



T.A. MINISTRIES

A Ministry of Teaching

Whom shall He teach knowledge? and whom shall He make to understand doctrine?... (Is.28:9)

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TA Ministries is a non-profit interdenominational faith ministry, teaching, informing and equipping the church.

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The members of the advisory panel may not necessarily agree with all the views expressed in this newsletter. We welcome comments and articles contributed by readers. Unless otherwise requested, these may be included in following newsletters at the discretion of the editor.

This newsletter is distributed free of charge. However, because we are a faith ministry, we ask for donations of up to \$12 per year to cover the cost of production.

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(1Jn.4:1,2; 1Thess.5:21), by the only infallible standard - the scriptures, (2Tim.3:16). They will not be part of any **evil and adulterous generation that seeks after signs and wonders**, (Matt.12:39). They will have a peace and even a joy in tribulation. They will suffer the reproach of those within the church. But they will be pleased to have been found faithful to His Word, (Rev.3:8)

As I talk to many discerning Pastors who have had the experience of many years, their common thinking is that the church is in **perilous times**. This is no time to be on the fence, or worse, on the wrong path! Let us pray like never before. Let us search the scriptures and fill our minds and hearts with that spiritual food. Let us worship in Spirit and in truth in preparation for that day when the Lord Jesus Christ will burst through the skies to take us to be with Him!

Terry Arnold

Editors Comments

Many have not yet responded as to whether they do or do not wish to subscribe to our newsletter. However, the response we did receive shows there is a real need and an interest for people to be informed and equipped with information and teaching, that we believe is vital to today's church. We are grateful for donations and literature orders received. We pray that God will bless those individuals, and that the literature will be used wisely to help release those in deception, and give knowledge to those in need.

In this issue we have given some space to the issue of Ecumenism, the 'Toronto Blessing' and the associated 'prophecies'. I am convinced there has been a major *shift* in the direction of a large section of the church, especially in the last three years. Ecumenism, being a type of worldly unity among churches, (from the Greek '*oikoumenikos*' meaning 'of the inhabited *earth*'), is quietly gathering momentum, being fuelled by 'waves of the spirit', such as the 'Toronto Blessing'. Para-church groups such as the 'Promise Keepers', (see page 2), have also embraced ecumenical thinking. This shift is placing less emphasis on testing things by the scriptures and more subjective reliance on experiences and signs and wonders.

One thing that I would draw the readers attention to are the many desperate prophesies that are beginning to surface. In this issue we highlight past prophecies and prophets that have proven to be false, and also current prophecies that are being made. How long will the church travel down the road that accepts these various 'waves of the spirit' before we learn from history? The many promises, statements and prophecies that have come through the 'Toronto Blessing' have been either *changed* or are proving to be false. We were told that this 'move of the spirit' was the forerunner of revival. Then it was changed to a 'refreshing'. Now many are wondering why it is 'drying up'!

I have received many letters and phone calls from disillusioned, confused and sometimes hurt Christians, who know that something is *seriously wrong*. Many have left churches in search of churches that will teach simple Bible truths instead of fitting scriptures to experiences and manifestations. Cases of mental problems and manic depression are increasing! Many are being broken and needing to be re-taught, (Heb.5:12-14; 6:1). Others become part of the 80% of Christians who 'backslide' and fall away from the faith, many of them *inoculated* against true Christianity.

The Charismatic church itself is increasingly divided over the direction it is largely heading. Some leading Charismatics are increasingly outspoken against what they discern as counterfeit signs and wonders, (2Thess.2:9,10; Matt.24:24), and false teaching, (1Tim.4:1; 2Tim.4:3,4), often caused by taking scriptures out of context.

This may seem to be all bad news to many, but someone has to sound the trumpet and warn of danger! Do we fail to warn our neighbour that his house is burning down because we don't want to be negative or offend? Are we not told to *reprove* (Eph.5:11), *dispute* for the truth (Acts 9:29;15:2,7; 17:17;19:8,9), *rebuke* with doctrine (2Tim.4:2), and *contend* earnestly for the faith that was once delivered to the saints? (Jude 3)

The good news is that God is *separating* a people from much of what is false today. In times of apostasy a *remnant* has always come away and separated themselves to God, (2Cor.6:18; 2Thess.3:6; 1Tim.6:3-5). These people are *lovers of the truth* and will not fall for any *delusion* of the times, (2Thess.2:10,11). They will *test the spirits*,

(1Jn.4:1,2; 1Thess.5:21), by the only infallible standard - the scriptures, (2Tim.3:16). They will not be part of any **evil and adulterous generation that seeks after signs and wonders**, (Matt.12:39). They will have a peace and even a joy in tribulation. They will suffer the reproach of those within the church. But they will be pleased to have been found faithful to His Word, (Rev.3:8)

The Promise Keepers

The Promise Keepers (P.K.) is a Para-church organisation for men. It was founded by a Vineyard Pastor, Bill McCartney, and is primarily led by Vineyard Pastors and members. Their gatherings are said to be the largest gatherings of men in history, some meetings now approaching 100,000. The men are encouraged to make a series of 'promises', mostly of a moral nature pertaining to integrity, family and purity. A call to the clergy is also made to have 'one leadership' and 'one unity of command'*

There is a decided and clear ecumenical push advocated by this organisation. Perhaps the 'promises', (many of which are noble and good), are just a front for an ecumenism that *lacks truth*. Many Catholic and Mormon churches have supported the 'Promise Keepers' and have encouraged their members to attend. This would make one wonder what kind of Gospel would be preached. It is a fact that Mormons and Catholics can keep the promises and still go to Hell!

The promises that include abstaining from such things as pornography, mistreating wives, etc. are no doubt Godly principles, but should Godly men not do thesees things anyway? Why do we look for things we agree with and ignore the things we don't agree with?

A study of the contents of the published books by the P.K. will show many dangerous associations. In the official P.K. magazine 'New Man', they give a favourable review of Jay Gary's book, 'The Star of 2000'. This author in fact recommends, and has a close association with, new ager Robert Muller, who advocates in his books that all religions should find common ground and work together for a one-world religion. Jay Gary also invited Robert Muller to be a key advisor for his organisation, ('Bimillennial Global Interactive Network').

Another book recommended and distributed by P.K. is 'The Masculine Journey' by Robert Hicks. In this book Hicks quotes new age authors Sam Keen and Robert Bly. One of Hicks chapters is titled 'The Phallic Male', ('phallus' means: image of an *erect penis***). On P.51 of Hick's book he says: '*We are called to worship God as phallic kinds of guys... We are told to worship Him in accordance to what we are - phallic men*'. He

also writes that our sexual problems '*reveal how desperate we are to express in some perverted form, the deep compulsion to worship with our phallus*'. He says '*Jesus was a phallic kind of guy*'.

Hicks also suggests alternative initiation rites for men such as circumcision, and that we could celebrate the different passages of a young man's life, such as his first drunk or sexual experience, (P.177). He goes on in an attempt to qualify this by stating that although it is sin, it is human and we all have this common ground.

Bill Mcartney's senior Pastor is James Ryle, who was involved in the establishing of P.K. and is on the board of directors. Read what this man prophesied about the music group, the Beatles: '*The Lord has appointed me as a lookout and shown me some things that I want to show you. The Lord spoke to me and said: "What you saw in the Beatles, the gifting and the sound that they had was from me, it was my purpose to bring forth through music, a world-wide revival that would usher in the move of my Spirit in bringing men and women to Christ"*'.

Were the 'Beatles 'anointed' by God? God forbid! This prophecy is clearly unscriptural nonsense, as have been many others given by the Vineyard, including leader John Wimber. It was the Vineyard movement who promoted and took in the 'Kansas city Prophets' many years back, who were proven and exposed as *false prophets*. It was also the Vineyard movement that was at the roots of the 'Toronto Blessing'.

Will the church in the last days believe lies rather than truth? (2Thess.2:9,10). Indeed many will not be lovers of truth. P.K. is a *broad way*, (Matt.7:13). When the true church preaches the Gospel without compromise the people will be separated into the broad way or the narrow way, (Matt.7:14). Yes, this is divisive! Jesus said He did not come to bring peace on earth but came to bring a two-edged sword that would divide, (Matt.10:34). That two-edged sword is the Word of God with the Spirit of truth.

Terry Arnold

* 'Detroit Silverdome, April 29, 1995.'** Oxford Dictionary

*** See our booklist for 'Weighed and Found Wanting' by Bill Randles.

'Toronto Blessing' News

- The Vineyard movement headed by John Wimber has ousted the Toronto Airport church, (the home of the 'Toronto Blessing'), from its association. A report by Wimber states clearly that the split was over '*...the exotic practices that are extra-biblical...Toronto Airport Vineyard have repeatedly violated the guidelines...*' The Vineyard were especially concerned with the doglike barking noises and the prophetic and 'scriptural' explanations that were given for this behaviour.

- Theologian John Stott, in reference to the animal noises, recently stated: '*The whole Bible tells us we are different from the animal creation; it rebukes us when we behave like animals and calls us to be distinct. Nebuchadnezzar's animal behaviour was under judgement, not the blessing, of God.*' ('Christianity Today', Jan. 1996)

- The Associated Pentecostal Churches of New Zealand have cancelled the return of Rodney Howard-Browne.

- In Perth (Nov.13-17), there was some opposition to the visit of Howard-Browne. During the Crusades Adrienne Van Leen, director of a well known teaching and training ministry, asked Howard-Browne in writing, to explain his use of finances, his relationship with Kenneth Copeland including prophesies made, and his reason for having made several unbiblical statements. In Van Leen's magazine, it is also alleged that the team of ten members with Howard-Browne, stayed in a premier suite at a cost of between \$950 & \$1025 per night. The staff member who paid the bill of '*just under \$50,000*' thought this was cheap! The

article also states that each couple in the team had their own top of the range hire car.

- It is estimated that Howard-Browne left New Zealand with over \$1 million and probably well over \$1 million from Singapore.

- In New Zealand several churches have split or lost most of their members due to division over the 'Toronto Blessing'. One Pentecostal church may close. Another Pastor has such reduced members that he has had to take on part-time work.

- In the USA the AOG church has not officially supported the 'T.B.' in any way. The Secretary General states...'*We have not taken any official position on the 'Toronto Blessing'...USA AOG is not in a condition of division over this matter*'*

(* TA Ministries has a copy of a personal letter from this writer showing clearly that he personally is against it and considers it a counterfeit.)

- **Toronto Blessing outrage in Israel:** There were reports of outrage in Israel recently, when leader and founder of Toronto Airport Vineyard held a meeting with uncontrollable *laughter*, while the entire Israel nation was in *mourning* over the assassination of their Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin. In the same 'Ariel Ministries' paper, Jewish Christian author and lecturer, Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum wrote: '*It made some of my friends sick only to hear about it...over the last 10-15 years more and more believers are becoming biblically illiterate; such illiteracy leads to the seeking of new spiritual experiences...the church has indeed entered a sad state...*'

What a leading Charismatic says

Leading English *Charismatic*, Dr. Clifford Hill, speaking at a meeting of evangelical leaders, made an impassioned plea to Charismatics. His plea was for them to return to Biblical teaching and practice. In regard to excesses that are now becoming normal thinking and practice, he summarised as follows:

* You know there is something wrong when new teaching is based upon contemporary revelation instead of upon the revealed Word of God in the Bible.

* You know there is something wrong when doctrine is based upon experience instead of experience based upon doctrine.

* You know there is something wrong when men travel halfway around the world to get a blessing instead of falling on their knees where they are.

* You know there is something wrong when men talk of imparting a blessing from one to another when the Bible says that the only thing which can be passed on is corruption, not blessing.

* You know there is something wrong when people are told not to use their minds and not to test the spirits as the New Testament instructs.

* You know there is something wrong when 'new wine' is offered as though it was good, although the Bible says the

mature wine is good and the new wine is often undrinkable.

* You know there is something wrong when scripture is reversed in its meaning and given as new teaching.

* You know there is something wrong when prophecies of imminent revival remain unfulfilled year after year.

* You know there is something wrong when meetings are advertised as spiritual spectacles.

* You know there is something wrong when people chase after signs and wonders which is contrary to the practice of Jesus who said, 'A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a miraculous sign'.

* You know there is something wrong when so-called 'ministry times' are separated from the preaching of the Word.

* You know there is something wrong when those who introduce new teachings charge those who wish to test those teachings biblically with being divisive.

* You know there is something wrong when people exhibit uncontrollable physical symptoms and the New Testament teaches that self-control is a fruit of the Spirit.

* You know there is something wrong when those who claim to have been filled with a new love for Jesus pour out the vilest abuse on those who question their teaching.

Prophecy gone wild?

This century we have seen a proliferation of new prophecies come through the Charismatic and Pentecostal movements. Many of these have simply not come to pass. The exposure and false prophesies of groups like the 'Latter Rain' movements', the 'Manifest Sons of God' and the 'Kansas City Prophets' some decades ago, should have warned us of the error of many of the false prophecies connected with the so-called 'imminent revival' theology. This has reached yet another level of fiasco with desperate prophecies coming through the 'Toronto Blessing'. Desperate because the majority now agree that the Toronto influence is waning. Desperate because they want revival.

We have been promised revival by the Toronto enthusiasts now for three years and yet all agree we do not have anything like a revival. In fact most western countries are experiencing trends opposite to revival.

The following are quotes taken from 'prophetic words' spoken at St. Marks Northbridge between Oct. 95 and Feb. 96 and given to church leaders.

Oct.: I asked the Lord about the apparent dryness of the blessing at this time - the power...waning. He gave me a vision of an incredible storm...(it) was terrifying...caused great damage...limited only to those structures and authorities in the church the Lord needed to remove before He could rebuild His house...there was an awful lot of them...the confusion...would be great...many prophesies judgements would accompany this outpouring, on those who had not repented, and ministries would be torn down and replaced.

Nov.: He gave me a vision of an immense tidal wave, that has risen and was about to break...The wave of His anointing was coming very soon, and would be much bigger than anything we were expecting. It would be as far beyond anything we had previously witnessed as the Toronto Blessing was beyond the earlier anointings...they would be swimming in very deep water, and struggling to stay afloat. I believe the next wave will break very soon, and will have similar immediate effects as the outbreak of the Toronto anointing but way beyond anything we saw or heard then. I had the feeling that it would come early in 1996, but this was not clear...many currently in leadership will be left behind, as they have not repented and got themselves ready for what is coming....allow our Father to teach us and

train us to His schedule, not the schedule gained from doctrinal interpretations by various 'theologians'....These blessings are not just spiritual but physical and financial.

Jan.: The Lord gave me the following word: There is a new release in worship coming to the church...It will first sound 'out of tune' with current worship styles...This new worship will be inhabited by the presence of the Lord....Many in Adelaide have resisted the outpouring from Toronto because of the packaging, and I feel they will be swamped by the realisation that they were wrong, and wonder how they could have failed to see the truth...In a vision...I saw a man holding a decapitated head. It was not very scary or dramatic...He will soon cut off head knowledge because He is pouring out heart knowledge...the proud...shall lose their heads...Some ministries that have spoken against God's chosen and humble servants will be cut down...some will fall to disease, heart attack and stress...

Editor's comment: How long do we allow such prophecies to go unaccounted for? When will we learn from history?

Terry Arnold

If...

If students went to school only when they felt like it - as some people go to church - they would fail.

If a person ate his meals irregularly - as some people partake of the Lord's supper- he would starve.

If people paid their bills only occasionally - as some people support the church - they would have no credit rating.

If a father neglected his family - as some do the Lord - he would be charged with desertion.

If a person spoke to other people as seldom as some pray to God - he would be branded anti-social.

Did you know?

The Mormons have overtaken the Baptist denomination as New Zealand's 5th largest religious group. The Mormons are also growing rapidly in Australia, New Guinea and Fiji. The Jehovah Witnesses are now larger than the Assemblies of God, Open Brethren, or the Salvation Army in both Australia and New Zealand.

Your Comments and Questions

I must congratulate you on the book 'To Catholics Whom I Love'. My Husband and I were both in the Catholic church. We pulled away...I found it very hard at first and started to feel guilt, being a member of the Catholic church since birth, and going to a Catholic school. I was taught not about Jesus but about God...I remember I was never allowed to read the Bible. We were guided by the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit worked through a very close friend of my husband. Now I study the Bible and see things in there that make a lot of sense. The Bible says to test the spirits whether they are of God, (Jn.4:1), and that God cannot lie.

....I was praying to Mary and carried around rosary beads. My husband and myself had gold crosses, pictures and a crucifix in our home. We have disposed of them now, since discovering that it is all idolatry. I guess we were blinded, as I have read that Satan also comes as an angel of light. I am so glad that I have read a lot of books especially the Bible. Now we follow the teachings of Jesus Christ our Lord and saviour.

We are finding it hard to find a fellowship that we may fit in. By the grace of God He will guide us in the right direction. Thank you once again for publishing the book 'To Catholics Whom I Love'. If you have any other books good for my spiritual growth please let me know.

(Name withheld at editors discretion)

Awakening 2000!

As the end of this millenium approaches, a plethora of programmes and plans are bubbling along to turn New Years Eve into a spiritual orgy such as the world has yet to see.

Joining secular AD 2000 Mega Images such as Threshold 2000, Trends 2000, Agenda 2000, Renewal 2000, Jubilee 2000 and Celebration 2000, are the Global March for Jesus, Concerts of prayer and Awakening 2000.

While the world, and the new Age Movement in particular are engaged in plans for AD 2000, many church denominations have stated their intention to finish the great Commission by this year 2000. These high profile efforts are: The Decade of Harvest, (Assemblies of God), New Life 2000, (Campus Crusade for Christ), Evangelisation 2000, (Roman Catholic), and

Praise Points

- Recently Terry gave his testimony at a church in Sth. Qld. and later during the week a young person responded, making a commitment to Christ. God honours our testimony of Jesus.

Prayer points

- We need a fast copy machine to copy audio cassettes, and a second video machine to copy videos.
- TA Ministries would like to send copies of the video, 'Video Clips To Shock', and the new revised booklet, 'Toronto Blessing-A Critique', to various Pastors and key people around Australia. This is an effort to provide teaching and the latest information on the 'Toronto Blessing'. The cost of this is approx. \$60. Please pray that finance could be provided to send this material soon. Contact Terry if you are interested in helping.

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I am interested in receiving the monthly TA Ministries newsletters.

Name-----Address-----

Phone-----Fax-----Signed-----Date-----

I enclose \$----- as a donation for costs and postage

the Ecumenical Awakening, 2000.

The Awakening 2000 and the Global March for Jesus campaigns should alarm Christians for at least two reasons: 1) It's assertion that the unbelieving Australian community will have their spiritual needs met by 'Reconnecting' with their partners, families, neighbours, local church(?), their 'own spiritual nature' (sic) and with God! 2) The blatant ecumenism involved.

The latest 'Awakening News' (Vol.2 No.1) speaks of various celebrations in every city including an 'Operation Reconnect' on Easter Sunday which will culminate 50 days later in a Global march for Jesus on Pentecost weekend.

This 'feel good' gospel is false. No one is justified by 'reconnecting' with family, neighbours or local church - if such a thing were possible. Throughout the literature produced by Awakening 2000 the subject of justification or redemption available only through the shed blood of the saviour is not evident - but the dream that somehow a united, amassed Global church could hold the key to a better 21st. Century is. Written endorsements are highlighted, and feature promptings to be involved from leaders of most churches including the Catholic Archbishop of Brisbane.

Many leaders in most denominations, (eg. Salvation Army, Uniting, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Churches of Christ, Baptist Union), have justified their involvement in this obvious ecumenism by stating that they can work with 'anyone who calls Jesus Lord'.

Matthew 7:21-23 makes it clear that this statement does not prove that a person is a Christian and is no grounds for working together in evangelism with those who profess it.

Which Jesus, therefore, will Australians be asked to 'reconnect' with? The Lord Jesus Christ or the jesus of Roman Catholicism?

Jesus did not call us to social action - but to preach the Gospel, and all attempts to bring in our millenium in tandem with the New Age Movement are rebellion against God, regardless of the evangelistic appearance attached to them.

That these moves to embrace the world in celebration of Christ are ecumenical and gospel neutral, indicate clearly that God is not the author.

Mike Claydon, (Parramatta, NSW)

Terry's Itinerary

21/4/96 PM. Fraser Coast Baptist (Contact Terry 018183093)

28/4/96 AM & PM. Gateway Baptist Church, Caloundra, Qld. (One session on 'Toronto Blessing') Contact: Ps. Gene McCraw (074) 928157 or 019619588

****New****

'Biblical testing of Manifestations' written by a current AOG Pastor. This is a 20 page copy of the booklet written by a prominent Australian senior AOG Pastor. It not only makes interesting reading but is one of the best biblical studies on the current 'wave' of the spirit. It was originally delivered in part at a 'Pentecostal Forum' in 1995. This is a highly recommended and an excellent Biblical testing on the manifestations that have come through the 'Toronto Blessing'. \$1.90 (postage included). Order now.

Send this form to:

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