

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

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### Editors Comment

Controversy can be unnerving. I do my level best to avoid it. But I am constrained to write plainly regarding Biblical convictions. I cannot keep silent when so much is at stake in the church today and in *the faith once delivered to the saints*. In Jude 3 the word '*delivered*' is in the past tense (aorist passive) with no continuing element. The passive voice shows this body of faith was given to men *by God*. How has this been done? - through the *closed* canon of Scripture - the Bible! This canon is *complete* and hence we have the doctrine of '*Sola Scriptura*', fought for by the reformers at the cost of many lives.

This '*faith*' is *the* faith that Saul tried to destroy, (Gal.1:23) and *the* faith that in the latter times many will depart from, (1Tim.4:1). Today, we have attacks on this faith from many quarters. The range of extra-Biblical teaching and revelations are too numerous to mention. One example is Charismatic/Pentecostal 'prophecies' and dreams and visions claimed to be from God. Some Pentecostal leaders have attempted to marry such 'prophecies' with *Sola Scriptura* but it utterly defies what the reformers and the early Church Fathers taught. Prophesying in the New Testament is basically *forthtelling* the Word of God rather than *foretelling* as in the Old Testament. In times past God spoke to us *by the prophets* (Heb.1:1), but now we have *a more sure word of prophecy* (2Pet.1:19), and that Word has already *been* delivered unto us as *the* faith, (Jude 3). New Testament Prophecy is now declaring, expounding and *forthtelling* the word of God as *already delivered*.

Recently I was told of a series of dreams and visions a person was given from the Lord. One vision gave permission from God for a friend to marry an adherent of the Hindu religion. The marriage ended up in the salvation of the Hindu and the husband being in full time ministry. The original vision was accepted as being from God and that the ending justified the vision. However, in truth the vision could not have been of God because God *never* contradicts His Word and will *never* add revelation to it, despite whatever the results may be in the end! This Satanic pragmatic thinking has invaded the church on a massive scale.

Running alongside extra-Biblical revelation is the invasion of *worldly thinking*. Charles Spurgeon fought this leaven to his death in the *Downgrade controversy* over 100 years ago. This turned into a fight against 'modernism' which today is disguised as the *Church Growth Movement*. The church today is simply trying to make Christianity more palatable to a cynical world. Attract and allow people to be comfortable in their materialism and self needs and they will respond in droves! But was the church in Acts 5 '*user friendly*'? The tragedy of Ananias and Sapphire destroys many Church Growth theories.

Although controversy is not to be sought after, if one is standing firm in the truth and '*earnestly contending for the faith once delivered*', controversy must be accepted. For the Christian, true love is love *in truth*.

Satan comes as an *angel of light* and sincere Christians can and will be deceived! However, a high view of the completeness and sufficiency of Scripture gives a security and a peace that passes all understanding. It may also well further our aspirations for discernment, Godly thinking, and holy character.

Terry Arnold

### Victoria Itinerary

Terry will be visiting Victoria during November. See itinerary on page 12 or ring Terry for updated list, Ph.0411489472

## The Path Provided (A Look at Antinomianism & Legalism).

Antinomianism means 'against the law'. In common terms it is when a person has a low view of sin and might think: *'I'm saved, sealed and delivered and so it does not matter if I sin.'* Paul answers this thinking with **'God forbid'**, (Rom.6:2,15).

On the other hand, legalism is that which brings people back under bondage through laws, rules and regulations.

Occasionally I meet people who have a strict list of 'do's and 'don't's'. Some of these people are bent on inflicting these upon other souls. They have standards of dress and behaviour, including strong views on drinking, foods, music, etc, that they *legalistically* impose upon others. Some even put the full force of keeping the commandments upon people. John did say to keep God's commandments (Jn.15:10), but keeping His commandments is equated with keeping His Word (1Jn.2:3), and believing on His name, (1Jn.3:22). However, no one can keep the commandments perfectly except our great *substitute* - Jesus Christ. Thus John was not here teaching sinless perfection, for those who say they have no sin call God a liar, (1Jn.1:8,10).

It is arguable that many a Christian can hardly get to the breakfast table without sinning. Sin (*'harmartia'*) is *'missing the mark'* and scripturally there are no degrees in this word. Sin is sin. Our Adamic nature will send us to Hell. But thanks be to the sinless one who paid the ultimate price in sacrificing Himself. He died my death, He paid my debt, and God credited me with a substituted righteousness - the righteousness of Jesus Christ! He has atoned for *all* the sins of the believer and created in him a new man perfect before God.

A true understanding of Romans 6,7,8 and the Gospel and it's effect on our spirit, soul and body should set a safe course between the curses of antinomianism and legalism. We are not saved because we might not now get drunk or commit adultery. We are saved because we have been delivered from the *dominion* and the *punishment* of sin by true belief and understanding in *Christ's death, burial and resurrection on our behalf* - the Gospel.

Does this mean that we will not now sin? Does 1Jn.3:6-9 contradict 1Jn.1:8-10?

1Jn.3:6-9: ***'Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him...He that committeth sin is of the devil...Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God'***.

1Jn.1:8 ***'If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us...If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.'***

The word **'commit'** in 1John 3:9 is in the continuous tense - referring to *habitual* sinning. In these verses John is exposing antinomianism. The phrase **'abideth in Him'** is also important. Those that abide *in Christ* should not remain in habitual sin. But if any Christian should sin the apostle writes: ***'...if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins...'***, (1John 2:1,2).

The Corinthians were in drunkenness, fornication and false doctrine, yet they were called **'brethren'**. The fact is that there is a war between the flesh and the new creation.

I am often asked: *'Do we have two natures?'* My answer is yes and no. The Bible does not use the term 'two natures'. Rather it uses the terms *'flesh'*, *'body'* and *'old man'* and compares these to the spirit and the *'new man'* or the *'new creature'*.

Although the **'old man is crucified...'** (Rom.6:6), the possibility of allowing the old man to encroach again is evident by many Scriptures: 6:12: ***'Let not sin reign in our bodies'***, (note it does not mention spirits but *'bodies'*); 6:13: ***'Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin'***, (*'members'* refers to the seat of lusts and passions); 7:16: ***'if then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law...'***, (*'if'* (*'ea'*) is a *hypothetical* conjunction); 7:15-18: - describes the war between the *flesh* & the *spirit*. In the flesh sin may reign, (vs.17); 7:20: If I sin it is in the flesh; 8:12: We are not ***'to live after the flesh'***; 13:12-13: ***'...cast off the works of darkness...put on the armour of light...walk honestly...not in rioting and drunkenness..make no provision for the flesh...'***

However, as stated in 1Jn.3:6-9, if we continue to live in the flesh and in habitual sinning then 9:8 is a solemn warning: ***'...They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God...For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace...For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.'***, (8:5,6,13).

In contrast, in the new man/new creation we are **'freed from sin'**, (6:7) (*'freed'* here is in the perfect tense meaning a past event continuing to the present). Thus we are to **'reckon [ourselves] dead to sin.'**, (6:11) and : ***'...sin shall not have dominion...'***over us for we ***'are not under the law but under grace.'***, (6:14). ***'Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness...ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.'***, (6:18,22).

In summary, there are two **'laws'** - one in my members (**'law of sin'**) and one in my mind, (**'law of my mind'**). ***'...with the mind I serve the law of God but with the flesh the law of sin'***, (7:25). Our sinful flesh wars against our righteous soul, (1Peter 2:11; Gal 5:16). However, it is a war with one side stronger and with one side having dominion over the other.

If we have been begotten from above and are yielding to the Holy Spirit's work of sanctification from within, then we will not serve the flesh in habitual sinning. Rather we will mortify the deeds of the body and serve righteousness with the fruit of holiness. In yielding to the work of the indwelling Holy Spirit, we strive towards holiness, (Lk.13:24). We **'work out'** our salvation in fear and trembling, (Phil.2:12). This *'working out'* has nothing to do with salvation - that was finished in justification by faith alone through the imputed righteousness of Christ, (Rom.4). We pray to God for strength to stand fast in the faith. We put our bodies under subjection and yield our members to the divine influence of the Holy Spirit, (1 Cor 9:27). Because our sinful flesh wars against our righteous soul, we struggle to walk the walk at times.

Sometimes it may be almost impossible to tell a true believer who has fallen into grievous open sin from a false believer who is deluding himself that he is saved. However, the **'new man'** is ***'...created in righteousness and true holiness'***, (Eph.4:24). He should sin less than the 'old man'. The spirit of this new born again creature is 'sinless' now, (1 John 3:9; 5:18). This new man has the Spirit of God dwelling within him. Victory is a foregone conclusion!

The fear of antinomianism should not lead us to lessen free and undeserving Sovereign Grace; the fear of legalism should not lead us to proclaim the necessity for the keeping of God's holy law for salvation. **Terry Arnold**

## A Paradigm Shift

Whilst some with discernment have reacted to and dissected the many apostasies sweeping through Christendom, a vastly more subtle and less easily detected heresy has been growing apace - and largely unnoticed. This teaching reared its head in the days of the Apostle Paul and has now appeared afresh in these last moments of Church history.

Put simply it is nothing less than an attempt to Judaize the Church and prepare the unaware for the deception that the Gospel we have today has in some way been 'tainted'. This heresy is a thinly disguised form of 'Gnosticism'.

The international ministries of teachers and evangelists who proclaim to be sent to national Israel and the Church with a 'Jewish' Gospel, spearhead this appalling 'Paradigm Shift' from Biblical doctrine.

The ministries in question, to their credit, stand against Rome, the Toronto/Pensacola falsities and such heretics as Benny Hinn, Rodney Howard Browne and Kenneth Copeland. However, within the past few months they have published worldwide the following statements and it is these teachings that illustrate the cause of our alarm:

*'From the beginning of this new Millennium, I have been hearing and reading many prophetic words in reference to a coming paradigm shift and wind of change in the Church...not one has ever mentioned anything about Israel. I believe that the shift in paradigms that these prophetic people are sensing, but not discerning, is the shifting of God's glory from the nations, back to Israel. There is a shifting within the 'Olive Tree' from a Hellenised Gospel to a Jewish Gospel. The authority of the Gospel is being returned to the Jewish Body of Messiah in Israel. God is moving folks - the paradigm is shifting. The Glory of God and the authority of the Gospel are returning to Israel'...'I am saying that the true Gospel is the Gospel that Paul espoused - but some of the early Gentile leadership changed it to a Hellenic Gospel'; 'The Gospel that we have today is deficient of the power that once accompanied it as evidenced in the Book of Acts and we need to get back to it. It does need another component...the Acts Church was a 100% Jewish Church without the canon of the New Testament writings of Paul, a 1st Century Pharasaical Jew'; 'We are not preaching another Gospel, we are preaching the Gospel of Paul as written to the first century Church - predominately Jewish, believing in Yeshua and yet zealous for the law.' \**

*...And this: 'The Reformers came along and tried to correct what had gone wrong in medieval Roman Catholicism. Unfortunately, although the Reformers were dynamic personalities, they were not dynamic thinkers...The Reformation was born out of something called Humanism. The best of the Humanists were men like Thomas A. Kempis, John Colet, and Jacques Lefevre. But the greatest of them all was Erasmus of Rotterdam. Luther, Calvin, Zwingli and most of the other Reformers got their ideas from Erasmus. By reading the Bible as literature and history, as the Humanists did, you only see part of it...their approach prevents people from seeing much of the depth of scripture.'...'God will unveil it (the book of Revelation) in His way and in His time. And that will be done step by step. The first step is going back to reading the Bible as a Jewish book, instead of a Greek one'...'When we come to consider Biblical prophecy, this is very important. Because the Western mind, with its basis in Sixteenth Century Humanism, says that prophecy consists of a prediction and a fulfillment...that is a wrong view of Biblical prophecy'.*

In answer to the question: 'Can a group of sincere, literate, English speaking people in isolation from the rest of the

*world, come to a COMPLETE understanding of ALL that God deeds to us through the Bible, if all they have in their possession is a King James version of the Bible without notes?' - one of these writers stated 'NO!' \**

Obviously, space is extremely limited in this newsletter, and does not allow for an in depth refutation of the viewpoints above - but we do urge our readers to be aware of these ministries and to discern for themselves the error of the teachings emanating from them.

These writers teach that our Bible and the Gospel it espouses are 'Hellenised' and need Jewish hermeneutic methodology applied to arrive at a correct understanding of the text...and that the Reformers theology was defective and God is returning the Church to her 'Jewish' roots...that Scripture needs to be filtered through a Jewish mindset for the fullness of what is being said to be understood. Nothing could be further from the truth! The Gospel given to us in our Bibles is not deficient and its translation into English from the Textus Receptus reads as the writers intended. Church history shows the authenticity of this observation. The early Church was not '100% Jewish' - it was completely, and totally 'Christian'!

Paul counted his past education in Judaism as '*dung*' that he may know Christ. Paul considered himself 'Christian' subsequent to his conversion - and not, as these ministries call him - 'Rabbi Saul of Tarsus'.

The 'authority' of the Gospel resides with the Church of Jesus Christ. There is neither Jew or Gentile in this body of people (Galatians 3:28) and to now suggest that this Gospel, bringing conversion to millions down the running centuries, was 'deficient' is tantamount to heresy!

The true 'roots' of the Church and the truth of God are in our Lord Jesus Christ and not to be found in Israel, Rabbinical Judaism, or Jewish interpretational methods of Scripture, which Jesus soundly denounced. To be saved involves embracing and yielding to the Lord Jesus Christ and Him alone. The Gospel presented to the 1st Century Church has been faithfully translated into English and can be clearly read today.

To destroy the validity of the Reformers works is to undermine the foundation of the True Church today! To state that they were not too bright (dynamic thinkers) shows high arrogance! To label them 'humanists' is to not understand the differences between 16th and 20th Century 'Humanism'. The first Humanists were not secular, they were Christians! By failing to make the distinction between Socio-Political and Contemporary Religious Humanism a disingenuous case is made for the Reformers being unreliable and unworthy of their calling.

The true Gospel as presented within Scripture has not been 'corrupted' by Hellenistic influences and does not require Rabbinic or Priestly interpretation to be completely understood. We urge our readers not to be swayed by ministries that set out to 'Judaize' our Christian heritage with statements that sound scholarly and esoteric but when closely examined are erroneous and constitute an attack on the principle of *Sola Scriptura*.

As we said at the outset, this subject deserves deeper refutation, but space does not allow for this. However, you have been warned, and should you be presented with such teachings it would be extremely wise to practice acute discernment. **Mike Claydon**

\*We feel it not necessary to publicly name the two ministries from which these quotations emanated. There are many similar ministries and the statements used illustrate the teachings of such organisations.

## Pope & New Co-redemptrix Doctrine

*'In His address to the general audience on 12/1/2000, Pope John Paul II said... 'Mary's mediation ...is essentially directed to bringing us into a more intimate and profound encounter with Christ...'*

(Foundation, March/April, 2000) **Reader see 1Tim.2:5**

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## Protestant Churches Going the Way of Catholicism

*A growing number of U.S. Protestants are observing Ash Wednesday and Lent, Catholic observances that were repudiated by Protestants 500 years ago. Lutherans, Methodists, and others are receiving ashes on their forehead and fasting until Easter, according to a report by EWTN, a Catholic news network. The growing popularity of Lent has even 'been seen among evangelically conservative Christians', 'according to Dennis Bratcher, a member of the Church of the Nazarene and director of the Christian Resource Institute...'*

(Sword of the Lord, 5/12/00)

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## Benny Hinn - More Prophecies!

*'...Benny Hinn says within two years there will be a new pope - 'an Italian who wears glasses and has long hair.' He adds: 'And within two years a young Egyptian male converted from Islam will preach the Gospel so well that hundreds of thousands of Muslims will accept Christ.' Hinn said Israel and the Palestinians will sign a peace treaty before the end of the year, (Charisma, 8/2000). He predicts 'that a group of Israeli rabbis will see a vision of Jesus so magnificent that they will preach the Gospel in their synagogues...' He recently predicted that people by the thousands would be raised from the dead in their caskets watching TBN, (12/15 CC). See Jer. 29:8-9'. (Calvary Contender, 15/8/2000)*

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## Revival in Britain?

When the 'Toronto Blessing' hit England many prophesied this was the beginning of revival. Yet statistics show that the number of people believing in Jesus Christ has fallen dramatically by almost half. Many also claimed to successfully mix eastern teachings with Christianity.

(Source: *Weekly Telegraph*, 28/12/99)

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## Bill Bright

Bill Bright who once said, *'There will be tens of millions of true believers among the Catholics'* (1994) has retired as head of *Campus Crusade For Christ*.

*'Bill Bright, head of 'Campus Crusade For Christ' joined hands with Catholic priests, Jewish rabbis, liberal Protestant clergymen, Muslim leaders and other false gossellers in a 'summit of faith' in Tallahassee, Florida, On Dec. 7th/99...Bill Bright was one of the signers of the unscriptural 'Evangelicals and Catholics Together...(ECT) statement on March 1994...As early as 1969, Bright said, 'We do not attack the Roman Church. We believe God is doing a mighty work in it and will no doubt use millions of Roman Catholics to help evangelise the world.' (The Post and Times Star, Cincinnati, Ohio, 30/8/69)*

*At Billy Graham's Amsterdam 86 Conference, Bright said, 'There was a day when Protestants and Roman Catholics would not have much to do with one another. But today the Spirit of God is doing such a great work in both the Roman Catholic and Protestant fellowships and communions that I feel very much at home wherever Jesus Christ is honoured'.*

(Foundation, July/86)

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## World Turning Church Upside Down?

*'A Southern California pastor holds Sunday evening services in a dance club in Camarillo, California. Religion Today interviewed Norm Pussehl, associate pastor at Sunrise Christian Fellowship and founder of the new church-in-a-bar. Those who attend 'can sip a cold one at a barstool or table while taking in the contemporary Christian music, live one-act dramas, videos about Christ, real-life testimonials, and a short message from a hip pastor', the report stated. Pussehl said he makes sure that patrons feel safe, that 'no one is going to beat them over the head with a Bible.' Pussehl is a pastor with the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel, a Pentecostal denomination.' (Foundation, 5-6/00).*

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## Converts To What?

*'Several missions organizations, including Youth With a Mission (YWAM), are testing a new approach to missionary work in areas where Christianity is unwelcome. As reported in 'Charisma' News Service, some missionaries are making converts but allowing them to 'hold on to many of their traditional religious beliefs and practices' to keep from offending others in their culture. Messianic Muslims, who continue to read the Koran, visit the Mosque, and say daily prayers but accept Christ as their Saviour, are the products of the strategy.' (Foundation, 5-6/2000).*

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## 'Pensacola Revival' Pastor Leaves

*'An evangelist who intended to preach just one sermon has left after 5 years of continuous revival meetings. Steve Hill is moving his ministry to Dallas after preaching hundreds of times at Brownsville Assembly of God, a Pensacola, Fla., church that has been the centre of an international Charismatic revival movement. About 3 million people have visited the church during that time, pastor John Kilpatrick said, according to the Pensacola News Journal...The revival fervour 'didn't happen because of Steve and I know it sure did not happen because of me,' Kilpatrick said. 'God came down and kissed this place.' Hill's final service June 18 turned raucous. 'For almost 20 minutes people raced through the aisles, danced, laughed uncontrollably, jumped, jerked, and collapsed,' the newspaper reported. 'If somebody who is not Christian dropped in this morning, they would look at us and think we went bonkers,' Kilpatrick said... 'Well, we have gone bonkers. People go bonkers over football and baseball. Why can't we go bonkers over Jesus?' He said he hoped that, even though crowds have diminished to about half what they were a few years ago, the revival will not stop but go to 'a different level.' (Religion Today, June 22, 2000)*

**Editors Comments: (See our paper 'The Pensacola Outpouring' for the truth behind this movement). The roots of this 'revival' stem from the 'Toronto Blessing'. The wife of Brownsville's AOG pastor, John Kilpatrick, and many in the church, had visited Toronto previously. The uncontrollable manifestations that occurred with Steve Hill at the outset were more typical of the occult than Christian.**

**Like most false movements, there were dramatic claims, lies, and false prophecies. Claims of crime rates dropping were false and dramatic claims of salvations were mostly 'rededications' and 'confessions' of faith. Most of the people who visited the church were Christians from other areas and visitors from around the world. On April 6th, 1997 Kilpatrick made a false prophecy that did not come to pass. Later both Kilpatrick and Hill were required to pay unpaid sales tax bills from the large incomes both had gained through merchandising and marketing the 'revival'.**

## Questionnaire - To Lovers of Truth

1. What does the Word '*Tongue*' ('*Glossa*') mean in the original Biblical Greek language? (A) The Physical organ of the tongue (B) Unknown languages (C) Ethnic or known human languages (D) Both A & C
2. In Acts 2:4-10 the '*tongues*' were (A) Heavenly languages (B) Languages unknown to mankind (C) Known human earthly languages
3. In Acts 10:44-47 the '*tongues*' were (A) Heavenly languages (B) Languages unknown to mankind (C) Known human earthly languages
4. Why was there no 'interpretation' of languages in Acts 2? (A) There was no interpreter present (B) The tongues were all known human earthly languages and understood by the hearers.
5. Are '*tongues...of Angels*', (1Cor.13:1) (A) Heavenly languages (B) Known human earthly languages (C) Private prayer languages (D) Both A or C.
6. The word '*spirit*' mentioned in 1Corinthians chapter 14 refers to (A) Always the Holy Spirit (B) Always the human spirit (C) Sometimes the Holy Spirit
7. The word '*prophesy*' ('*propheteuo*') in 1Corinthians 14 means (A) To *foretell* the future (B) To *forthtell* the Word of God
8. Where did the experience of the modern unknown tongues movement begin? (A) 'Azusa St. Revival' 1906 (B) Topeka 'Revival' 1901 (C) The Shakers (D) The Methodists (E) Acts 2
9. The words '*understanding*' and '*edification*' are mentioned in 1Corinthians 14 (KJV) (A) Not at all (B) Seldom mentioned (C) More than a few times each word is emphasised
10. The Corinthian church used  
(A) Only one language (B) Spoke two languages (C) Spoke many different languages **(Answers over back)**

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### 'Prayer Language'

The term '*prayer language*' is a term used by Pentecostals/Charismatics to denote the use of their personal unknown 'tongues' during prayer. The term is a recent invention in the second half of the Twentieth Century and popularised by men such as Oral Robert and other Word-Faith teachers to make tongue speaking more acceptable to mainline churches.

When I was a Charismatic Catholic I once went to a seminar where 'tongues' was taught, received, and passed onto many who were present. Many that day received the 'Baptism with the spirit and speaking in tongues'. I can remember questioning why it had to come in such a mechanical fashion, with people taking deep breaths and making any sounds that came to their minds, or repeating syllables over and over.

Tongues enthusiasts often teach that it is a 'direct line to God' or that the 'Devil cannot understand the language'. Yet there is absolutely *no* Biblical proof for any of these claims.

Added to this, anyone who has studied the cults in depth will know that many of the cults and the eastern false religions can all speak in unknown 'tongues'.

The problem with much teaching on unknown tongues is that it tends to separate an elite group of people who have this experience and they supposedly have something that other Christians do not have. Yet God has no favourite prayer method. Jesus taught much about prayer and the devotional life but never once mentioned anything of a 'prayer language'.

Anything which is new in theology or in Christian experience is not new and is not truth! This is because anything that is God's truth is not new! There is not the slightest hint that any person in the Bible used a 'prayer language'. When Jesus prayed and interceded in the garden He never used anything like a 'prayer language'. There are also no references in the Bible to private prayer being different to public prayer. The disciples specifically asked Jesus how to pray. He gave them

a pattern prayer but never once mentioned or used a 'prayer language' as is taught today.

In Matthew 6:7 Jesus spoke against babbling like pagans. The Greek word used in '*vain repetition*' is '*battalogo*' which means to '*utter in an incoherently or meaninglessly repetitious manner*', (*Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*); or a '*making of sounds suggestive of speech but lacking the meaning, content, intelligibility, and articulateness of normal adult human speech*', (*Websters' New Dictionary of synonyms*). Would not these describe much of unknown 'prayer language' today?

Paul in the middle of his many corrections to the Corinthians on the use of tongues speaks of putting away childish things and to think like adults, (1Cor.13:11). In chapter 14 he continually contends for '*understanding*' and that the mind be fruitful. The first step of faith is the mental acceptance of a fact. It requires mental understanding. It is impossible to love with an unfruitful or inactivated mind. We are told to love our God '*with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength*', (Mk.12:30). A language that is not understood and known is unfruitful. It is possible, as in the Corinthian church, to think one was speaking by the Holy Spirit but actually be cursing God, (1Cor.12:3).

Standard techniques of occult practices (eg. Automatic Writing and hypnotic activities) are to make the mind *passive*. Yet this is one way evil spirits can oppress and even possess. Sincerity does not stop demons from affecting one's life. My experience in cultish and occult teaching have convinced me that true Christians can and have been deceived and oppressed, although not possessed. There are several cases of Christians discovering their 'tongues' were really demonic, yet most people would have accepted them as upstanding Christians. The problem with 'prayer languages' is that they cannot easily be tested by the recipient. **(Cont. over page >)**

## Answers to Questionnaire

1. **D.** Both A & C

The Greek word '*glossa*' always refers to *known human earthly languages*, (as in the three only Biblical *historic* cases of New Testament 'tongues' - Acts 2,10,19); or to ethnic languages, (Rev.7:9); and sometimes to the physical organ, (1Cor.14:9).

2. **C.** Known human earthly languages.

The word translated '*language*' (vs.6) and '*tongue*' (vs.8) is the Greek '*Dialektos*' meaning known ethnic languages or dialects.

3. **C** Known human earthly languages.

Verse 45 says '*on the Gentiles also*' and verse 47 says: '*as well as we*'. Here the Gentiles had received the *same* experience as the Jews had in Acts 2 - '*tongues*' as known languages. How could they '*magnify God*' (vs.46) if there was no understanding?

4. **B.** The 'tongues' were all known earthly languages and understood by the hearers.

5. **B.** Known human earthly languages.

In *every* instance in the Bible, Angels *always* spoke in known human earthly languages, (eg. to Abraham, Lot, Jacob, Peter)

6. **B.** Always the human spirit.

The 's' is not in capitals but in small print. The '*spirit*' in 1Corinthians 14 is the *human spirit*. Verse 14 proves this conclusively: '*my spirit prayeth*'. The difference between the Holy Spirit and the human spirit is shown in Romans 8:16 where the two are contrasted: '*The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God.*'

7. **B.** To forth-tell the Word of God.

The Greek word '*prophetes*' means '*pro*' - forth, and '*phemi*' - to speak - '*to tell forth the message of God*'. This is the primary sense. The secondary sense - to foretell - is seen mostly in the Old Testament where the prophets foretold of a salvation to come.

8. **B.** Topeka 'Revival' 1901

In 1901 at Topeka, Charles Parham encouraged his students to repeat the experience the disciples had at Acts 2. A student, Agnus Ozeman, spoke in what was thought to be Chinese but was later shown to be an unknown ecstatic utterance. This counterfeit experience spread and later the Azusa St 'revival' became the seedbed for the Pentecostal movement as we know it today. Charles Parham denounced the unknown 'tongues' and other phenomena at Azusa St. as counterfeit. See the articles '*Pentecostal/Tongues roots - The Amazing Facts*' and '*The other Side of Azusa St.*' available from TA Ministries.

9. **C.** More than a few times each word is emphasised.

The word '*understanding*' is written 9 times and '*edification*' 5 times. Paul uses these words to argue for *known* understood languages ('*glossais*'-'*tongues*' - plural) or to prophesy, as opposed to unknown or ecstatic tongues ('*glosse*'-'*an unknown tongue*' - singular). He argues for edification of the church, to supposed to edification of self.

10. **C.** Spoke many different languages.

The common language was Greek. The Romans spoke Latin. The Jews spoke Hebrew and Aramaic. The Corinthian community also had other dialects. Paul spoke all of the languages above and likely other dialects as well.

**If you did not score 10/10 we encourage you to study this topic!** Seminar tapes are available in either Audio (\$8.50 - 2 tapes) or video (\$14.90) on the subject of 'tongues'. Tapes include seminar handouts.

**TA Ministries, PO Box 1499 Hervey Bay, 4655 Qld. Ph.0411489472 Fx. (07)41240915 E-mail: tam@satcom.net.au**

One writer says of 'prayer languages': '*I have never yet met one person anywhere in the world who said he developed his prayer language from reading the Bible, without any guidance or testimony from others. It is not the natural birthright of the believer.*' \*

Jude 20 exhorts us to '*pray in the spirit*'. For years I was taught that this was 'praying in tongues'. One day I looked up this phrase in the commentaries of the great men of old. Not one of them mentioned anything about a 'prayer language' or 'praying in tongues'! There is absolutely no evidence from the Greek or any other means of interpretation that this phrase means 'praying in tongues'. If it was speaking in tongues then the *only* way we should pray is in tongues or else we would not be '*in the Spirit*'! When Jesus prayed the Lords Prayer - was it not '*in the Spirit*'? When the great men of God in ages past prayed, did they not pray '*in the Spirit*'? It is a fact that this new teaching of a '*prayer language*' was never heard of for 1,900 years! If this '*praying in the Spirit*' is praying in an unknown tongue, then we must *always* and *only* pray this way

because Ephesians 6:18 says: '*praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...*'!

The meaning of '*praying in the Spirit*' has unfortunately changed for some Christians. The phrase once meant no more or no less than - *the Holy Spirit helping us to pray!* The Holy Spirit is the '*comforter*', (Jn.14:16,26; 15:26; 16:7). The word '*comforter*' comes from '*paracleo*' meaning '*to comfort, encourage or exhort, referring to an aid.*' The phrase '*praying in the Spirit*' simply refers to *the Holy Spirit aiding us in prayer!*

Many Christians would still argue that the Holy Spirit could still give an inspired heavenly 'prayer language'. However, if this is so then it defies and goes beyond Scripture. The word '*spirit*' in 1Corinthians 14 is always a small 's' - the *human spirit*! Any unknown tongue based on any Scripture in this passage is human and not divine. Added to this, why would Paul teach private unknown tongues or a '*prayer language*' when he dissuades the use of it in the church throughout 1Corinthians 14? **Terry Arnold**

\* '*Is there a prayer language*' by Wesley Duewel

## **A Fundamentalist Speaks To Baptists**

**(Condensed from 'O Timothy' 3/2000: 'Fundamental Baptists & Quick Prayerism' by David Cloud.)**

'...I praise the Lord for the fundamental Baptist church movement...and its militancy for truth...These factors aside, in recent decades, a great error has swept through many realms of the fundamental Baptist movement. I call it 'easy', 'quick', or 'manipulative' 'prayerism'. It is an evangelistic methodology whereby people are told that they are Heaven bound Christians and are counted as saved in reports because they have prayed a 'sinners prayer' even though they give no evidence that they have been born again.

...The churches that have adopted this unscriptural method of evangelism have produced millions of false professions. There are many churches that can show only a handful of new creatures in Christ for every thousand converts they claim. There is something extremely wrong...it is a great confusion.

For years I have observed the sad fruit of this technique: multitudes of false professions, confusion about salvation...reprobate living...vast numbers of these have never been born again and they are almost inoculated against Biblical salvation...[many] are made to think that salvation means little or nothing in relation to ones' manner of life.

...I worked in the bus ministry of a large fundamental Baptist church and preached...I was trained in soul winning techniques that were designed to produce a high number of 'professions of faith'. Preaching and demanding repentance was not part of the technique. It focused rather on manipulating people to admit they were sinners, to acknowledge that they would like to go to Heaven when they die, and to pray a sinners prayer. Those who prayed the prayer were immediately told they were saved, were given assurance of salvation, and were reported as saved, though the vast majority demonstrated no Biblical evidence of salvation.

...No church can avoid false professions entirely, but the reporting of massive numbers of empty professions is the standard procedure for many churches.

...I ejected the unscriptural evangelistic methodology...it is not the type of evangelism we find in the New Testament...Baptists and fundamentalists who teach and practice contrary to the Bible are as wrong as Protestants and New Evangelicals who do so.

This unscriptural evangelism methodology has permeated a large segment of the Independent Baptist church movement during the past three decades. Too many have been guilty of promoting this. I believe the one man who has wielded the largest influence is Pastor Jack Hyles, the first Baptist church, Hammond, Indiana. His influence has waned significantly in recent years due to various scandals...On May 3rd 1998...Pastor Hyles claimed that more people were saved and baptised at his church on this day than were saved and baptised on the day of Pentecost or on any other day in church history. Hyles estimated that around 15,000 people were saved ...[however] five serious discrepancies appear. (1) Peter preached the death burial and resurrection of Christ; whereas Hyles preached on Heaven. (2) Peter demanded repentance, whereas Hyles did not even mention repentance or even hint that it might be necessary for salvation (3) The saved on the day of Pentecost were added to the Church; whereas those who prayed on Hylescost were not allowed to join the church. (4) The only 'methodology' used at Pentecost was prayer, the preaching of the Word of God...Hyles uses a multiplicity of man made promotions to...manipulate people into making 'decisions'...(5) Those saved at Pentecost 'continued steadfastly in doctrine, fellowship, and prayer'; whereas very few

of those who are counted in Hyles salvation statistics exhibit such plain evidence of salvation...

Biblical repentance can be seen...I believe it is carnality that allows 'quick prayerism' to dominate a church's evangelistic program. Why follow a methodology that practices massive numbers of empty professions?

...Many other large Independent Baptist churches have quickly become ecumenical and have adopted...church growth philosophies...Too many Independent Baptist pastors have been consumed with a pragmatic approach to church building.

...The wide spread adoption of 'quick prayerism' has resulted in a change in the doctrine of repentance. One of the errors of the method of evangelism that produces large numbers of empty professions is the failure to preach and demand Biblical repentance or the redefinition of repentance to mean a mere change of mind that does not necessarily result in a changed life. Consider the following examples of this change in the definition of repentance: '...from what must a person repent in order to be saved?...there is a repentance from unbelief in order to believe...you have to repent of unbelief...' (Dr. Jack Hyles, 'Enemies of soul winning', 1993). '...Repentance is not a doctrine...repentance is not turning from your sins...repentance is to change one's mind from unbelief to belief in Christ.' (Bob Gray, 'A message from the pastor', 1/96 Longview Baptist Temple, Texas.) 'The emphasis upon repentance has created confusion...', (Brent Neal, *The Baptist Contender*, 6/96)...'...to say that repentance means to turn from sin, or to say that repentance is a change of mind that leads to a change of action, is to give a wrong definition of the word.', (Curtis Hutson, *Repentance: What does the Bible Teach? Sword of the Lord*, 1986, P.16).

I believe the above statements about repentance represent serious error. I do not believe this is a light matter..it is false teaching.

I am convinced that this change in the doctrine of repentance is merely a justification for the unscriptural methodology that has risen to prominence during the past two decades...This is not what fundamental Baptists believed and practised before recent decades:

**John the Baptist:**...'...bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance.', (Matt.3:1,2,7,8);...**Peter** demanded repentance on the day of Pentecost...(Acts 2:38);...**Paul**, too, preached repentance...;[God]...commanded all men everywhere to repent.', (Acts 17:29,30);...Paul demanded evidence of repentance from those who professed faith in Christ: '...they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance', (Acts 26:19,20).

...**The Waldensians:**...existed through the 'dark ages'...who took the Bible as their sole authority for faith and practice...the ancient Waldensian churches...preached repentance and required evidence of repentance of those who professed Christ [1544 Waldensian Confession of faith here cited]...hundreds of examples could be given of Baptists in England and America during the last few centuries to demonstrate that they have commonly stood for Biblical repentance.

...In the early history of America...Roger Williams [1645] warns boldly against false professions and a failure to preach and demand genuine spiritual conversion. He tells his readers that he could have made multiplied thousands of 'converts' among the natives of New England if he had been willing to use unscriptural means...After repeating that he could so have converted the Indians, he asks the following searching question: 'Why have I not brought them to such a

conversion?' and he replies: '...woe be to me! if intending to catch men,...I should pretend conversion...and so build them up with ordinances as a converted Christian people, and yet afterward still pretend to catch them by an after conversion...it must be by the...preaching of repentance, as in the turning of the whole man from the power of Satan unto God...'

...Many Baptist missionaries have described to me the terrible confusion...by the practice of 'quick prayerism'...During our years of missionary work in Nepal, we could have gotten massive numbers of 'decisions'...What Hindu or Buddhist does not want 'to go to Heaven when he dies?' They will eagerly pray a prayer...In reality...they add Jesus to their other gods because they are not ready to repent of their idolatry...The church we started in Nepal is very careful about those who profess Christ and who want to join the church. They require some evidence...[otherwise] The church would quickly become overrun with unregenerate 'Christianised Hindus.'

...Lets come up closer to our time. In the **1930s, 40s, '50s, and '60s**,...J. Frank Norris...pastored two large churches...the Sunday schools... became the largest in the world at that time, (15,000 and 10,000 respectively)...Norris once preached an entire week on the subject of Hell without giving an invitation...He believed in plowing the ground of sinners hearts with the law of God to prepare the soul for genuine conviction and repentance. This is one of the missing elements of evangelism today...[Norris] proclaimed... '...there is one truth that saves a man from Hell - repentance. Men don't go to Hell because of their sins, but because they don't repent of their sins.'...he preached against those who instructed people to make mere 'decisions' for Christ...of this kind of preaching, he said it 'did not have enough Gospel in it to save an ant.'

J. Oswald Smith:...he built a large congregation through Gospel preaching and soul winning endeavours...There was no 'quick prayerism'. He constantly emphasised conviction of sin...repentance...The following statement is from a sermon he gave on evangelism before 3,000 university students: 'Where there is genuine conviction of sin it is not necessary to urge, coax or press in the energy of the flesh...if we are to get Holy Spirit fruit, God must prepare the ground; the Holy Spirit must convict of sin before men can truly believe...Let us wait until the Spirit of God has done His part before we say: 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shall be saved.' Let us first see the signs of conviction as in the Phillipian jailer...There is another Gospel, too popular in the present day, which seems to exclude conviction of sin and repentance from the scheme of salvation...flimsy and false conversions of this sort may be one reason why so many who assume the Christian profession dishonour God and bring reproach on the church by their inconsistent lives, and by their ultimate relapses into worldliness and sin.'...it is one thing to have hundreds of professed convert during the excitement of the campaign, but it is another thing to come back five years after and find them still there, (Oswald Smith, 'The Passion For Souls', 1950)...he defined repentance as a change of mind so radical that it always resulted in a change of life.

...Others of that day...what they typically counted was not 'decisions' or 'professions', but baptisms and church memberships.

In past decades Fundamental Baptists...did not teach that repentance is a works salvation, but they knew that true repentance always produces good works.

...The following statements on repentance are by fundamental Baptists:... 'The proper evidence appears in the holy

fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life'...(J. Norris, address to American Baptist Association, 1935);...'Baptists preach the Gospel of repentance for sin...', (J. Norris, 1947);...'...repentance...produces rich sorrow as leads to an entire change of mind and purpose to turn from sin and turn to God.', (T. Martin, 1953);...'...genuine repentance is known by its fruit in the life.', (J.E. Harris, 1956);...'True repentance...is more than man's work...it is...a mighty work of God.', (T. Daniel, 1963);...'...repentance...I know that we have a shallow religious movement in our times that will allow men to profess faith in Christ and at the same time continue to love the world. Such a shallow religious faith is not real. These are mere professors and have no part with God in salvation.', (H. Slighter, 1963); ...'...Repentance is forsaking sin. Real repentance is putting your trust in Jesus Christ so you will not live like that anymore. Repentance is permanent...it is absolutely essential if you go to Heaven.' (L. Roloff, 1965);...'...all who have genuinely repented hate sin and forsake sinful ways.', (O. Greene, 1969);...'...It is true that all a person has to do to be saved is to 'accept Christ'. However, this cannot happen until God has accepted the sinner, and God will not accept the sinner until he has repented.', (J. Weikins, 1975);...'Very little...Gospel tracts...even mention repentance casually...repentance will bring about a changed life. 'Works meet for repentance' is the real proof of salvation!', (Evangelist Bud Hunter, 1984); ...Repentance...evidences itself in changed action...repentance...saving faith. These two are virtually inseparable...' , (Ed Dobson, 1984).

...No one has any ability or any authority to save anyone, or even convict anyone of their sin...Without conviction there can be no conversion. Without repentance, there can be no regeneration...if God the Holy Spirit has not done His work of conviction in your heart, there is no salvation.', (Evangelist Ken Lynch, 1985).

...The Greek word for repentance means a change of mind which results in a change of action...by the New Testament usage.', (B. Lackey, 1989);...'...without repentance the Gospel cannot be savingly believed, (Matt.21:32; Mk.1:15)...'(M. Harding, Mid-America conference 1996);...

... 'Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.', (2Cor.5:17)...

...Profession is not the same as possession of salvation. 'They profess that they knew God; but in works they deny Him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.', (Titus 1:16).

Repentance & Faith:...Repentance and faith are 'like Siamese twins, they are joined together by a living ligament. To cut them apart is to kill both...When you are truly repentant, it is because you have faith in Christ; and when you turn from sin to Christ, it is because you have repented.' (A.C. Dixon)...Biblical faith involves repentance, and Biblical repentance involves faith...'howbeit, repentance is not faith, nor faith repentance..repentance is denying (negative), faith is affirming (positive). Repentance looks within, faith looks above. Repentance sees our misery, faith our deliverer. Repentance is hunger, faith is the open mouth, and Christ is the living food.', (Evangelist J. Stewart)

...Repentance is not a work of man; it is a work of God (Acts 11:18; 2Tim.2:25)...repentance itself is not the good works in a Christians life; it is the cause of the good works. It is the same for saving faith. Saving faith is not a work, but it produces works, (Eph.2:8-10; Titus 3:4-8)...repentance is a part of the great commission, (Lk.24:47)...repentance results in obedience, (Rev.2:5,21,22; 3:3,19; 9:20,21; 16:9,11).



## Billy Graham's Amsterdam 2000

(Excerpts from a report by Ralph Colas - Exec. Secretary, American Council of Christian Churches who attended July 29 - Aug. 6 Billy Graham conference with press credentials.)

*'Due to serious illness, Graham was unable to attend...A Catholic Archbishop addressed the gathering, followed by the President of the Netherlands Council of Churches. The latter reminded attendees that... 'We are the same, for personal faith and social action go together. Evangelicals and ecumenicals are one in Christ.' The BGEA spent over \$40 million to put on this meeting. Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse provided clothing and other items for the evangelists (SP has a budget of over \$130 million). A drama team from Bill Hybels' Willow Creek Community Church had a prominent role at the meeting. One presentation dealt with the woman taken in adultery. In acting out the part, she said, 'Jesus said to me, 'You are not condemned.' She failed to add that Jesus also said, 'Go and sin no more.' Chuck Colson...defended ECT (Evangelicals & Catholics Together). He said a new document is being discussed, and added: 'We must hold what we have in common so we can stand together against secular naturalism, and it was Billy Graham who helped us break down the walls.'*

Dr. Colas observed: *'It is easy to see how the National Council of Churches (USA) and the National Association of Evangelicals recognize each other as 'brothers' and permit dual memberships.' Most of the music was not intense rock, but by the end, more 'swinging and swaying' music was presented which brought cheering, clapping, raising of hands and dancing.... (Calvary Contender, 15/8/2000)*

### 'Satan Made Me Do It'?

*'In a bizarre explanation for his fall from grace, South African sacked cricket captain Hansie Cronje has said he took his eyes 'off Jesus' and 'Satan' led him into match-fixing...' (Weekend Australian, 3/6/2000)*

**Editors comments: This is the same excuse and self justification that Eve offered when she and Adam sinned. Rather the response should be that of the prodigal son - that we have sinned against God and we are to blame. Is it any wonder the world sees such poor excuses as 'bizarre'?**

### 'March For Jesus' Is No More

*'March for Jesus' organizers announced during the June march that the 13-year-old event is officially over, (9/00 'Charisma'). MFJ was ecumenical from the start and included cultists, liberals, and Charismatics (7/1/99 CC). Graham Kendrick (London) was the founder. In a final show of unity of Britain's 'old' and 'new', Archbishop of Canterbury George Carey walked in unity with Gerald Coates, a key leader of the 'New Churches,' a modern network of Charismatics. Together they led 30,000 in London's MFJ.' (Calvary Contender)*

### The 'Message'

The 'Message' is a popular Bible 'translation' by Eugene Peterson and released in 1993. However, it is arguably not a translation but a poor paraphrase in comparison to the Greek. Examples of inaccuracies are: Jn.14:28 is translated *'The Father is the goal and purpose of my life'* instead of *'My father is greater than I'*; 1Cor.6:18-20 the word *'fornication'* is deleted and replaced with the words *'avoids commitment and intimacy'*. This effectively changes the boundaries of sexual activity before marriage. In Romans 1:26,27 the words *'God gave them over'* are deleted, providing possible loopholes for homosexuality. Hundreds of other examples exist. Billy Graham, J. Packer and other leaders support this 'translation'.

## UN To Impose 'One World Religion'?

Beginning on August 28, the United Nations will convene the Millennium Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders, in New York. This assembly of over 1,000 'religious' leaders from around the world is leading to the definition and eventual possible imposition of a One World Religion under the United Nations.

(See: <http://www.vvm.com/~ctomlina96.htm>)

### BWA and RC

*'The Baptist World Alliance (BWA) is an ecumenical alliance of nearly 100 national Baptist denominations...The BWA maintains relationships with both the World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic church...The BWA Secretary-General, Denton Lotz...praised the Roman Pontiff, John Paul II for his religious zeal...The organisation Lotz heads participated in an 'Ash Wednesday service' at the united Nations Church Centre...the front of the chapel displayed 'emblems for the Islamic, Buddhist, Hindu and Jewish faith. 'According to the report, the 'lengthy litany for service never mentioned Christ.'...While the tune to John Wesley's 'O For a Thousands to sing' was sung, the Biblically based words were replaced with a poem promoting global unity and the one world order.*

(*'Fundamental Digest'*, March/April/2000)

### RC & BU

*'...Cardinal Francis George, Catholic Archbishop of Chicago will spend nine days in Australia...He will deliver the 'Caritas Helder Camara' lecture. Respondents to the lecture will be the Reverend Tim Costello, president of the Baptist Union, Elizabeth Proust of the ANZ bank and...archbishop Thuan, who is visiting Australia from the Vatican. The Cardinal is known as...a staunch defender of traditional Catholic teachings.' (Daily Telegraph, Wed/May17/2000)*

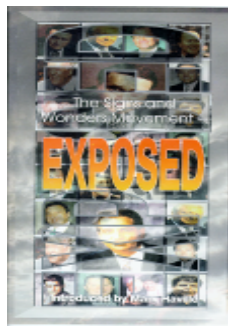
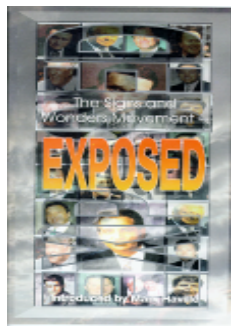
### Pentecostal/Catholic Ecumenism

*'A recent meeting of Pentecostal Scholars turned out to be the site of impromptu confessions of sins and pleas for forgiveness regarding Catholic-Pentecostal relations. The Rev. Killian McDonnell, a Catholic priest...stated his 'Confession of Sins' during a plenary session at the Society for Pentecostal Studies, which met March 16-18 in Kirkland, Wash. Speaking in a private capacity, McDonnell said, 'I believe I am led by the Spirit to confess the sins that Roman Catholics have committed against classical Pentecostals.' He said he was referring to such groups of churches as the Assemblies of God and the Pentecostal Holiness Church. ...McDonnell went on to speak of how some Catholics had demeaned Pentecostal churches by calling them 'sects.'*

*...The Rev. Frank Macchia, outgoing president at the society's meeting, said McDonnell's words 'deeply moved' them...Macchia responded with reciprocal words of forgiveness and confession. Macchia, an associate professor of theology at the Assemblies of God-affiliated Vanguard University in Costa Mesa, Calif....in offering forgiveness in response to Father McDonnell's confession.' Macchia added: 'I ask that Catholics forgive the Pentecostals who have cherished visions of the end of time that condemn the Catholic Church for spiritual harlotry and idolatry. I ask for forgiveness for those who have assumed that the Catholic Church currently advocates salvation by works, denying the grace and truth of the Gospel, and for insensitive evangelistic efforts based on this assumption.' (Religion News Service)*

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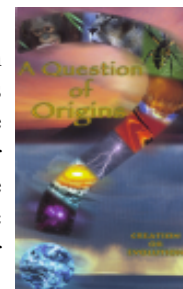
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## Your Comments and Questions

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

### **A 'Prophetic Word'? - A Biblical Response**

Dear Terry, I write to you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ: [Ed: What follows appears to be a prophetic word from God]: "*What you say about My Word, (Matt.3:11 - 'He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire'). I am the refining fire. If you are led by My Holy Spirit and draw near to Me I will burn out all the dross, to have a people, set apart for Me. I will bring My people through the fire of judgement and refining, but those who are led of their own intellect (arm of the flesh) they will suffer the judgement of torment and fire.*"

Terry look again at Matthew 3:11. You split it up, you say the baptism with the Holy Spirit is for believers - and the fire in this verse is for unbelievers. But our Lord is speaking to believers. The word says 'and fire' - (fire of refining). (Name withheld at editors discretion, N.T., Australia)

Editors comments: Firstly, this 'word from God' above did not come from God but either the subscribers mind or another spirit...The phrase: '*those who are led of their own intellect (arm of the flesh) will suffer the judgement of torment and fire*' - clearly contradicts Scriptures that tell us to use our minds and conscience. Not one scripture says the intellect is an '*arm of the flesh*' but rather that it is connected with the *mind of Christ!* This 'prophetic word' should seriously concern the subscriber and all who read it! It is false and an addition to the Word of God.

Secondly, the Scripture Matt.3:11 where '*fire*' is mentioned is speaking of *judgement!* The verse following make this absolutely clear!: '*Whose fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire!*' If one searches out the word '*fire*' in Scripture we find it refers to *judgement* - as in the literal fires of Hell; punishment; or of trials and judgements to purify the believers life and works. This is not any private interpretation but the view held by all the major commentaries I have read.

Dear Terry, I think you should seriously look at nominating your co-writer Mike for the next Pope. The Catholics would love his theories on sin (1Jn.3:6-9). Felt sad to see it in your newsletter [Aug/Sept]. Please remove me from the mail list for the future. (R.R., Maryborough, Qld.)

Dear...Roman Catholicism does not teach Mike's '*theory on sin*' and...abhors what he has written. It's not '*theory*'...it's Biblical. Your reply is rather emotive and devoid of Scriptural evidence to substantiate your view. After having looked prayerfully at what Mike has said and in consultation with advisors, I consolidate Mike's points:

# Christians can sin (1Jn.1:7-10; 1Cor., etc)

# Christians do sin.

# The blood of Christ propitiates for all believers sins, (1Jn.1:7-9)

# Christians have been set free from the penalty and power of sin in Justification and Sanctification. But they still live in the presence of sin in the body and will do so until glorification, (Rom.8:21-23; 2Cor.5:1,2, etc)

# The Corinthian Christians wilfully sinned. Some Christians do commit the grievous sins of adultery and drunkenness. God forbid that any Christians should - but it would be foolish to say they don't. Plain Scripture and evidence is readily available to anchor this point.

# Paul's writings did not, and do not, condone or excuse sin in any shape or fashion... (continued next column)

To TA Ministries, I am appalled at your dreadfully untrue article on David Wilkerson. This time you have gone too far... What you are doing is taking out of context what that dear man is teaching. I have been receiving for years material from his ministry and it is the very best and Godly teaching...I fear for you and your friend (Terry and Mike). May God forgive you and open your blinded and biased eyes...just because you don't believe that there are true and Godly Pentecostals (who don't believe in the Toronto phenomena & hyper-Pentecostalism...) does not make it wrong. It is in the Bible, the NT church was a Pentecostal church...Please do expose the heretics but leave Godly Bible believing practising Christians in peace. Please take me off your mailing list. No reply needed. (R.S., Gladstone, Qld.)

Editors reply: Dear...We have hundreds of Pentecostals on the mailing list and yours is the *only* negative comment about the Wilkerson article. Many have checked the quotes and agree with us. You have nowhere given any evidence for your charges that we had taken things '*out of context*'. We would love to see evidence of this or else how can we believe that our article was '*dreadful*' and '*untrue*'. How can we be corrected unless you show us the errors?

We have documented clearly false teaching and false prophecies by Wilkerson. The quotes are not out of context...We agree Wilkerson has some good material - we mentioned that in the first paragraph of the article...We have never said there are not '*true and Godly Pentecostals*'...

If the New Testament church was a '*Pentecostal church*' then why are today's distinctive Pentecostal teachings not taught historically till the late 19th century? Why were they not taught by the early church Fathers and by the church down through the centuries? Please give us evidence where we have taken anything out of context concerning Wilkerson and we will make the corrections. I thank you for your past support and wish you every blessing in Christ.

# 1Jn.3:6-9: The expression, '*he cannot sin,*' is in a Greek tense that means contemporaneous action - ie. *habitual* sin. Similarly in verse 8 and 9; verse 8 is literally translated '*The one who practices sin.*' There is a distinct contrast drawn between the divine and human natures of man. John speaks of the divine nature in this abstract way, yet he does not ignore the existence of the sinful nature in the believer, who exists as a mortal in a corrupt world. Consequently, John states in 1 John. 1:8: '*If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*' '*Sinless perfection*' has always been a heresy. Paul pleaded for deliverance from this '*body of death*'.

# Christianity is not primarily the keeping of a moral code, or a '*way of life*'. If that were the case then many false religions would suffice for our salvation. Christianity is uniquely a divine appointment to eternal life through the substitutionary death of Christ.

# It is our experience that true Christians will hate sin and show repentance. Our Aug/Sept. reply is orthodox historical teaching on the doctrine in question.

It's OK to be glib and funny. Mike and I enjoy good humour...but we suggest that your recommendation of Mike for Pope was not offered as jocularly. Mike has nevertheless accepted your proposition, stating that he has always wanted to live in Rome and a Popemobile would be a fitting replacement for his ageing Falcon...

## Your Comments and Questions

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

Dear Terry,...I recently received your newsletter which is absolutely such a help to us believers here in Taree. We stand with you against the ecumenical movement and against false doctrine...Don't give up brother...you may not realise how much of a help you are to the body of Christ. I thank God that your devotedness to serve Him...even though a sister[a pastors wife from your home town] has recently slandered you and your newsletter here...we support your ministry...[name withheld at editors discretion, Taree, NSW]

Dear Terry, Thankyou for 'Diakrisis' and the good info..good to know we still have some 'fairdinkum' Bible teaching,  
(E.W., Hervey Bay, Qld)

Dear Terry,...I am currently attending a Baptist church in WA and they have taken on the Alpha course...I have spoken against it to no avail. We are now half way through the course and slowly Nicky Gumbel has softened the minds of most members to accepting it...I believe that the errors given on the Holy Spirit section will unfortunately be accepted. (Name withheld at editors discretion)

Dear brother Terry and friends,...This is an urgent request for information concerning the Alpha course. The [names of churches] are pushing it and I know that it is ecumenical and very much accepted and presented to groups by Roman Catholics...this is enough for me to say NO very firmly.

One lady who was presenting it at her home stated that the Bible is not the Word of God but a series of teachings which the priest has authority to teach...I am fearful for some of my friends who are coming under the Alpha course teaching...

(S.L., Sydney)

Dear Terry,...The work you and your staff are doing is edifying the body of Christ beyond measure, thanks be to God!  
(M.Z., Sydney)

Dear Terry,...It is such a blessing to read the truth about the apostasy in the church today. I don't have anywhere comfortable to worship in my town. Most churches here are Charismatic. I look forward to your magazine every month,  
(T.G., Coffs Harbour, NSW)

Dear Terry, Many thanks for all the materials we have received from you so far. The newsletters and videos are shared with as many as possible. The article on David Wilkerson was excellent. How we need to get back to the God of the Bible, and do ALL things His way - ALWAYS.

### Praise Points

- Praise the Lord for recent fruitful ministry in Sydney. Thank God for the brother who supplied Terry with new glasses.

### Prayer Points

- Pray for the upcoming Victorian trip in November (see itinerary). Pray for health and support.

Dear Terry,...I ordered the book 'The confusing world of Benny Hinn' from [A major Christian Bookstore chain]...I was phoned..and was informed that they no longer stocked this book and they would not order it for me...I was shocked...

**Editors Comments: Most Christian bookstores will now not stock such books which clearly irrefutably expose with documented evidence such men and other false prophets. The particular book has never been refuted. In this ministry we have also had many of our books withdrawn from Christian bookstores.**

Dear Terry, Trust all is well...My reason for writing is that the Charismatics down here are picking up new members by running marriage seminars. Apparently they keep to traditional lines. My daughter's friends have convinced her to attend one which is run by a 'low key' charismatic church...They lent my daughter a video of Joyce Meyer on the subject?! Yours in the Lord, (R.L., Vict)

Dear Br. Arnold,..please pray for me. I am old. My beloved son...after having been brought up and nurtured in the Lord has become part of the Gay(?) scene...he knows our...feelings about this...we would never stop loving him or praying for him. Keep up the good work. It is greatly appreciated, (Name withheld at editors discretion)

Dear Terry,...thanks for your latest newsletter. As usual it was fantastic, spot on, brilliant and encouraging...my wife and I were physically and spiritually sickened by the letter from the homosexual priest...your reply was brilliant...I found a leaflet re: Alpha course..there is no separation of and from RC's...it made me feel ill...Do keep up the great work. I'm really blessed by it a lot - its a breath of fresh air,  
(Pastor G.C., W.A.)

### Terry's Itinerary

**Oct.15,22,29** 6.30pm Hervey Bay Church of Christ, Qld. (07)41284201 **3-Part Series on Jehovah Witnesses (Video 29th.)**

**November: Victoria itinerary - to be completed.**

**Oct.29th** Wesburn Baptist, Ph.(03)59671636

**Nov.1-4** Oasis Baptist Church, Chelsea Heights, Ph.97742821

**Nov.5-9** Lavington Baptist (Albury) Ph.(02)60215860

**Nov.10-11** Cobram, **(Sat: Tongues seminar)**, Ph.(03)58722840

**Nov.12-18** Casey Baptist (Clyde) Ph.59985114 & Calvary Baptist Ph.97285778

**Nov.19** Rose City Baptist (Bennalla) Ph.57625220

**Nov.20-26** Golden City Baptist (Bendigo) Ph.54496368

**Nov.23** Open Door Baptist (Melton) Ph.93677230

**Dec.10th** Wondai-Proston, Qld. Ph.(07)41685223

**Dec. 17-24** Nth. Qld. Grace Baptist, Malanda & Cairns Ph.(07)40966657

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