theories came directly from the "seducing spirits" Paul warns about in 1 Timothy 4:1. Jung is far more popular today among professing Christians than Freud (the atheist) because of his perceived affinity for religion and things spiritual. However, though his father was a Protestant pastor (who seriously doubted his professed faith!), Jung was anti-biblical and resentful of organized Christianity from his youth. His early symbolic visions revealed Jesus as a Dark Lord and God defecating on a cathedral. His mother's side of the family was heavily involved in spiritualism. His grandfather, pastor Samuel Preiswerk, conducted ongoing séances to commune with his deceased first wife, with his second wife and daughter (Jung's mother) participating. The latter, who had bouts of insanity, reserved two beds in the Jung home for visiting ghosts. Jung's doctoral thesis (published in 1902) was based upon séances conducted by his 13-year-old cousin, whom he placed in an altered state of consciousness through hypnosis in order to contact his and her dead ancestors.

In 1916, Jung's household experienced an assault by demonic beings who claimed to be dead Christian Crusaders from Jerusalem. They were seeking counsel on redemption and were greatly distressed that their Christianity had left them in a hopeless condition. They would not leave Jung's home until he began writing advice to them, which he received from one of his many spirit guides, his mentor Philemon, the "old man with horns of a bull."<sup>7</sup>

Richard Noll, a lecturer in the History of Science at Harvard University and a clinical psychologist (who declares that he "is not a Christian of any sort"), makes some stunning observations in his book on Jung titled *The Jung Cult*. He argues that Jung's "psychological theories of the collective unconscious and archetypes are essentially masks, a pseudoscientific cover to hide the practices of what was essentially a new religious movement in which Jung taught people to have trance visions and to contact the 'gods' directly."<sup>8</sup>

Jung's teachings are doctrines of demons, gleaned directly from seducing spirits: the *unconscious* and the *collective unconscious*

represent an impersonal form of God; *archetypes* are viewed as psychological rationalizations for demons, the *anima* and *animus* are terms for the female and male entities within each person; *psychological "types"* are determined characteristics within our make up. Jung promoted all things occult, including astrology, alchemy, the I-Ching, mysticism, necromancy, visualization, dream interpretation, the active imagination, yoga, meditation, etc. Incredibly, his theories and recommended practices are endorsed in the teachings of some of the most influential people in evangelical Christianity. In many cases, ignorance is the principle reason, yet the demonic lies are nevertheless readily promoted and accepted among the sheep.

Rick Warren's 30 million copies of *The Purpose-Driven Life* include Jungian concepts, such as psychological "types." Saddleback Church's "Celebrate Recovery" program (see *TBC* Oct '05), which has been exported to 4,500 churches and Prison Fellowship Ministries, is based on A.A.'s 12-Step principles. A.A. co-founder Bill Wilson received the 12 Steps during the time he was in contact with spirit entities. He later wrote a personal letter to Carl Jung thanking him for his influence:

...[A.A.] actually started long ago in your consulting room, and it was directly founded upon your own humility and deep perception....You will also be interested to learn that in addition to the "*spiritual experience*," many A.A.s report a great variety of psychic phenomena, the cumulative weight of which is very considerable. Other members have—following their recovery in A.A.—been much helped by [Jungian analysts]. A few have been intrigued by the "I Ching" and your remarkable introduction to that work.

Warren is not the only witting or unwitting promoter among evangelicals of what Jung learned from demons. He is just the most successful and the best known. Others include Christian psychologists, inner healers, and pastors. Jung's occult methodologies, especially his demonically inspired techniques of visualization, guided imagery, meditation, and working with spiritual directors, are foundational to the Emerging Church interests of evangelical youth and the contemplative movement supported by Richard Foster, Eugene Peterson, and a multitude of others.

This astonishing development in the evangelical church is symptomatic of the abandonment of God's Word. The result will be the advancement of the apostate "Christian" church. The antidote is found in Isaiah 8:20: "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."<sup>9</sup> TBC

## Quotable .....

Either Christianity is true or it's false. If you bet that it's true, and you believe in God and submit to Him, then if it IS true, you've gained God, heaven, and everything else. If it's false, you've lost nothing, but you've had a good life marked by peace and the illusion that ultimately everything makes sense. If you bet that Christianity is not true, and it's false, you've lost nothing. But if you bet that it's false, and it turns out to be true, you've lost everything and you get to spend eternity in hell.

*Popular paraphrase of "Pascal's Wager"*

If the views that some men hold are correct, it is plain we never ought to have had any Reformation at all. For the sake of peace, we ought to have gone on worshipping the Virgin, and bowing down to images and relics to this very day. Away with such trifling! There are times when controversy is not only a duty but also a benefit, and it is a plain Scriptural duty to "contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints."

*J.C. Ryle, Anglican Bishop who defended the gospel in valiant opposition to Rome*

For grace pray much, for much thou  
needest grace;  
If men thy work deride—what can they  
more?  
Christ's weary foot thy path on earth doth  
trace;  
If thorns wound thee, they pierced Him  
before;  
Press on, look up, though clouds may  
gather round;  
Thy place of service He makes hallowed  
ground.

*John J. Penstone, from his poem "The Servant's Path"*

## Q&A .....

**QUESTION: In the August TBC you lump D. James Kennedy and R.C. Sproul with denominations that have promoted a boycott against companies doing business with Israel. Dr. Kennedy has taken no part in such boycotts.**

**ANSWER:** No, denominations that "have initiated a boycott..." were mentioned in one sentence, Kennedy and Sproul in the next. I was specific that the latter "have rejected modern Israel as of any significance in the fulfillment of God's promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

There was no link between boycotting denominations and these two Calvinists. I gave no reason to imagine that Kennedy and

Sproul promoted any boycott against Israel. I simply showed that their teachings re Israel reject God's "everlasting covenant" (Gn 17:7, 19; 1 Chr 16:17, etc.) with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, denying God's repeated promise of the land of Canaan to these patriarchs and their descendants for an "everlasting possession" (Gn 13:15; 17:8; 48:4, etc.).

**QUESTION: I appreciate your books. But sometimes you make no sense at all—like your answer in the Q&A section of the Oct. 2005 TBC. You state, "Death is the punishment for sin, not cessation of being." You are contradicting Scripture! Obadiah 16 says, "...and they [the heathen] shall be as though they had not been," and again concerning the devil himself in Ezekiel 28:19, "...and never shalt thou be any more."**

**If sinners are alive in hellfire forever, then sin itself will also exist forever. Yet in 1 John 3:8 it says, "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."**

**ANSWER:** Your mistake is a simple one. You take these verses as applying to existence in eternity, but in the context they clearly apply to temporal existence on earth.

Obadiah is prophesying of the day when the wicked will be destroyed from off the earth. That the wicked never cease to exist, however, is very clear from many scriptures. For example, "...the rich man also died, and was buried; and in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments..." (Lk 16:22-24). Although the rich man "died," he has not ceased to exist—nor will he or the rest of the wicked ever cease to exist, as many scriptures declare. "Death and hell [where the rich man now is] were cast into the lake of fire" (Rv 20:14); "and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever" (Rv 14:11); "these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal" (Mt 25:46); "hell...the fire that never shall be quenched" (Mk 9:43-48), etc. For punishment to be "everlasting," those being punished must also exist forever. If the "everlasting punishment" of the wicked is not eternal, then neither is the "everlasting life" promised to believers.

As for the devil, Ezekiel 28:19 does not say he will cease to exist. Consider: "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone...and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (Rv 20:10). Thus the Lake of Fire must be what Christ called "everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Mt 25:41). For the devil to be punished "for ever and ever," he would have to exist "for ever and ever." Ezekiel 28:19 simply says he will never be allowed on earth again.

Moreover, Christ consigns the "goats on the left" to the same "everlasting fire" as "the devil and his angels." The "lake of fire," by the way, is called "the second death" (Rv 20:14). Those who are in it must, therefore, be "dead." "Death and hell are cast into the lake of fire" (Rv 20:14). Clearly, however, they have not ceased to exist. Christ says "these shall go away into everlasting punishment..." (Mt 25:46), in conscious existence, though "dead."

You also say, "If sinners are alive in hellfire forever, then sin itself will also exist forever. Yet in 1 John 3:8 it says, 'For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.'"

You lose me here. No one is sinning or doing "the works of the devil" in the Lake of Fire—not even the devil himself! How much more fully could the works of the devil be destroyed than for Christ to confine the devil and all of his followers to the Lake of Fire? Christ put an end to sin by paying its full penalty. Having redeemed those who believe the gospel, Christ will ultimately bring them, transformed, into heaven, where they will never sin again.

**QUESTION: Why do we celebrate Sunday as the Sabbath, when it was falsely changed from Saturday by Constantine?**

**ANSWER:** The seventh day of the week, Saturday, was and will always be the Sabbath. Constantine had no authority to change it. Sunday is *not* the Sabbath.

Constantine, a sun worshiper, is given credit for causing Christians to worship on Sunday instead of Saturday. Not true! Christians met on Sunday from the very beginning. Although the disciples went into the synagogue on the Saturday Sabbath to preach the gospel, it was on the "first day of the week [Sunday], when the disciples came together to break bread [i.e., for communion]" (Acts 20:7). It was also "the first day of the week" that they had the "collection for the saints" (1 Cor 16:1,2), further evidence of when they came together to worship the Lord.

We meet on Sunday for the same reason: it is the day Christ rose as the firstborn from the dead (Col 1:18), the "last Adam" (1 Cor 15:45), the progenitor of a new race of born-again believers.

The Sabbath was the day God rested from creating this temporal universe. We are in a new eternal creation where "all things are become new" (2 Cor 5:17). Our rest is Christ (Heb 3,4), not the Sabbath. We have dealt with this question in depth in the past. (See TBC for May '99, Nov '04, May '05.)

**QUESTION: If the Rapture occurs before the...so-called "Tribulation period" of seven years, how did the multitude from**

every nation, etc., get into heaven in Rev. 7:9-17? There is only one rapture/resurrection, not two! Also, don't the first six seals of Revelation correspond directly with Christ's appearing in power and His angels gathering together His elect after the Great Tribulation and the cosmic disturbances in heaven (Mt 24:30-31)? Also, if the seven churches in Rev. 2-3 are "overcomers," what trial do they overcome? I believe it is the Great Tribulation when Satan's man, Antichrist, sets up his image in the temple and demands worship. I feel the "true church" (Philadelphia type) will be protected through the Great Tribulation, but there will be some martyrs....

**ANSWER:** The multitude "which no man could number, of all nations...clothed with white robes" are also seen in Revelation 6:9-11. These are "the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held..." Not "some," but an astonishing number worldwide, will be killed by Antichrist during the Great Tribulation! These "souls" are not yet resurrected, having come to heaven through martyrdom *after* the resurrection and Rapture.

Of those martyred we read, "And they overcame him [Antichrist] by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death" (Rv 12:11). Their resurrection comes not at the Rapture (already past—1 Cor 15:49-57) but at the end of the Great Tribulation: "I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark...and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years...this is the first resurrection" (Rv 20:4,5).

This is the resurrection only of those killed by Antichrist. There is nothing about the Lord descending from heaven or of the living being caught up with those resurrected to meet Christ in the air (1 Thes 4:13-18). Christ has already returned to the Mount of Olives at His Second Coming and defeated Antichrist and his armies at Armageddon (Ezk 38:18-20; 2 Thes 1:8; Rv 19:11-21). Yet this is called "the first resurrection." Why? Because those resurrected at this time are also in the church like those resurrected at the Rapture.

No, the opening of the six seals in Rev. 6 occurs at the beginning of the Great Tribulation; but Mt 24:30,31 concerns the Second Coming at the end of the Tribulation. As for the "true church" being preserved through the Great Tribulation, it won't even be on earth then but in heaven, married to Christ (Rv 19:7,8). The fact that the bride is "arrayed in fine linen, clean and white" shows that the Judgment Seat of Christ is past. Following

the wedding (19:11-13), Christ's bride returns with Him in the armies from heaven "clothed in fine linen, white and clean" (v. 14). Christ at the Second Coming brings "all the saints with [Him]" (Zec 14:4,5), described as "ten thousands of his saints" (Jude 14). Clearly these "saints" must have been raptured to heaven in order to return with Christ at the Second Coming. I have dealt with the precise timing of this event in a number of books. (See *Countdown to the Second Coming*)

You seem to believe that only those who face Antichrist are called overcomers. Not so. All Christians are to "overcome evil with good" (Rom 12:21). All true believers are to overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil (1 Jn 2:12-17). John exhorts every believer to overcome Satan, and declares that we overcome the world by our faith (1 Jn 5:4,5).

**QUESTION: When a man gives a solid gospel message, should he be applauded? What does it mean when the Bible says God will not share His glory?**

**ANSWER:** I personally do not like to be applauded at any time for anything (it embarrasses me), knowing that I am unworthy of praise, either from men or from God. If we do anything well, it is only by God's grace and goodness. Furthermore, Christ said, "I receive not honor from men.... How can ye believe [be men and women of faith], which receive honor one of another, and seek not the honor that cometh from God only?" (Jn 5:41-44).

Christ says that the reason we "have not the love of God" (v. 42) and our walk of faith is not what it should be is because we receive honor of one another. And because we receive honor of one another, we seek not honor from God alone. That is the problem.

Christ declares that there will be no praise (honor) from God for those who receive honor from men. Our motive can be pure only if we look to God alone for honor. We may seek honor from God, but not for honor's sake. As a child, in its innocence and simplicity, desires to please its father, so we ought to desire to please our heavenly Father. When He will say, "Well done" (Mt 25:21), it will be to His glory and we will rejoice that we have pleased Him.

So what about applauding someone who has presented a message from God's Word in a worthy manner that has thrilled the hearts of listeners? I see no objection so long as the applause is for the truthfulness of the biblical message to God's glory and the speaker does not accept any honor for himself. The danger is that the speaker may compromise the truth or soften the message God has given him in order to have praise from men. Christians have compromised because "they loved the praise of men more

than the praise of God" (Jn 12:42,43).

The fact that God will not share His glory (Is 42:8; 48:11) does not mean that He will never praise or exalt us for what we have done, for many scriptures say that He will: "...and then shall every man have praise of God" (1 Cor 4:5); "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted" (Mt 23:12; Lk 14:11, 18:14). It means that no one can take credit to himself for anything good he does; the glory belongs to God, our enabler and our only hope: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom... the mighty in...his might...the rich...in his riches: But...in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me..." (Jer 9:24-25).

## News Alert .....

**news.bbc.co.uk., 7/02/06:** Zimbabwe has lifted a ban on the practice of witchcraft, repealing legislation dating back to colonial rule.

In 1899, colonial settlers made it a crime to accuse someone of being a witch or wizard—wary of the witch hunts in Europe a few centuries earlier which saw many people burned at the stake after such accusations.

But there will be some legal grey areas, like whether it is legal for a husband to place some charms in his bedroom—charms that may injure his wife if she is unfaithful.

The Witchcraft Suppression Act was used fairly frequently, but prosecuting someone under the new legislation may prove difficult. The new Criminal Law Codification and Reform Act will demand proof that a person has supernatural powers and that they are using them to harm others.

The repealing of the witchcraft laws is another sign that Zimbabwe's government is continuing to move away from Western values and placing more emphasis on the country's own traditions.

## Endnotes .....

1. Thomas Szasz, *The Myth of Psychotherapy* (Doubleday, 1978), 27-28.
2. Martin Gross, *The Psychological Society* (Random House, 1978), 234-36.
3. Ernest Jones, *The Life and Work of Sigmund Freud*, Volume I (1856-1900) (New York: Basic Books, 1953), 81.
4. Henri F. Ellenberger, *The Discovery of the Unconscious* (Basic Books, 1970), 48; back cover.
5. E. Fuller Torrey, *The Mind Games: Witchdoctors and Psychiatrists* (Emerson Hall, 1972), 8.
6. Shirley Nicholson, *Shamanism* (The Theosophical Publishing House), 58, as cited in Martin and Deidre Bobgan, *The End of "Christian Psychology"* (East Gate Publishers, 1997), 105.
7. C.G. Jung, *Memories, Dreams, Reflections* (Pantheon Books, 1963), 190-92; 182-83.
8. Richard Noll, *The Jung Cult: Origins of a Charismatic Movement* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1994), xi-xii.

## Dave & T.A.'s Itinerary

<b>Oct 1-2</b> (TA)	<b>Christliche Versammlung Thurstrasse</b> Frauenfeld Switzerland 41 (0)52 720 48 57
<b>Oct 7</b> (TA)	<b>Centre Biblique Européen</b> Lausanne Switzerland 41 (0)21 887 75 63
<b>Oct 4-6</b> (Dave)	<b>Winnipeg Prophecy Conference</b> Winnipeg MB (204) 853-7786 www.wpgpc.org
<b>Oct 18-22</b> (Dave)	<b>Midnight Call</b> Brazil 51 3241-5050 www.chamada.com.br
<b>Nov 3-5</b> (Dave & TA)	<b>TBC Conference</b> Bend OR (800) 937-6638 www.thebereanall.org
<b>Nov 10-11</b> (TA)	<b>Calvary Chapel Men's Retreat</b> Lynnwood WA (425) 672-4377
<b>Nov 12</b> (TA)	<b>Calvary Chapel</b> Lynnwood WA (425) 672-4377
<b>Nov 23-26</b> (Dave)	<b>Calvary Chapel Vladimir</b> Vladimir Russia
<b>Dec 29-31</b> (Dave)	<b>Calvary Chapel Ft. Worth</b> Ft. Worth TX (817) 838-8381

## Letters .....

### Dear Brothers Dave and Tom,

I am impressed by the way that you stand for the Scriptures; truth is truth and that never changes. I sat in the Roman church for twenty years and never heard truth or the gospel of Jesus Christ or of the love of God. I can truthfully say that I do not know of another ministry that publicly stands against the Beast. BC (TX)

### TBC,

I thank Dave and Tom so much for...the discernment you have to ferret out the truth in all things that are happening in the world. There's such a blasé approach to Scripture, and few sermons from the pulpit stir the emotions to higher heights of joy and blessing. Very little...to stir the heart to accomplish great things for the Lord. I am disappointed with the church of today. EJ (MN)

### Dear Berean Call,

Although I do agree with a portion of the facts you present, I disagree with the way that you present them. It is my belief that all Christians are instructed to proclaim the GOOD NEWS rather than highlight the bad, and I don't believe that you are doing that. It may be that God has called you to do what you do, but I have chosen not to participate in your ministry. CP (NJ)

### Dear Dave,

We read your letter completely and depend on it to keep us informed of the things that are going on. We are sorta out of the mainstream now due to our old age. Before my husband became a Christian, he was involved in the martial arts. He has ordered your book [*Yoga and the Body of Christ*]. We have been concerned about this for some time. BF (OR)

### Dear Staff,

The book *Queen of Rome, Queen of Islam, Queen of All!*...fills a huge gap in most people's understanding of what is soon to happen after the Rapture. It doesn't go over the same old territory again and again....JP (OR)

### Dear Dave and Tom,

I wonder if these pastors (who were so excited for their congregations to view this heretical film by Mel Gibson, *The Passion of the Christ*) believe or understand what it means to be a protestant. I wonder if they have any knowledge as to what the 16th-century Protestant Reformation was about. I wonder if they are aware of the hundreds of thousands of men, women, and yes, children, who were martyred because of their protest. I wonder if these pastors are aware of the evil that their enthusiasm contributed to. Consider that: devout Roman Catholic Mel Gibson has invested the profits he earned from [this movie] in the construction of a religious compound that honors the Council of Trent. Much of the \$400 million Gibson bankrolled on *The Passion* came from evangelicals who were persuaded by their pastors and Christian leaders to see the film. Gibson has revealed that this compound, which includes a 9,000 square foot Holy Family Catholic Church and a collection of buildings still under construction, is for parishioners who subscribe to 16th-century counter-Reformation. May the Holy Spirit impress upon these so-called shepherds of the flock their ignorance and sin and may they fall on their faces before God and repent. JM (ME)

### Christian Greetings,

I wish to express my sincere thanks to you for the wonderful exposé on so-called Christian Psychology (*TBC*, Mar, Apr 2006). I especially appreciated the letter to the editor from the nurse who worked in...psychology and psychiatry. I sent my copies of the above issues to another nurse who has threatened suicide and entered herself into a psychiatric hospital. She is also a professing Christian. I do not understand Christians who do not turn to God with everything that troubles them. Thanks for the wonderful work you are doing. JR (AL)

### Brother Hunt,

I received my first newsletter in April 1992. I have gained knowledge and information that I couldn't have gotten from any other source....You have taken a stand when others have compromised. The Truth the Lord has given to you has always been presented with a humble heart. Thank you for your continual commitment to the service of the Lord and His Word. JW (OK)

### Dear Mr. Hunt,

We are ex-Mormons who now believe in the "traditional" Jesus of the Bible.... I remember being so confused in what I believed when I went to the Mormon temple last time...that I prayed to "Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Father of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob" to make sure the "right Jesus" and the "right God" heard my prayer. He did because I never went back into that temple again. Becoming "a god" is the first lie Satan told Eve and it is still going on today. Praise God we're out! I am so proud of Mr. [T.A.] McMahon for standing firm in what the Scriptures teach no matter how unpopular that may be with many Christians and non-Christians as well. SH (WA)

## TBC Notes

### Be Not Deceived...

A few years ago, we issued a warning to unsuspecting internet seekers who typed in "bereanall.org" or "thebereanall.com" instead of "thebereanall.org." Where they landed was a website called "Search the Scriptures." Sounds great, but it has no relationship to either The Berean Call ministry or our radio program, *Search the Scriptures Daily*. In fact, many of the doctrines presented on this site are at odds with our perspectives. The owner of the site intentionally purchased domain names similar to ministries (ours and others) to attract readers.

We have had numerous complaints from those who have inadvertently gone to this site and have become very confused over "TBC's" views on things like the Rapture, eternal security, etc. So we offer the warning once more. **Be alert** regarding any organization that uses guile to its own end. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. He doesn't use deception to draw His children.

T. A. McMahon  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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# VICTORY OVER SIN

**D** TORN BETWEEN THEIR SINCERE DESIRE to serve and honor their Lord and the inner turmoil of fleshly lusts and the seductive pull of worldly pleasures and honors, many Christians struggle to live for Christ. For them, Christianity involves great effort, little joy, much frustration and disillusionment, and the loss (when they have enough willpower to deny themselves) of so much they once enjoyed in life. They struggle to avoid Paul's list of "don'ts" in Colossians 3:5-8: "Mortify therefore your members...fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry...put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth." Failing repeatedly, they repent remorsefully and puzzle over their inability to live as they know they should—but seemingly can't.

They fare no better with Paul's list of "do's" that follows (vv. 12-17); "Put on therefore, as the elect of God...bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving...giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

Is it really possible to be sweet, kind, humble, loving, and forgiving at all times? The spirit is willing, but the flesh proves ever to be embarrassingly weak. How can one live up to [these] high standards...? Is there some secret to victory we are overlooking?

The two key expressions, "mortify" ...and "put on"...only increase the bewilderment and sense of failure. Is it really possible to "put to death" ungodly desires and, shedding that body of evil...to be clothed in a resurrection body of godliness? Surely Paul, led of the Holy Spirit, is not taunting us with goals that cannot be attained and...are not at all practical. Was he not himself an example of this kind of life, and did he not say more than once, "Be ye followers of me even as I also am of Christ" (1 Cor 4:16; 11:1)? Then why do we fail? From whence comes the motivation and the strength to accomplish what is at once so desirable and yet so seemingly impossible?

## What Is "Therefore" There For?

There is a general failure to recognize the importance of one little word that occurs in both verses 5 and 12. It holds the answer to our dilemma. Paul does not say, "Mortify your members" and "Put on bowels of mercies, kindness...." That would impose a "do-it-yourself" religion of gritting one's teeth...and struggling to live up to high moral standards.... That is not Christianity. Paul carefully and pointedly says, "Mortify *therefore*.... Put on *therefore*...." Clearly *therefore* refers to something that Paul is convinced gives the Christian the motivation and power to do what he is commanding and lifts the Christian above the impossible struggle of flesh trying to live a godly life. It is, *therefore*, the Christian's secret to a happy, fruitful, and holy life that is pleasing to God.

The mortifying of the old deeds and the putting on of the new is possible only because, as the previous verses declare, "Ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God" (Col 3:3)... Herein lies the secret dynamic of the Christian life. Why, then, doesn't every Christian experience this power in daily living? Sadly, many who call themselves Christians have a very superficial understanding of the gospel they claim to have embraced (1 Cor 15:3,4).

For many who believe that Christ died for their sins, this event is more mystical than historical. The horrible death of the cross is something that happened to Christ but which has only a theoretical...connection to them. Some may have such a faulty understanding of what Christ's death means that they are not true Christians at all. They have *imagined* that the death of Christ in their place delivered them from their deserved eternal punishment in hell, so that, like Barabbas, they could live as they pleased. They have never desired what Paul rejoiced in: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Gal 2:20).

...For that great apostle, the cross was no mere religious symbol but the place where he had died to life as he would have lived it and had begun to experience the very life of Christ being lived in him. He knew that Christ gives resurrection life; *therefore* only those who have died in Christ can experience it....He realized that Christ had actually taken his place before a righteous, holy God—and that God had put Christ to death in payment for his (Paul's) sins. *Therefore*, Paul was a dead man. Christ's death in his place was literally his own death, and he rejoiced in that fact. If he was to experience life thereafter, it must be the resurrected Christ living in him. This...is to be our daily experience *by faith*.

## Resurrection Power

...The most seductive temptation Satan can devise will arouse no response from a dead man....As a dead man, Paul experienced a new freedom over sin that he had never known before. Yet, in spite of being dead, Paul was more alive than he had ever been: "I am crucified... nevertheless, I live." Dead to sin, he was alive to God through Christ. So real was this to Paul that it was as though Christ Himself were living in him—and, indeed, He was! Christ had become his very life—and this, said Paul, was what Christianity was all about.

Paul reminded the saints at Colossae that victory over sin and self was not possible through willpower and fleshly struggle. True victory could only come through understanding and believing what Christ's death for their sins and resurrection for their justification really meant....

But how could Christ's death, burial, and resurrection be as real to them as it was to Paul—so real that their very lives would be totally transformed?...They must believe that Christ was coming any moment to take them to heaven, where they would thereafter appear with Him in glory. It was the hope of Christ's imminent return that would make the difference between victory and defeat in the Christian life!...They were to be so heavenly minded that the things of this earth would have no appeal and thus no power over them.

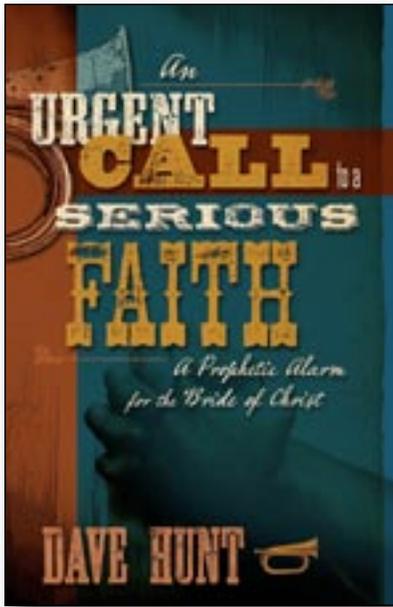
...Through Christ's cross Christians have been crucified to the world and the world has been crucified to them, as Paul so firmly declared (Gal 6:14). A man who has just been taken down, dead, from a cross has no interest in this world nor does it have any claims upon him....So it is with the Christian and the world through the cross of Christ....Christ declared that the world would hate and persecute us as it had Him (Jn 15:18-20; 16:2; 17:14). By His cross we have been cut off from this world just as surely as He has been.

Death, however, did not end it all. Christ rose triumphant from the grave and ascended to the right hand of the Father in heaven. Moreover, He is coming again in power and glory to judge and take vengeance upon those who have rejected Him—and we, who have identified ourselves with Him in His rejection and death, will participate in His triumph and glory. Nor is that Second Coming so far in the future that it has no practical meaning for us now. On the contrary, the Rapture (which precedes the Second Coming) could occur today. The glorious fulfillment of the hope that the gospel has instilled within our hearts could burst upon us at any moment! This fact causes eternity to invade the present and makes the Christian no longer of this world.

## Only the Dead Can Be Resurrected

Hear Paul say it again: "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." Consenting to be dead and willing for Christ to be their life was not only the Colossians' basis for victory, but the essential meaning of the gospel they must embrace....Let us diligently and enthusiastically "seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Let us "set [our] affection on things above, not on things on the earth." Why? "For our conversation [citizenship] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself" (Phil 3:20,21). Praise God! ✠

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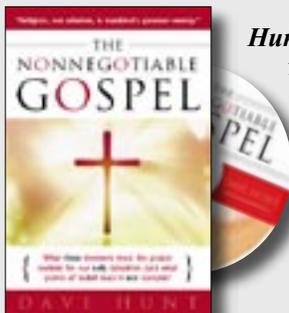
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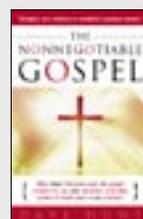
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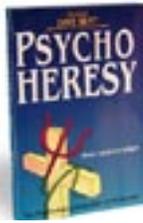
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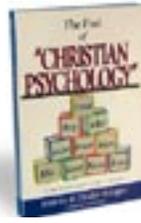
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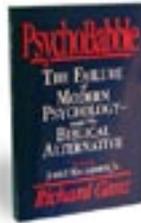
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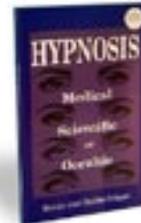
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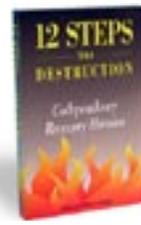


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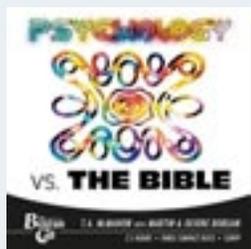
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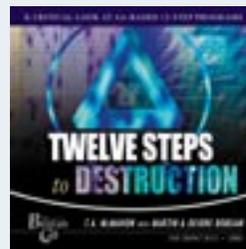
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OCTOBER 2006

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