



Diakrisis

A Ministry of Teaching

*But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age...to discern (diakrisis) both good and evil (Heb. 5:14)
Whom shall He teach knowledge? and whom shall He make to understand doctrine?... (Is.28:9)*

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Sub-Editors Comments

As 1999 rushed upon us in late December, world and church events seem to take on a new frenzy. Every day now we must digest and discern new events at an ever increasing speed. It can all be overwhelming. Clinton bombs Baghdad while being impeached for 'high crimes and misdemeanours'; the 'Euro' is launched and becomes overnight a world traded currency, with a power that only the almighty US dollar once held alone; Israeli elections are suddenly called amidst confusion over the Wye River accord; the Asian financial 'melt-down' worsens daily; and the old Russia begins to assert herself on the world stage while the alignment of nations described in Ezekiel 38 & 39 gathers pace.

Amidst this broiling action the *church* is being rapidly engulfed by a tremendous move away from *the faith once delivered to the saints*, (Jude 3). Christianity has become *corporatised*. People are now evangelised in a systematic way through church growth stratagems, *Promise Keepers* rallies, and the ubiquitous *Alpha Course*. Pastors and their 'assistants' are increasingly addressed more as anointed C.E.O.'s than 'shepherds' and everything must be done to fulfil some ethereal 'potential'.

These immense programs offer a Christianity foreign to the Bible. From the personal testimonies emerging from these movements it is starkly obvious that *conversion* to the faith is now a matter of believing what the *group* believes. This makes you an accepted member of this new church and this acceptance is increasingly grounded in *shared experience*.

At the root of this false gospel is a universal gnostic religion which embraces the devotees with total and unquestioning *acceptance* and presents itself in a form most pleasing to them. Therefore Bill Hybels can build an empire by offering the unregenerate what they require to satisfy their '*felt needs*'. Bill McCartney can assert that Christian men should strengthen their faith by making promises to each other. And Nicky Gumbel is able to entice hundreds of thousands of the worldwide gullible to accept a gospel that requires no repentance and a spirit willing to attribute paranormal activity to God.

Horrifyingly, they all name these activities *Church!*

That this *Christianity* is false is further proven by its acceptance by Roman Catholicism and Mormonism. Nothing taught by its proponents offends the teachings of these organisations, which in the past have been labelled by Christians as 'cults'.

Although the purveyors of this new *Christianity* are convinced that they are spearheading the greatest global evangelisation in history, they are in fact presenting something that offers *absolutely nothing* to a dying world. The roots are rotten and the ghastly tree is doomed. It is none other than that religion which will sweep the world at the end in one great last push for *ecumenical unity* and worship of a false 'christ'.

As we plunge into 1999 this entity is rapidly establishing itself within the church. We must continue to speak out against it in the coming days - and not be condemned by our Lord for our silence! **Mike Claydon**

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Note: Due to staff leave and rest, this edition covers two months - Jan/Feb. We wish all readers a blessed year and *thank you* for your prayers and we ask that they continue!
Mike Claydon

Evangelical Backflips!

In recent decades many Evangelical organisations and their leaders have done amazing backflips in their attitude to Roman Catholicism. Why are Evangelical leaders such as Billy Graham now publicly praising and endorsing the Pope and the Catholic Church? Pentecostal and Charismatic leaders have also consistently led this charge to Rome. Jack Hayford, a prominent Charismatic leader, said concerning a visit by the Pope: '*Though I'm a Protestant, my word for the Pope's visit is 'hallelujah!'...[this] two full days of coverage on a Christian event...You don't have to be a Catholic to stand tall and say, 'I'm a Christian too'. And John Paul's style, generally speaking, made us all proud to be that - Christian!...I thank the Lord for the Pope's public acknowledgement of other of the world's leading religious groups. The generosity shown to the world religions is consistent with the love of Jesus. Yes! I say 'hallelujah!'...So lets praise God for what's*

gorp (1)

Billy Graham has over the years increasingly echoed the above sentiments when he has said: '*I admire the Pope*' (2); '*that[Catholic] Gospel has brought me here tonight is still the way of salvation*' (3); '*I found that my beliefs are essentially the same as those of orthodox Catholics...*' (4); '*The visit of Pope John Paul II...could be the beginning of a new wave of spiritual revival in our nation...*' (5); '*Pope John Paul the second is one of the greatest moral and spiritual leaders of this century. He is an evangelist...*' (6); '*...I have wonderful fellowship with all of them [Catholic, Mormons]...I like him [the Pope] very much...he and I agree on almost everything*'. (7) Billy Graham says there are '*other paths to God*'. (8)

There are those who become upset that any Christian ministry should dare write against and expose Billy Graham for his ecumenical persuasions. The fascinating thing for us is that our articles have usually been *direct and documented quotes* by Billy Graham as in our June/98 article '*Billy Graham*'. In the latter article there was purposely *no personal input or editorial opinion* from this ministry but only *quotes by Graham himself!* We wanted the *facts* to speak for themselves. If anything, the critics and Billy Graham supporters should be glad we are quoting exactly what Graham has said! To these people I say - don't get mad with us, but consider the facts and the word for word quotes! Facts are facts! When people get mad at truth and facts I question their discernment and love of truth.

Today's neo-Evangelical leaders are selling out the church! They discard doctrine. They support false religions. They claim Catholicism is 'Christian' and then misinform the church about its teachings. We have been hoodwinked! While we in this ministry exhort Catholics to 'come out of her', Billy Graham crusades openly refer converts back to Catholic churches!

I was a Catholic for over 30 years, being enslaved in this false system of sacraments and works. I had no understanding of the true Gospel. Eventually I was challenged by passionate and fearless Christians to examine the foundation of my religious views. I set out to prove them wrong. A subsequent study led to the way of salvation and I saw the Catholic Church clearly exposed as '*another gospel*', (2Cor.11:4; Gal.1:6).

We in this ministry work countless hours each year to see many saved out of the Roman Catholic system. Surely God grieves when Christian organisations and leaders further the ecumenical view of Catholicism. We beg the readers of this article to feel the frustration this causes those of us whose heart is to rescue lost souls from a system, that until recently, has always been a false gospel to the Evangelical Church!

We praise God for any souls sovereignly saved by God through Billy Graham! No doubt God has greatly used Graham,

especially in past years. However, I simply cannot support such men who are openly ecumenical and sending millions back to a false system with no hope and no assurance of salvation.

It is common today to hear that a Catholic priest here or there must be saved *because* he *professes* to be 'born again' and 'loves Jesus' or 'calls upon the name of the Lord'. Without judging anyone's salvation, some questions could well be asked: Which Jesus? Why does the priest weekly sacrifice this Jesus again in the blasphemy of the Catholic Mass? Why do they continue to pray to a sinless Mary as co-redemptrix and co-mediator? Why do they accept the Church as a higher authority above Scripture? I have been involved in evangelism to thousands of Catholics for over ten years and have known less than a handful who understood the true Gospel, (and these were usually ignorant of their own Catholic beliefs).

The doctrine that singularly separates Christianity from all false religions is justification by faith alone without works through the *imputed (declared) righteousness of Christ*. * This is the doctrine missing in ecumenical documents and which neo-evangelical leaders are today avoiding at all costs! Yet this is the doctrine that the Catholic Church has pronounced *anathemas* (damnations) to any who believe or teach it!

Over the years many publications that once exposed this false gospel have increasingly minimised their stance on Roman Catholicism and now consider the subject too negative or controversial. Yet, the great leaders of yesteryear, (Luther, Spurgeon, Wesley, J.C. Ryle, M. Lloyd Jones, etc), exposed Catholicism in terms that make this ministry tame by comparison! We in this ministry wish to echo only the Biblical truths of our reformers and the respected leaders of old. Let Martyn Lloyd Jones summarise our sentiments on this controversy:

'There are movements afoot, and meetings taking place, which are trying to bring a kind of rapprochement between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism; and there are people who are rejoicing in this and saying that it is a wonderful thing that we are beginning to draw together again... and that this is a wonderful manifestation of the Christian spirit... We are looking at a system: and I would not hesitate to assert that this system known as Roman Catholicism, is the Devil's greatest masterpiece! It is such a departure from the Christian faith, and the New Testament teaching, that I would not hesitate with the reformers of the 16th Century to describe it as 'apostasy'...if we accept her teaching, we are believing a lie! In other words her dogma is a counterfeit: she is as the Scripture puts it, 'the whore'...in the 13th chapter of the book of Revelation; and...also in the 17th chapter of the book of Revelation, is the picture of 'the great whore' sitting on those seven hills, as Rome does and always has done... We are not to make 'graven images', but the Roman Catholic Church is full of images; they worship statues and forms and representations...' (9)

We will no doubt lose subscribers to this ministry because of articles such as this. We apologise to our readers for any offence, but we cannot, must not, and will not, support those who support false religion and their leaders. May the reader allow us the liberty to '*...reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine*', (2Tim.4:2). **Terry Arnold**

(1) From a message by Pastor Hayford's: '*By the Way*'. (2) 7/12/93, interview by Joan Lunden, ABC '*Good Morning America*'; *Christian News* 9/6/93; *Aust. Beacon* 10/93; *Calvary Contender*, 1/10/93 (3) *Evangelical Action*, 1/2/68; *Gastonia Gazette* 22/11/68 (4) *The Baptist Challenge* 1/9/78; *McCalls Magazine* - interview, 1978 (5) Billy Graham, *Religious Service*, 27/9/79 - made available by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (6) *Saturday Evening Post*, Jan/Feb, 1980. (7) *Larry King - Live show*, 21/1/97 (**video evidence available**) (8) *Berean Call*, 5/98 (9) Two part series, Martyn Lloyd Jones on *Roman Catholicism*, in *Australian New Life*, 1986

Music and Power

'Lots of praise and worship songs ask God to send the Holy Spirit. That is a noble prayer, with good motives, and it reminds us of the need for the Holy Spirit. But I don't think they achieve the outpouring they ask for.'

'If my theory is correct, when you want the Holy Spirit's anointing - use songs and words of praise to Jesus and God. The best songs about the Holy Spirit are those that praise God for the fact that He has already come, has filled our lives and is doing great things.'

'We need the Holy Spirit so badly. His power can come so easily - through simple praise. Praise is a significant key to releasing the power of the Spirit. It is almost a spiritual law. If you begin to praise the Father and the Son you will soon experience the anointing of the Holy Spirit.' (1)

The above was written by Dennis Price of Resource Christian Music, Dingley, Vict, 3172

We intend publishing a report on the current Christian music scene in a future edition of *Diakrisis*, but this excerpt of the above article written by Dennis Price shows the thinking behind the whole Praise and Worship movement. That we can manipulate God into pouring out an unbiblical 'anointing' if we sing the words that apply a formula - this is a 'spiritual law' foreign to Scripture. **Mike Claydon**

(1) Article by Dennis Price 'The Holy Spirit and Praise' Aust Evangel (AOG) Dec/98/June/99, P.11

More Revival Nonsense

Another 'Catch the Fire-Ignite the Church, Ignite the Nation' conference to be held in Adelaide 5-9 January, is to feature Tommy Tenney, a preacher who, it is claimed, God is using in revival and is known for his 'pulpit-splitting' preaching. While he was preaching in Houston, Texas, in October 1996, without warning, God apparently 'sovereignly' split the plexiglass pulpit in two before an amazed congregation. This led to mass conversions and widespread repentance.

Attendees of this conference are promised that 'they will be greatly blessed'. Funny, I thought it was the Gospel that caused repentance? **Mike Claydon** (Ref: *Charisma*, June/97)

Modern Evangelism

'Modern evangelism is preoccupied with decisions, statistics, aisle walking, gimmicks, prefabricated presentations, pitches, emotional manipulation, and even intimidation. Its message is a cacophony of easy believism and simplistic appeals. Unbelievers are told that if they invite Jesus into their hearts, accept him as personal Saviour, or believe the facts of the Gospel, that is all there is to it. The aftermath is appalling failure, as seen in the lives of millions who have professed faith in Christ with no consequent impact on their behaviour. Who knows how many people are deluded into believing they are saved when they are not?' (*The Gospel According To Jesus* by John Macarthur, P.86)

Stony Ground Hearers

'There are so many stony ground hearers who receive the Word with joy that I have determined to suspend my judgement till I know the tree by it's fruits...Do you think any farmer would have a crop of corn next year unless he ploughed now. You may as well expect a crop of corn on unploughed ground as a crop of grace, until the soul is convinced of its being undone without a Saviour. That is the reason we have so many mushroom converts, so many persons that are always happy! happy! happy! and never were miserable. Why? Because their stony ground is not ploughed up; they have not got a conviction of the law...they fall away...that makes me so cautious now, which I was not thirty years ago, of dubbing converts too soon. Now I wait a little, and see if people bring forth fruit; for there are so many blossoms which March winds blow away that I cannot believe they are converts till I see fruit brought forth.' (George Whitfield, 1714-1770)....

'Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles? Even so, every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree brings forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that brings not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them. Not everyone that saith unto me 'Lord, Lord' shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven. Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord', have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out Devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then I will profess unto them I never knew you. Depart from me you that work iniquity, (Matt.7:16-23)...Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves...', (2Cor.13:5).

Psychological Counselling – Biblical Counselling

Psychology says man doesn't have a sinful nature. Man is good - it's only what he does that is wrong. Sin is renamed. Psychology sees man's behaviour as 'dysfunctional' disease, sickness, etc.

Man is constitutionally sinful (Rom.5:19) by imputation. Sin is sin. Question: How can I worship God if I have low self esteem? Answer: Correct! You can't! You need no self esteem. **Harley Hitchcock** (ex-psychologist)

AOG Ecumenical Prayer Evangelism

'Recently some 80 pastors, priests and ministers representing many different denominations including Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, Anglican, AOG and Uniting, gathered for a prayer breakfast, to be challenged as to how God wants to reach and transform their city. The same night, well over 1,000 people gathered under the banner of unity to launch 'Neighbourhood Prayer Watch' with the purpose of reaching the city through prayer evangelism. Many churches were represented and approximately 100 pastors formed an 'anointing' tunnel, through which everyone passed. Each person passing through received a commissioning to reach out to the city. The Lord Mayor of Newcastle and the deputy Lord Mayor of Lake Macquarie attended. Both spoke and laid their hearts on the line for their respective cities, con-

fessing their support for the unity among the churches. They also saw the potential of the Neighbourhood Prayer Watch as a vehicle and blessing for the twin cities'. (AOG 'Australian Evangel', Dec/98)

Sub-Editors Comments: In spite of consistent denials, the *Assemblies of God in Australia* continue to link hands with the Roman Catholic Church in co-evangelising the Australian nation. As if that were not bad enough, they also join with the Lutherans whose international body has recently signed a joint declaration of unity with the Vatican.

The duplicity and deception of this is staggering and it is hoped that many of the congregantes of AOG assemblies will see this article and begin to question the leadership as to where they are taking them! **Mike Claydon**

The Dirty 'D' Word

All around us we see a doctrinally destitute church which has become weak, irrelevant, scorned and mocked, while the society around us becomes more and more rotten because the 'salt' of the church has lost its preserving power.

The church is so busy preening itself, glorifying in its entertainment style of 'worship', and looking for 'new' things, (which are really the old deceptions), such as Toronto and Pensacola, Hinn, Copeland, Howard-Browne and others.

Where is the church of the Reformation which can clearly communicate the reality of our sovereign God, the reality of mankind's true condition, and the truth of what God requires of every man/woman?

Where is the discussion of doctrine that Paul urges upon Timothy and Titus as pastors? Paul exhorted Timothy to watch his life and doctrine closely, (1Tim.4:16). He also warns him that the time will come when men/women **'...will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itchy ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth...'**(2Tim.4:3).

Reader, this warning is written to all generations. The reformers heeded the warning and gave their lives for right doctrine.

It is a warning that is particularly fitting for our own time as we see false teachings expanded at a rate not seen before in history, and churches being deceived into accepting what happens as a 'revival'.

Contrary to popular opinion, Paul's words in Titus 1:9 make it clear that it is only as we relentlessly affirm and teach the sound Biblical doctrine that the church can prosper as God envisages.

During the days before the Great Reformation the Gospel was almost snuffed out by those who called themselves 'the church' (Roman Catholicism). It was only under the sovereignty of God by courageous faithful men who staked their lives on right doctrine that it survived.

It seems to be the norm today for churches to call unto themselves preachers who tickle their ears!

An early preacher by the name of Rowland Hill illustrated the folly of those who followed the butcher into the slaughter house. From experience, I know that pigs are very stubborn and not co-operative. It seemed a mystery how these animals were so keen to follow their executioner. The butcher was wise to the ways of pigs, he knew they were creatures of appetite, so he pandered to their appetite by carrying a pocketful of beans and peas by which he enticed them. The pigs, quite unsuspectingly and caring only for the passing pleasure of gratification of sensual appetite, hurried to the slaughter.

I see many who claim to be Christian doing the same thing. Some by the Grace of God are saved, but I fear many are heading for the jaws of Hell, because their sensuality and passions are being fed by deceivers who are themselves deceived. **Pastor John Gallimore**

Testimonies From Pensacola

- 'I am convinced that most of what is happening at Pensacola that I saw...is a by-product of psychological - conditioning, the power of suggestion and mass hysteria. Most of the people...are in need of a life changing experience. They might feel excited and refreshed now but eventually having to seek an emotional and physical experience continually, will get old and routine...What used to come from in-depth, intensive Bible study, Scripture memorization and disciplined living, can now be achieved from an experience with God...I have felt it necessary to resign my pastoral position at...I see this 'revival' in a different way than the others. I really feel very uncomfortable around the atmosphere caused by people falling over backwards, shaking, jumping up and down, and other manifestations...I had to leave a church I pastored for ten years because of the Hyper-Faith controversy. Many in the church thought I should be healed from my disability...When you have a severe physical deformity that causes daily pain and frustration, it makes it very difficult to be in a place where miracles and God's power to heal are constantly promoted...you've done all you think you can to get a miracle and still nothing happens...A disabled person can only take so much...Now because of the 'revival' controversy, I must resign...

(Pastor K.D. see: <http://www.pentecostal-issues.org/journal/brownsville/scriptur.htm>)

- 'As the praise and worship closed, the worship leader talked about his expectation for manifestations. The pastor...gave an introduction for John Kilpatrick, again emphasising his expectation for manifestations...the 'sermon' was basically a string of anecdotal stories about esoteric and for the most part, undocumentable experiences...One staff member at Brownsville even suggests that these 'critics' may be 'wagering their salvation'...The anecdotal stories continued as John Kilpatrick told a story about he and his wife riding in their car when they received a 'kiss of heaven'. 'Just

like God pulled us up by the nape of the neck and gave us a smoocher right across our soul [kissing sound]. You know, just kissed us.'...John Kilpatrick told a story from Brownsville where he 'vomited' up a 'sword of knowledge'. When he 'threw up' this word, a silver spear came out of his mouth and sailed across the church and audibly smacked a woman in the chest. She fell over backwards...she was 'screaming bloody murder'. According to Kilpatrick the silver spear was the Lord's Word and that Word healed her of an ailment from which she was suffering...The expectation and anticipation of the crowd was built up...his 'speaking in tongues' for a long period without an interpretation was a red flag...This 'chanting' went on for a period of over twenty minutes...Brenda Kilpatrick was the first person to manifest...Painfully I watched a husband and wife carry a newborn baby to the front...I was watching them and praying for their safety, because they could very easily have been 'taken out' by one of the people next to them jerking and shaking out of control...they surrendered their baby to strangers, and went down on the floor shaking...when the parents got up off the floor they were shaking and clearly in no condition to hold a baby...they were literally unable to hold her...tragically it appears that we are moving to new paradigm in the church. The Gospel has been reduced to an 'esoteric experience of enlightenment'...

I was horrified...In John Kilpatrick's entire sermon not a single Scripture was referenced. The Gospel was not preached, and the bizarre manifestations appeared to be the point of the whole evening...the more I research Brownsville and ask difficult questions of Brownsville staff, the more I find myself praying with tears, 'Lord have mercy on your Church, Lord, please send reformation, and begin with me'.

(Shawn Sauve - his experience at Pensacola and Kilpatrick's visit to National Church of God, Washington, 7/6/97; see: <http://www.pentecostal-issues.org/journal/brownsville/sps/kilpatri.htm>)

Book Review

'Justification by Faith Alone'

(MacArthur, Sproul, Beeke, Gerstner, Armstrong) \$19.95

This book warmed my heart like few other books. The doctrine of Justification by faith alone without works is one that the church will stand or fall by. This is a doctrine that is almost forgotten today.

Very few Christians today can explain the doctrine of the imputed righteousness of Christ yet this was the core of the reformation doctrine of justification by faith.

The imputed righteousness of Christ is the sore point between Roman Catholicism and Biblical Christianity. It is the point that ecumenical documents such as 'Evangelicals and Catholics Together' (ECT) deceptively fail to address. This is the doctrine that separates true Christianity from every cult group and every false religion!

A knowledge of this doctrine has personally led me to a higher view of Christ, His salvation, and His Word. Much assurance and security in Christ comes from this doctrine. I challenge and encourage all readers to avail themselves of this study material. **Terry Arnold**



WCC & Homosexuality

Zimbabwe has strict legislation against homosexual activity and homosexuals. However, at a World Council of Churches (WCC) meeting held in Harare in December, the WCC secured a 'memorandum of understanding' with the government, allowing delegates to enter the country regardless of their sexual orientation. It also grants the WCC to be able to include homosexuals in their agenda. At least 6 homosexual groups attended the assembly. (*Aust. Beacon*, Oct/98)

Another Hagin False Prophecy

In July 1997 Hagin made the following prophecy. Those with any discernment will see false teaching and failed predictions in the prophecy cited in part below. Yet, like lambs to the slaughter, multitudes of Christians follow this false prophet and teacher!

'...this is the day, the hour, the time...not just shortly but now come to pass...the gift of faith shall be in manifestation. No one has ever seen the measure it will be manifested in these days. The working of miracles in the full orbit shall come. Gifts of healing like showers of rain falling everywhere.

The glory of the Lord shall shine and be seen on his people. The cloud of His glory shall be seen by many at times...It shall come to pass this year!...That which has hindered shall be taken out of the way...[laugh] I see it coming nearer and nearer. Blinding light. The fall of this year - October. As the people walk in the light of what they have, the rest shall come to pass.

We are going with God. We'll go off and leave some, but we are going with God. Going with God!

In October in St Louis...it [will] all come. It shall spread all over the nation. Manifestations everywhere...Then you will know the full meaning of the divine glow...the Holy Ghost...you'll be conscious of him working in your soul realm - emotions, mind, thoughts...your body will work perfectly...And the end is at hand...we are not deceived...Many shall be turned unto the Lord. Great - beyond your imagination...The rest of this year - 1998-99-2000. Oh My!...saith the Lord...' (Hagin, Holy Ghost Meeting, Oct.12-24, St Louis)

For full prophecy see internet site: <http://www.geocities.com/~contenders/haginprophecy.htm>

1997 Drunk Conference

In Aug/97 the Toronto Airport church (TACF) had a week long 'soaking' conference. The following is material from the promotional advertisement:

'John & Carol Arnott, senior pastors of Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship will serve as hosts and dispensers of drinks.

John Scotland, from Liverpool, England, has been drunk since November 1994 after visiting TACF. He loves frequenting flowing bars.

Darrel Stott, from Seattle, Washington, helps to serve drinks at the Seattle revival centre. He has been a heavy drinker since October 1994.

Peter Jackson, a TACF itinerant pastor, is a jovial drinker...

Drinks will be served: 10.30am...At...House rules: All drinks are free, but offerings will be accepted. Should you desire to order the meal package, please use the form below. Casual attire. No drinking and driving. Designated drivers welcome!

Editors Comments: Before God sovereignly drew me out of the kingdom of darkness, I used to get drunk using alcohol. For me, this language above has a sickening resemblance to those days. Drunkenness is never a blessing or approved by God in any shape or form, whether alcoholic or spiritual! Spiritual drunkenness is in fact a judgement, (Is.29:9,10; Jer.51:37-40). We are exhorted to be sober! (Tit.2:6; 1Thess.5:6-8; 1Tim.3:2,11; 1Pet.1:13; 5:8)

John Wesley and 'Holy Laughter'

The Toronto and Pensacola revivals are fond of quoting the likes of Jonathan Edwards and John Wesley to support their unscriptural doctrines of spiritual drunkenness and phenomena such as 'Holy Laughter'. What did Wesley really say about laughter? These are quotes that you will never hear from the signs and wonders leaders of today:

'I was a little surprised at some, who were buffeted of Satan in an unusual manner, by such a spirit of laughter...' (May 9th, 1740)

'In the evening such a spirit of laughter was among us, that many were much offended...poor L.S...one so violently and variously torn of the evil one did I never see before. Sometimes she laughed till almost strangled...Most of our brethren and sisters were now fully convinced that those who were under this strange temptation could not help it. Only E.B. and Anne H. were of another mind...but on Friday God suffered Satan to teach them better. Both of them were suddenly seized in the same manner as the rest, and laughed whether they would or no,...they continued... a spectacle to all; and were then, upon prayer made for them, delivered in a moment'. (Works of John Wesley, Vol.1, P.271-273)

Lying Signs & Wonders, (2Thess.2:9)

'Most of what you see passing as 'anointing' and 'miracles' in Signs and wonders meetings can be learnt by anyone'. ('Signs & Wonders - Exposed', P.36)

Holiness

'Many Christians have what we might call a 'cultural holiness'. They adapt to the character and behaviour patterns of Christians around them. As the Christian character around them is more or less holy, so these Christians are more or less holy. But God has not called us to be like those around us. He has called us to be like Himself. Holiness is nothing less than conformity to the character of God...holiness is an essential part of the nature of God'. ('The Pursuit of Holiness' by Jerry Bridges, P.26)

Jesus is Lord

'We do not 'make' Christ Lord; He is Lord! Those who will not receive Him as Lord are guilty of rejecting Him'...The two clearest statements on the way of salvation in all the Scripture both emphasise Jesus' Lordship: '**Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved**', (Acts 16:31)...'**If you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved**', (Rom.10:9)... **John MacArthur**

Benny Hinn Quote

'I face devils as the Son of God.' (Statement by Hinn on CNN's 'Larry King Live' TV show)

Editors Comment: The word 'Christ' ('christos') means 'anointed one'. This is reserved alone for the Son of God - Jesus Christ. If the above is true then the following Scripture must apply to Benny Hinn: 'For there shall arise false christs ['anointed ones'] and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; in so much that if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect,' (Matt.24:24).

Benny Hinn has openly claimed to be a 'little messiah'; 'Benny jehovah'; 'a god'... Yet millions of Christians are still gullibly deceived by this man!

Good Fruit and Bad Fruit

In Matthew 7:15-20 God's Word speaks of good trees and good fruit, and bad trees and bad fruit. It is imperative today that Christians realise that a good tree will *not* produce a *mixture* of good and bad fruit! In the above passage Jesus was talking about false prophets, (vs.15). False prophets consistently have bad doctrine and perhaps Jesus in this passage was referring to doctrine. The verses following (vs.21-25) refer to people performing good works and signs and wonders, yet not knowing God in obedience.

Fruit is not necessarily good works but rather obedience to sound doctrine and to Christ. God hates mixtures. '**Leaven**' is a symbol of sin or false doctrine. What comes from Christ is good roots and will produce only good fruit. With the above in mind, why is it that the current signs and wonders movement openly accept a *mixture* of good and bad fruit? **Terry Arnold**

Modern Evangelism

'The pattern of modern evangelism is to give people a pleasing and easy message; take them through a simple formula; get them to pray a prayer, sign a card, or whatever; then tell them they are saved and should never doubt it. Such an approach to witnessing actually fights against the Holy Spirit, whose ministry is to bring both assurance to those who are truly saved, (Rom.8:16) and conviction to those who are not, (Jn.16:8,9). God knows the difference; we do not. It is not our job to certify peoples salvation.'

(*'The Gospel According To Jesus'* by J. MacArthur, P.214)

Holiness

'To be Holy is to be morally blameless.* It is to be separated from sin and, therefore, consecrated to God. The word signifies '*separation to God, and the conduct befitting those so separated*'.**

* *Strongs Concordance* ** *Vine Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, P.225,226

This Body Of Sin

'Whatever increases the strength and authority of your body over your mind - that thing is sin to you.'

(*'Susannah Wesley - the Mother of the Wesley's'*, by John Kirk, P.178)

The Cross

'Paul delighted to preach the cross of Christ as the removal of guilt. He believed that the Lord Jesus on the cross finished transgression, made an end of sin, and brought in everlasting righteousness. He that believeth in Jesus is justified from all things which he could not be justified by the law of Moses. Since sin was laid on Jesus, God's justice cannot lay it upon the believing sinner. The Lord will never punish twice the same offence...'

(Spurgeon's sermon '*The Cross Our Glory*' from '*12 Sermons On the Passion and Death of Christ*'. P.148)

The New Wave Is Ecumenical

'The defining quality of the 'renewal' is ecumenism...In Toronto, its a one church anointing; with Rodney Howard Browne, its a one man anointing. Here, in the very best sense of the word, its ecumenical.' (Fred Grewe, Co-ordinator of Melbourne Charismatic Renewal meetings, as cited in '*Charisma*')

Neo-Evangelicism

'While Evangelical language has remained constant, Evangelical practice has altered radically' (*'Signs & Wonders - Exposed*, P.45)

The Wheat And the Tares

In the parable of the wheat and the tares the tares grow alongside the wheat. The tares, being representative of counterfeit Christianity, will *look like* and *claim* to be *the church*. However, the tares will in fact grow the church of the anti-christ. This church will love ecumenism, tolerance, love without truth, and lack holiness. They will de-emphasise doctrine and emphasise a unity with many rather than few. It's members will not stand and separate from men and movements that may have been once sound but are now apostate.

The tares will cry 'love' but the wheat will receive the love of truth. In that final day God will separate the wheat from the chaff to His glory and honour. **Terry Arnold**

Unity At What Price?

The Pentecostal/Charismatic unity with Roman Catholicism began with the wave of Charismatism in the middle of this century and was further developed by the Vineyard movement (John Wimber) and then the Toronto Blessing, Promise Keepers and the Pensacola 'revival'.

At the beginning of the Charismatic movement church leaders were strongly opposed to it and at the least very cautious of it. Some of the great leaders such as G. Cambell Morgan called the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement '*the last vomit of Satan*'. Morgan was known as '*the prince of expositors*' and was the author of more than 70 books. Others rightly foresaw the Charismatic movement as being the glue that binds religions together in a last days one world church.

May the reader consider that large Pentecostal churches such as the *Assembly of God* originally stood firmly *against* Roman Catholicism. However, now in many parts of the world this position has completely decayed. History proves a complete reversal, an apostasy. Unity has come at the price of truth! **Terry Arnold**

Did You Know?

Rupert Murdoch owns the printing rights to the NIV Bible (*SECW*)

Your Comments and Questions

(Views expressed here are not necessarily those of the editor or advisory panel)

To TA Ministries: ...Questions...

1. Do you teach God's people to tithe or to give free will offerings?
2. Do you believe in once saved always saved or are you one who says that if a person who receives Christ and goes back to the world was never really saved in the first place, or do you believe that a man or woman can receive Jesus as their Saviour and know God personally and wilfully go back to the world and sin?
3. Are we sinners or saints by name after we accept Christ as our Saviour?
4. Where is the word 'Christian Sabbath' in the New Testament...Doesn't Sabbath = 7, and Lord's Day = 1?
5. Do you believe that there are no more apostles and prophets in the church of the living God/Jesus Christ?
6. Do you believe that Jesus would have his ministries put their bank number on their teaching material or is that lack of faith/trust in God? (Pastor P.S., Bris., Qld)

Dear ..., In answer to your questions, my understanding is as follows:

Qs.1: Although this subject is not a subject we have taught on in this ministry, my personal view is that the New Testament does not explicitly teach the Old Testament tithe but rather to give cheerfully as the lord leads, (2Cor.9:7). This would no doubt include 'free will offerings'. My understanding is that everything I have is God's, and in His ministry...it *all* comes from Him and it *all* goes to His glory.

Qs.2: Jesus is '*the author and the finisher of our faith...*', (Heb.12:2). '*Being confident of this very thing that He which has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ*', (Phil.1:6). '*...no man is able to pluck them out of my Fathers hand*', (Jn.10:29) '*Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy*', (Jude 1:24). When we are justified by God, He sanctifies us and counts not our sin against us, (Rom.4).

Qs.3: When we are justified we become *new creatures* in Christ and are referred to as '*saints*', (Eph.1:1; Phil.1:1; Rom.1:7; 16, etc). We are then '*in Christ*'. This does not mean that we might never sin again, (1Jn.1:8-10).

Qs.4: The term '*Christian Sabbath*' is not in the Bible. The Hebrew and Greek words for Sabbath mean 'rest' and should not be confused with worship, days, or numbers. The Jewish Sabbath in fact fell on different days, (see *Diakrisis* Dec/96). It fell on the first day (Lev.23:39), sometimes it fell on the 7th day, (Ex.20:8) and sometimes on the 8th day, (Lev.23:39). Sabbaths were also of different lengths. Some were one day long (Ex.16:23-39), some two days long (Lev.23:6-8; 15-22), some one year long (Lev.25:4), some 70 years long, (2Chr.36:21), and some eternity long, (Heb.4:9)! In the week that Jesus died there were *two* Sabbaths, one a special Sabbath and one the regular weekly one.

The '*Lord's Day*' is used once only - in Revelation 1:10. In the first few centuries the term 'the Lord's Day' was quoted by the early church fathers, (Ignatius 110AD; Barnabas 120AD; etc), as being the 8th or the 1st day of the week. In all the quotes it is Sunday that is stated as this day. (These quotes are listed in the book '*Answers*' by Keith Piper). The early Christians met together on the first day, (Acts 20:7; 1Cor.16:; etc). However, there is no command to meet or to rest on any particular day and no one should be judged for this, (Col.2:16).

5. The Church is built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, (Eph.2:20). I personally believe there are no more prophets and apostles *like* the prophets of old and the apostles as mentioned in the New Testament. These people saw the risen Christ. Today '*God who...spake in times past unto the Fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his son...*', (Heb.1:1,2). We now have a more sure word of prophecy.

6. I do not believe that ministries should constantly be asking for money, if at all. Rather they perhaps could present needs to the saints. God will supply all our needs according to *His* riches in Glory. In TA Ministries we were requested by several people to give the bank account number for their ease of transference of donations only. For some this is the only way they can give. This method is common to many good publications. We are a *non-profit* faith ministry existing only as God provides through the saints. That is why the newsletters are *free*...

Dear sir, I'm writing to ask you to please cancel my subscription...I don't get enough time to read them and to reply to things I disagree with or conversely at times think are good...(A.R. Nambour)

Special Prayer Request

One of our subscribers, Tony Logan, from Catherine, who was the manager of a Caravan Park in Catherine, at the beginning of this year suffered a near tragedy in the Australia Day flood of 1997. He has sent us a testimony of God's dealings in the whole matter. During the flood Tony was separated from his wife and children and in life threatening circumstances. Please pray for Tony as he now needs work and the provision of God. (Tony's address is PO Box 1231, Katherine, NT 0851, Australia)

Mark Haville To Visit Australia?

Mark Haville, author of '*Signs & Wonders -Exposed*' book and videos, is tentatively planning a trip to Australia in 1999. If any churches would like to have ministry from Mark please contact TA ministries and we will relay the request to Mark.

Toronto Divisions En Masse

We have countless reports over the last few years of churches dividing over the 'Toronto Blessing' phenomena.

One friend writes that when a pastor of a local church went away for a time '*a couple introduced 'Toronto type manifestations' in our meetings...the pastor on his return was forced to step aside from the ministry, his wife left him,...two thirds of the church ended up leaving...Please don't try and convince me of the 'fruit' of Toronto, as I have seen how it has wrecked at least one good church first hand, with lots of bodies left lying around afterwards, including mine!*'

What spirit causes such havoc in so many churches? Why have an *unprecedented* number of pastors involved in such Charismatic errors fallen from ministry in the last 20 years? **Editor**

Quotable

'When Bible believers take a stand against false doctrine, they are accused of 'rocking the boat'. It is better that belief should rock the boat than that unbelief should wreck the boat'. Vance Havner

Your Comments and Questions

(Views expressed here are not necessarily those of the editor or advisory panel)

Dear Terry, many thanks for the tape that clearly exposed Kenneth Hagin as a worker of iniquity - in all honesty I would have to say I would not have believed it without seeing it. Satan has shown himself as the head of this man's ministry...I urge people who are 'not sure' of the Word of Faith Movement to purchase this video and judge for yourselves.

Terry, in a time when Jesus Himself said there shall be false christs, false prophets and false signs and wonders (Matt.24), we must rest assuredly that God almighty Yahweh is in control and not the devil.

To me it is such a heartbreak to see so many Christians confused and fearful of the devil...As I look back on the last 10 years...The Lord has done many great things - He saved me, He has healed me of many sicknesses, He has restored me emotionally, physically and financially. He has raised me from a nothing in the sight of many to one who is now able to be a blessing. I can assure you this took place because of Him and none other...May He richly bless your ministry and expand the important charge that He has given you, Yours in His service, (Rev.D.T., Drummond, Vict.)

Dear friends in Christ, Greetings to you in Jesus name...The 'Diakrisis' newsletters have proved to be a wonderful source of information...as we seek to obey the Biblical commandment of God to 'take heed that no man deceive you' and 'to watch and pray' as these end times unfold. May God continue to bless you, Yours in Him. (E.M. Gypie, Qld)

Dear Terry...I would like to recommend to you...and the readers of your newsletter a book by Bishop J.C. Ryle titled 'Holiness'...This Christian classic...[has] no torturous pathways to baffle the reader; we read instead of a direct highway to a life pleasing to God. Holiness, in Ryles's thought, as in Scripture, is inevitably linked with the greatness of God Himself and is found on Christ's redeeming work..The exceptional clarity and penetrating power of the style leaves the reader in no doubt...the reader is confronted by the wonder and power of the Gospel that can transform man into the image of God. No Christian can neglect matters of such importance...May the Lord lead and guide you, teach you and show you and protect you and your ministry in the way you should go and walk with Him, Yours in Christ, (C.Y., Cairns)

Praise Points

- Praise God that this newsletter is reaching an increasingly wide cross-section of Christians. The feedback is encouraging and many claim to be encouraged, informed and set free.

Prayer Points

- **Urgent:** Because of increasing ministry commitments away from home and a lack of staff, I have difficulty in meeting a monthly deadline for the newsletter. We may be forced to go to a bi-monthly publication. Please pray for labour or wisdom in decisions to be made. **Editor**

Dear Terry, Thankyou again for your wonderful ministry, you have no idea what a blessing it is and how far it is now going into enemy territory. Tremendous spin off from your evening at [Sydney]...church. (A.W. Sydney)

Dear Terry,...my wife and I have been studying at...Some [instructors]...are from more Charismatic and even Pentecostal circles...I have noticed the various subtle differences in doctrine...certain people have taught things which I personally have had to challenge, and of course that has got me into a degree of trouble.

One that comes to mind readily is the spiritual warfare procedures...I was very much surprised that we had a Baptist espousing what I call extreme Pentecostal doctrine, and I felt moved to challenge him when he read from Eph.6 up to verse 12, and then completely disregarding the word 'therefore' and the rest of the armour of God verses, he went to identifying strongmen and binding them, etc.. Another issue...the 'revivals' doing the rounds of the Christian world...The reaction to your literature on this subject and some others I got from the internet was one of 'too negative'...I am meeting an increasing number of long established pastors who take a fence sitting approach to some of these 'happenings'. I often hear the phrase 'don't throw the baby out with the bathwater', and ...'even if they are of the enemy, God may still be at work through His Holy Spirit'. The bottom line appears to be that we must not challenge anything for fear of 'blaspheming the Holy Spirit'.

...What is happening in Christendom?...What is this wait and see, do not criticise...I believe that we all have to take a positive stand, get on our knees before God and seek his truth in all matters, then go forward in confidence and in the power that we have been promised, exposing error where it has been found and upholding truth and sound doctrine. There are far too many people who should be leading with wisdom but who are taking a 'don't rock the boat' attitude.

Maybe sometimes we are a little negative, but I would rather be seen as negative and questioning everything, than blindly embracing Satan's lies and deceit because it seems/feels to be right...Keep up the good work Terry, and if you are wrong at any time in your comments, I believe God will show you your error because you are genuinely and 'earnestly contending for the faith that was once delivered to the saints'...Yours in Christ, (Name withheld at editors discretion)

Thankyou for collating such an encouraging thought provoking magazine! (No name supplied)

Terry's Itinerary

(This itinerary was not finalised or completed at time of printing)
Jan 17th 9.45am Howard Baptist, Qld Ph.(07)41294292
Feb. 7th(tentative) Gympie Church of Christ Ph. (07)54821084
Visits to New Zealand (October 3rd-10th), Sydney, Victoria, Nth Qld and Sth Australia have yet to be finalised.

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