



Australia
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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The members of the advisory panel may not necessarily agree with all the views expressed in this newsletter.

We welcome comments and articles contributed by readers. Unless otherwise requested, these may be included in following newsletters at the discretion of the editor.

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Sub-Editors Comments

This ministry has now been in existence for over 12 years and the *Diakrisis* newsletter is in it's 8th year of publication. It all began with a handful of people on a local mailing list and has grown steadily to several thousand worldwide. The e-mail list continues to grow.

The Lord has so graciously provided for all our needs over these years. We have seen more fruit than we could ever have dreamed of. So many have come out of false teaching and deceptive theology. We have endeavoured to be an encouragement to our readers and have been buoyed by the written responses from them. Others too have come to an understanding of the Gospel through recent literature including the booklet *'Eternal Questions'*.

We have received letters, e-mails and telephone calls attacking our stand, but overall most of the mail is very encouraging and supportive. We have discovered that large numbers of people are confused, hurting, disenchanted, disenfranchised and often shipwrecked as to the faith. We feel therefore humbly constrained to continue to teach the Word and to proclaim our conviction of *Sola Scriptura*.

During recent ministry travels the Lord impressed upon us the need for prayer for those Godly pastors and leaders who are contending for and teaching the Word of God. There is great and increasing pressure on these men and their families, as well as enticements to give way to the flesh and the world in their local churches.

2002 saw apostasy and ecumenism continue it's meteoric growth. We simply never envisioned that it could reach the level it has. And it's become extremely deceptive. Disparate groups with vastly varying doctrines have recently combined by way of teaching conferences both in Australia and the United Kingdom. They make the false claim that there are such movements as 'Neo' and 'Classic' Pentecostalism. By this it is inferred that the Pentecostal phenomenon began as a doctrinally sound movement but later went into error and excess. This is simply untrue. The roots of it all remain firmly implanted in Topeka Kansas in 1901 under the aegis of one Charles Parham. It was then, and is now, a gross error. These groups, which hold differing views on salvation and the eternal security of the believer, tread the same platform and insist that they adhere to 'Sola Scriptura' but at the same time add to the Word of God by indulging in 'prophecy' that foretells new words from God. It can only be described as absolute confusion. Outrageously they claim to be the 'Remnant Church'! Beware of these men.

With the holiday season now upon us we can expect the usual misrepresentation of Biblical Christianity by our church 'leaders'. If it weren't all so dangerous it would be hilarious. But dangerous it is and without a doubt incurs the wrath of our God. The amalgamation of all monotheistic religions is well under way and the inclusion of Hinduism, Buddhism and other multi deity groups is not far behind. We again urge our readers to earnestly contend for the faith in the trying times ahead.

Everyone here at *Diakrisis* wishes you a blessed and safe New Year and with great anticipation we look forward to serving you in the upcoming year.

Mike Claydon

The Slumbering Giant

Hear a parable of the slumbering giant.

There once lived a giant in the land of the setting sun. In his youth he had done many mighty deeds. Books recorded his victories, and minstrels sang his glory. His race was renowned for long life, and his years were many. When he grew old he lost the vigour of his youth and spent his days sleeping before the fire. From time to time he would rouse himself and call for supper, only to fall asleep before it could be served. His friends tried to waken him, but in vain. And so he came to be known as The Slumbering Giant.

It came to pass, when the giant had slept for more than a century, that an enemy came and destroyed the cities of his homeland. By this time most of his friends were dead, but a few of their children remembered and went to find the giant, in the hope he would come to their defence. In desperation they beat at the doors of his house. They cried aloud to him until their voices failed.

The Slumbering Giant did not respond. Finally the people turned away with weeping, knowing their defence was departed.

Of course, the key to the parable is the identity of the giant. The giant is the church. Call it the local church, if you like, but the church is the Slumbering Giant. Only the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ has the power of God in the Gospel, well able to defeat the enemies of the souls of men.

Many will disagree with our parable and its lesson, but more and more I am inclined to think that the church is deeply asleep, and the enemies are gathering at our gates. One only needs to read the newspaper to see that the church is slumbering while the enemy destroys our cities.

One of the most compelling pieces of evidence is the overwhelming ignorance of Christians regarding the beliefs of the religions waging war upon our faith. Let no one mistake this. The real reason for the terrorists' attacks upon the western nations (and Israel) is that we are the nations that once dared to believe in another God than Allah. Have you noticed how few voices are raised to call our attention to the age old war, now being renewed, between Allah and Jehovah?

It is because of our great ignorance of Islam and Allah, I call to your attention two books: *'Who Is This Allah?'* by G.J.O. Moshay, and *'The Islamic Invasion'* by Robert Morey. Robert Morey is well known to all who read widely. Eighteen of his books are listed inside the back cover of this book. Moshay is, I take it, a Nigerian Christian, and personally acquainted with the vital issues of the Muslim faith.

Both of the authors address the question of the identity of Allah. Everyone knows that Allah is the god of the Muslim nations. What is not commonly known is that Allah is not another name for the God of the Jews and Christians. (How many gullible politicians have we heard in the past nine months mindlessly parroting the lie, *'Christians, Jews and Muslims all worship the same God'?*)

Both of the authors identify 'Allah' as one of the 360 or so idols worshipped by Arabian people for centuries before Mohammed was born (570 AD). In fact Mohammed's father, Abdallah, was named in honour of Allah (abd-Allah, servant

of Allah). Moshay identifies Allah as an alternative name for Baal, whose worship was known over all the mid-eastern nations (p.136). Mohammed did not introduce a new god for the Arabian people to worship. To the contrary, he told them all the other (359) gods would have to go. He told them that Allah alone was to be worshipped, and he was his prophet.

It is a little known fact that 'Allah' was the moon god of the Arabians. That explains the crescent moon on the mosques, minarets and flags of Muslim nations. Both authors document the fact that Allah has done nothing about the Muslim's sins. Rather, they are to wash their own sins away (Moshay - p.102,103); if water is not available, sand will do for washing.

Moshay also points out the Surahs or chapters in the Koran that state clearly that all Muslims will be led to Hell by Allah before they are freed from punishment (pp. 93-98). And both authors make it quite plain that Jihad, or holy war *IS* taught in the Koran. In other words, the Muslim who will be faithful to Allah and the Koran is committed to wage holy war on the infidels. Terrorists are the 'true' Muslims, whether we like it or not.

Robert Morey has an excellent section (chapter 3) in his book on pre-Islamic Arabia which clarifies many of the beliefs and practices of Muslims. His comment on page 20, *'Islam is actually the deification of seventh-century Arabian culture'* is a key to discerning the Muslim faith. Needless to say, many Muslims are offended by this fact.

I am sure that the reader will agree that we must not cry 'Wolf!' when there is no wolf. But what if the wolf has taken up residence in the sheepfold? Shall we not raise the alarm? Robert Morey and G.J.O. Moshay both state that there is a hidden agenda in the soft words of the 'liberal' Muslim imams and bureaucrats who would placate the hearts and minds of the friends of the Slumbering Giant.

As of 1990, Moshay could count 1000 Mosques in England (up from 1 Mosque in 1945)! A missionary in England recently said that a Protestant church closes its doors every five days, and a new Mosque is dedicated every fourteen days. Some Muslims are boasting that England will become the first Muslim nation in Europe. Liberal immigration policies and a love for multiculturalism have changed the complexion of western nations in the past twenty years, and will change the culture of our nations in another twenty.

There is a solution if the Slumbering Giant will only wake up and begin again to take seriously the Great Commission. It should be remembered that the greatest opposition David Livingstone faced in Africa was from the Muslim slave traders. But the gospel prevailed through the preaching of the missionaries that followed in Livingstone's footsteps, and there was a great harvest of souls. We have come full circle...only now, the Muslims are in our lands. And it is no longer the bodies of men that are enslaved. It is the souls of men. In our own land.

Our friends are beating on our doors. Can you hear them?
Will the giant awake?

Pastor Buddy Smith

'It takes a lot of patience and 'thick skin' to put up with criticism and outright opposition that will come when God's servant insists on accuracy'. John Macarthur, 'The Sufficiency of Christ', P.131.

Mistranslation

The name Coca-Cola in China was first rendered as Ke-kou-ke-la. Unfortunately, the Coke company did not discover, until after thousands of signs had been printed, that the phrase means 'bite the wax tadpole' or 'female horse stuffed with wax', depending on the dialect. Coke then researched 40,000 Chinese characters and found a close phonetic equivalent, ko-kou-ko-le, which can be loosely translated as 'happiness in the mouth'.

When translated into Chinese, the Kentucky Fried Chicken slogan 'finger-lickin good' came out as 'eat your fingers off'. Meaning can be lost in the translation or the interpretation of an idea. Sometimes the outcome might be comical, at other times it can be devastating.

Imagine somebody read Matthew 5:29 out of context, 'If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you...' Jesus was in the middle of teaching that adultery begins in the heart, therefore we know that to pluck out an eye would not deal with the issue of the heart. But because the eye is the first offending culprit, a person should be disciplined with their eyes. Jesus used hyperbole (a deliberate exaggeration used for effect) here to make the point that sin is serious, and instead of enticing sin with a tapering off type of approach, direct and swift action needs to be employed.

Can you see the damage that might take place when Scripture is taken out of context or grammatical principles are not taken into consideration? Some would argue from this verse in Matthew that the Bible can't be taken literally. However, we need to recognize that literal interpretation is based on the author's intended meaning of the text having considered such things as historical background and style of

literature. Jesus used hyperbole, figures of speech, parables, and other tools of language in communicating His teaching, all of them being legitimate forms of communication. You could twist all sorts of unbiblical meaning from His words if you take them out of context or you ignore normal principles of grammatical interpretation.

I like to think of literal interpretation of the Scriptures this way: when I read the Bible the most common sense meaning is usually the right meaning. Admittedly some passages are harder to understand than others, but when compared with the whole of the Bible the correct meaning soon becomes apparent. If you come across an idea that somebody says is biblical and for some reason does not sit right with you, take that idea through this acrostic (**LIGHTS**) because the Bible lights our spiritual path, it doesn't cast shadows on it: **L**iteral Interpretation (it means what it says!); **I**llumination by the Holy Spirit (ask Him to help you understand); **G**rammatical Principle (is there a grammatical principle that needs consideration?); **H**istorical Context (are there some historical factors to be considered?); **T**eaching Ministry (the purpose of Scripture is to mould you into His likeness); **S**criptural Harmony (does this idea fit into the whole counsel of God?)

Of course, if you ever get stuck on an issue ask someone you trust - perhaps one of your elders. None of us have all the answers, but God does, and He gives us all that we need to know in His Word. As a church we have the joy of together discovering more of who He is. As we do that though, we need to avoid unfortunate mistranslation and misinterpretation.

Pastor Travis Johnson

Falling (Slaying) in the spirit

'Slaying in the spirit' is a phenomenon whereby people are overcome and usually fall backwards to the ground by a force said to be the Holy Spirit.

One of the earliest references to this phenomena dates back to 1770 when a Father Gassner would perform exorcisms on demon possessed people. During this ritual he would say '...may I be given the sign of supernatural magic; I admonish this thing in the name of Jesus'. The person would fall in a trance and spasms would follow. Later a German physician, Mesmer, considered to be the father of hypnotism, modified this technique to what is now called 'hypnotism'.

One thing is certain - the name 'slaying in the spirit' is not a term that supporters of this phenomenon would want, considering the nearest reference to this in the Bible is when Ananias and Sapphira were struck *dead* by God for lying to the Holy Spirit!

Manifestations have three sources: divine, human (or psychological), and demonic. Many of the supporters of this phenomena see it's roots in historical revival meetings, where people did fall to the ground. These were originally called 'faintings'. However, this was not a common thing and it was also under the influence of some of the most powerful preaching in history. John Wesley, George Whitefield and Jonathan Edwards wrote of people falling on their *faces* in *repentance* and crying out to God for mercy and *salvation* from their *sins*. This is a far cry from the falling *backwards* into altered states of consciousness, (ASC).

Today's 'falling in the spirit' is not under the preaching

of the Word but rather from laying on of hands. Many of the revivalists also stated clearly that even many of the 'faintings' were demonic or fleshly activity.

The *same* phenomena of 'falling in the spirit' can also be seen in hypnotism and the New Age. Anything bypassing the mind should bring caution. Hypnotism can be dangerous - some have died from it's effects.*

In Scripture when anyone was healed, laid hands on, or prayed for, there is *no* mention of people falling down.

Of all the scriptures where people fell to the ground, there is only *one* reference where people fell *backwards* - this is when the *enemies* of Jesus met Him at Gesthemene! In every other Scripture, (Dan.8:16-18; 10:7-11; Ezek.1:28; 2:1,2; 3:22-24; 2Chr.5:13,14; Matt.17:5-7; Rev.1;17-19; Jn.18:3-6; Acts 9:4; Acts 26:12-16), there is *no* evidence that any fell *backwards*. In six out of these eleven Scriptures it clearly states that people fell *forwards* on their faces. It must also be remembered that these accounts were *rare* accounts of *direct* confrontation *with God, Jesus, or an angel!* The reactions were a human reaction to a divine encounter. Most were immediately told to *stand up!* There was also no human agent *mediating* and no '*catchers*' as we see in churches today. They fell *forwards* and often with a *fear* for their lives! It was also not an *expected* event but a *sovereign* act of God. The 'falling in the spirit' experience in churches today is surely a fleshly counterfeit of Biblical and historical events.

Terry Arnold (From '*Finding the Balance*' by author). Also recommended: '*Toronto Blessing - Slaying in the spirit*' by N. Mikhael. * See '*Finding the balance*' by author.

Bonnke/Hinn & Raising the Dead?

A Reinhard Bonnke video is being promoted for a minimum donation of \$35 and gives an account of a Nigerian Pentecostal pastor, Daniel Ekechukwu, being raised from the dead at a Bonnke meeting in Nigeria. The episode is being hailed by Benny Hinn, Kenneth Copeland and *Elim* Pentecostal representatives in England.

Meanwhile Bonnke is being sued in Nigeria for the deaths of people crushed in a human stampede at one of his crusades. None of the those killed were raised from the dead. Theophilus Osagiede, brother of one of the victims, has a massive 60 million Niara litigation against Bonnke and his organizers. *Elim* has also been at the centre of a media scandal surrounding attempts to raise the dead. In Belfast, *Elim* and its leader, Eric McComb, were featured in a headline reaction to people at an *Elim* church screaming 'Get Up In The Name of Jesus' at a casket containing the body of an infant, to the upset of the family. A Crown Coroner also delivered a coroner's report of a young woman who the report said would be alive, had she not attended a Morris Cerullo meeting. Benny Hinn has likewise been sued for the death of someone injured as a result of his 'slain in the spirit' hypnotics.

The Bonnke story is that a pastor called 'Eku' had a motor vehicle accident and with chest injuries left the nearest hospital for another against the advice of the physicians, and then 'died' but was 'revived' at a Reinhard Bonnke meeting.

Eku was pronounced dead on a stethoscopic and ocular response examination only. There was no autopsy report documenting post mortem. There are conflicting accounts concerning the time the patient was dead, which vary from 42 hours to 3 days...and why did the Federal hospital (the second one they went to) not issue a death certificate? Instead a death certificate was issued at St Eunice clinic signed by a Dr Josse Anuebusisa, a physician who is a family friend of the pastor's uncle...and how could Eku's wife claim to have spoken to him during this journey if he was dead? Why did they rush him to a third medical facility, St Eunice, if he was dead? There was no autopsy report, no coroner's report, no recorded time of death and no police accident report.

Pastor Ekechukwu claims that hell had a 'welcome sign' and that the rich man's prayer of Luke 16:19-31 was answered and he was sent back to warn people to repent and believe. This contradicts the direct teaching of Jesus that even if someone did return from the dead, such people would not believe. In Scripture God refuses to answer this prayer yet with Eku God does the opposite?

Pastor Ekechukwu's wife said 'the anointing' was so powerful at Reinhard Bonnke's preaching, that she would receive her husband back from the dead. However, Pastor Ekechukwu said that Mr Bonnke was not even present, having already left. Mr Bonnke's teaching on the anointing has always been occultic, (he claimed a transference of 'anointing' from *Elim* founder, George Jeffries).

(<http://www.letusreason.org/popteac13.htm>><http://www.letusreason.org/popteac13.htm>)

Less 'Christians'

Recent consensus in the *Australian* (June 18, 2002) show an increasing trend of Australians affiliating with Eastern religions such as Buddhism and Islam. The number of people claiming to be Anglican and Catholic dropped...357,000 Australians now declare themselves Buddhists...doubling since 1996. Numbers of professing 'Christians' fall year by year.

'The Trouble With The U.N.'

'...If we are about to attack Iraq because it has violated U.N. resolutions, why aren't we attacking Israel?' The proponents of this argument recognize the U.N. has spent an inordinate amount of time and energy over the last 50 years condemning the Jewish State.

There's just no dispute about it. The U.N. hates Israel. It has almost from the moment the U.N. voted to approve the creation of the state in 1948. Israel is perceived by the U.N. as perhaps the greatest threat to peace in the world. Just look at the facts: Of 175 Security Council resolutions passed by the U.N. before 1990, 97 of them were directed against Israel. Of 690 General Assembly resolutions before 1990, 429 condemned Israel. The U.N. is obsessed with Israel. And that is a great example of why we should treat the U.N. for what it is - an evil and irrelevant group of global busybodies.

Israel is no threat to anyone except those who seek to destroy it....' (By Joseph Farah, WorldNetDaily.com)

'Holy Father' Recommends The Rosary

Vatican City, Oct. 9, 2002 - *'John Paul II ended his general audience with a recommendation to the faithful to pray the rosary. Among the 16,000 people gathered in St. Peter's Square today were youths, newlyweds in their wedding clothes, and numerous people in wheelchairs.*

Before bidding farewell to the crowd, the Pontiff imparted some personal advice: 'October, the month of the holy rosary, encourages us to value ever more this prayer so loved by the Christian people's tradition,' said the Pope, who plans to publish a letter on the rosary soon. 'I invite you, dear young people, to pray it every day,' he said. 'I encourage you, dear sick people, to place yourselves with confidence in the hands of Mary, invoking her incessantly with the holy rosary.' He added: 'And I exhort you, dear newlyweds, not to neglect this praying meditation on the mysteries of Christ, in the light of the Virgin's gaze.' (Apostasy Alert, October 12, 2002)

Death To Christian Leaders Who Criticize Islam?

'Iranian Muslim clerics have called for three American ministers - Rev. Franklin Graham, Rev. Pat Robertson, and Rev. Jerry Falwell - to be killed, for statements each made regarding Islam. In a sermon in a mosque in Tabriz last Friday Iranian cleric Ayatollah Mohsen Mujtahed Shabestari called for the death of three prominent American Christian leaders who have recently criticized Islam, said The Institute for the Study of Islam and Christianity (ISIC). 'In our opinion, to kill these three is necessary', Shabestari said. The call was issued in response to an interview given by Southern Baptist Minister Rev Jerry Falwell on CBS television last week in which he described the Islamic prophet Mohammed as 'a violent man, a man of war' and a 'terrorist'. Shabestari was also calling for the deaths of Franklin Graham, who described Islam as 'a very evil and wicked religion' and Pat Robertson who described Islam as a religion which seeks to dominate and then, if need be destroy',

(Michael Ireland - Assist News Service)

'Decisions'?

'In 1972 in Billy Graham's crusade in Haringay, 72% of 'decision cards' handed in had false addresses on them. This was because people wanted God but not the church, or they did not want the church to find them?' ('Fair Dinkum', No.46)

Book Review

'What Love Is This? Calvinism's Misrepresentation of God' by Dave Hunt

We have been supporters of Dave Hunt's ministry and read many of his books over the years. Hunt has written many exacting and timely works on Roman Catholicism, Islam and other extremes and excesses within the church, including false Pentecostal teaching.

Thus Hunt's latest publication *'What Love Is This'* is a surprise. This book is an all out attack on Calvinism, Calvin and other Reformers. Authors such as Jay Adams, John Armstrong, D.A. Carson, Horton, John Knox, Martin Luther, John MacArthur, John Piper, RC Sproul, James White and Robert Zins, to name a few, are quoted and exposed as Calvinists 'misrepresenting God'. Hunt says of Charles Spurgeon that he *'couldn't seem to make up his mind...Spurgeon should have stayed with Biblical exegesis...Spurgeon stooped to twisting Scripture to his own ends'*, (P.177). Hunt calls one of Spurgeon's quotes *'nonsense'*. Although Hunt says *'care is being taken to be certain that Calvinism is fairly presented...'*, leading Calvinists are currently hotly refuting that Hunt has represented Calvinism and the Reformers fairly. It is true that Hunt was advised by friends and advisors not to print the manuscript because many believed it was full of errors and not a fair representation of true Calvinism or the Reformers.

The book addresses the so called 'five points' (**TULIP**) of Calvinism: **T**otal Depravity; **U**nconditional Election; **L**imited Atonement; **I**rresistible Grace; and **P**erseverance of the saints.

Many Calvinists who have read this book say Hunt has described more Calvinistic extremes than true Calvinism. There are no doubt many readers who would call themselves Calvinists who do not believe the Bible explicitly teaches that God predestines people to Hell. Yet Hunt consistently and repeatedly makes this charge against Calvinists and Calvinism. In lurid language he says *'Calvinism presents a God who fills Hell with those whom he could save but instead damns them because He does not love them'*, (P.116). However, Hunt's charge here is repulsive to Calvinists and it confuses love with justice. Throughout the entire book Hunt continually asks the question *'why did he [God] select them to salvation and damn all the rest?'* Yet in apparent contradiction Hunt follows this with: *'Biblically there is no question that God has the right to save whom He will and no one could complain'* (P.198); and later that *'God sets the rules to satisfy the rules for His justice'* (P.205); and salvation is *'on His terms'*, (P.240). Yet Hunt throughout the entire book continues the line of questioning: *'The fact that the potter can do with the clay what he pleases does not excuse the potter from promising perfection to each lump of clay and then discarding many, if not most, onto the rubbish heap'*, (P.209). But what does God say?: *'Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honor, and another unto dishonor?'*, (Rom.9:20,21).

Hunt appears to confuse *desire* and *judgement*. Desire is a positive term. Judgement and wrath are negative. God does not 'desire' that billions perish and Calvinists do not generally take this position. God's judgment against sin is not a matter of desire, it is a matter of *law*. God's law demands punishment of sin. Any person outside of Christ is *already* under God's wrath. Hunt fails to acknowledge that without Christ's

sacrifice, we were all *destined* to Hell! Yet Hunt says: *'there is no disputing that God would be just in damning the entire human race'*; but in other places he says the notion that God would predestine any to hell is *'unfair'*. We were left confused.

Hunt says that Calvinism lessens zeal to reach the lost, (P.30). But did Spurgeon and the great revivalists lack 'zeal'? Hunt says: *'why plead with or warn or preach to those whose response has been foreordained from eternity past?'*, (P.194). The answer Calvinists (including Spurgeon) give to this is seemingly ignored by Hunt: Calvinists say they do not know who the 'elect' are and so they preach Christ to all as the Scripture commands!

Hunt associates Calvinism with *'intellectualism'* and describes it as *'legalistic'*, (P.17). Hunt says that *'Calvinists insist that it requires special (and apparently lengthy) preparation for anyone to become qualified to examine that peculiar [Calvinist] doctrine...'* Hunt gives no examples here, and the word *'peculiar'* is again a strange description considering almost all the Reformers, revivalists and church leaders to the 19th Century were Calvinistic.

Yet Hunt says: *'Calvinism and the controversies surrounding it have confronted Protestants for more than four hundred years.'* But was not Calvinism the *norm* for the Reformation and hundreds of years beyond? The 'five points' of Calvinism were actually formulated not by Calvin but by European Protestant reformers *in response* to the 'five points' of Arminianism. After 154 sessions over 7 months they concluded the new 'five points of Arminianism' to be 'heretical' and so drew up 'five points' to refute the followers of the deceased Arminius. It is therefore not a doctrine in and of itself, but a refutation of a doctrinal heresy!

Hunt relentlessly attacks and quotes Arthur Pink and others whose works not all 'Calvinists' would agree with entirely. Yet *all* are lumped into the same box and Calvinism is blamed for causing *'many to turn away from the God of the Bible as from a monster'*, (P.287).

Spurgeon is quoted throughout the book as not believing in 'Limited Atonement'. Unfortunately the quotes used are not referring to 'Limited Atonement' at all but to the fact that the blood of Jesus merits (and is totally adequate for) the salvation of all. On page 241 Hunt says *'Certainly Spurgeon rejected it [Limited Atonement] as a heresy'*. However, Hunt fails to continue the quote to the next page of Spurgeon's work where he refers to Hunt's position as *'a thousand times more repulsive than any of those consequences which are said to be associated with the Calvinistic and Christian doctrine of special and particular redemption'*! Despite what this author or the readers might think of 'Calvinism', Spurgeon was unequivocally a 'Calvinist' and often mentioned the 'five points of Calvinism' as the *'strong old doctrines'*. A quick scan of the relevant materials at www.spurgeon.org reveals how wrong Hunt is on Spurgeon. One clear example of Spurgeon's belief in 'particular redemption' is found at <http://www.spurgeon.org/sermons/0181.htm>.

Of most alarm in this book are the *contradictions*. Hunt says that Calvinists are saved but that Calvinism presents a *'different God'* and a *'different gospel'*. One wonders how Calvinists could then be saved according to 2Corinthians 11:4 and Galatians 1:6 which speak of the 'curse' of 'another Gospel'?

Hunt repeatedly states that Calvinism and Calvin make

God the author of every event including sin and that 'God imposes His will upon' those who would be saved, (P.373). He says: 'Most Calvinists teach that in his sovereignty God gave the ten commandments, caused men to break them, then damn him for doing what God caused him to do', (P.338). Again, this is not a fair representation of Calvinism.

Hunt's attacks on Calvin's life and character are vehement. Calvin is called 'immature' and 'the Protestant Pope', (P.118,313). However, it is what is not said about Calvin that shows Hunt's book to be unbalanced. Any fair, accurate and scholarly work on Calvin's life, such as John T. McNeill's 'The History and Character of Calvinism' (Oxford, 1967), will fill in the gaps that Hunt leaves vacant. Dr. James White, who Hunt attacks in almost every chapter, has responded to the book: 'You continue your tirade against Calvin, seemingly thinking, for some reason, that this is relevant to the issue at hand - the exegesis of John 6...to create in the mind of your reader such a level of prejudice as to guarantee their acceptance of your conclusions without any fair consideration of the facts at hand. Such is, as I noted above, reprehensible on any level. Christian authors are to be men of truth, and are to eschew such dishonest methodologies'. Hunt debated James White on radio in 2000, (the tapes of this are available from Alpha & Omega Ministries in the U.S.), during which Dave debated from an emotional and logical view of the love of God. He often extrapolates from a logical point derived from Calvinism. For example: since man is incapable of saving himself therefore God, who caused all to sin but allows some men to believe, does not love all men and God is, quote; 'pleased to damn billions', (P.42). Such logic goes beyond Scripture and beyond what Calvinists actually believe.

In castigating Calvin and his character for his involvement in the trial of heretics, Hunt fails to inform readers that the death penalty for heresy was common place at that time. Hunt makes Calvin personally responsible for the death of an anti-trinitarian heretic Michael Servetus. However, it was the Geneva Town Council who sentenced Servetus. Calvin was not a member of the Council at the time and some of its leading members were actually opposed to Calvin's influence in Council affairs!

Other statements attributed to Calvin are exaggerated. Hunt claims that Calvin attempted to establish 'a beachhead for Christ's kingdom on earth in Geneva in the absence of Christ', (P.62). Unfortunately Calvin is not here to answer this charge but we think the reader will see it as unwarranted and highly speculative. Hunt says that 'Calvinists have hijacked the Reformation'. But how can this be when the Reformers were overwhelmingly Calvinistic? Hunt quotes Calvin as being a 'Roman Catholic' who believed in the 'Holy Catholic Church', (P.36). But Hunt does not tell his readers that the phrase 'Holy Catholic church' here does not mean the Roman Catholic religion but was a common expression referring to the universal church (Catholic means 'universal' as we all know).

Concerning doctrinal issues, Hunt has difficulty with Acts 13:48 '**...and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed**'. He says 'many Greek scholars call it a wrong translation', yet he does not reveal who these Greek scholars are. He re-translates this verse to 'as many as were disposed toward eternal life'. Interestingly nearly all versions have the word 'ordained' or 'appointed' and some 'destined' or 'chosen'. Beginning with the King James version Hunt has rejected all of the published translations. The only version

we could find that reflects Hunt's translation is the *Jehovah Witness New World Translation!* Which has 'and all those who were rightly disposed for everlasting life became believers.'

In support of his translation, he quotes *Liddell and Scott* which is not a Koine Greek or New Testament Lexicon. Hunt has also failed to acknowledge that *Liddell and Scott* do give 'ordain' as the meaning of the applicable 'τασσο', (section III, number 2: 'appoint, ordain, order, prescribe').

One of the most confusing points is Hunt's view that man can seek God for salvation. This would defy Scripture. Romans 3:11 says: '**There is none...that seeks after God**'. It was God who chose us (Jn.15:16; 2Thess.2:13) and sought us...'**For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost**', (Lk.19:10). The Scriptures Hunt uses are practically all from the Old Testament and mostly from Psalms and Chronicles where *believers* and *Jews* are being spoken to, (P.347,348). Seldom does Hunt use a New Testament Scripture. Acts 17:24-27 and Hebrews 11:6 are mentioned briefly but the first of these passages portrays a hypothetical wishing that man 'would' seek God, and the Hebrews text is addressed to believers. Yet further into the book Hunt makes the statement: '**No one naturally seeks the Lord**', (P.339). Again, contradictory and confusing.

The most baffling part of these writings is Hunt's exegesis of John 6:37,40,44. Hunt says 'All that the Father giveth me does not say that 'all that the father draws shall come to me.' Nor does 'No man can come to me, except the father...draw him' say that all that the father draws come to Christ...' However, this is really a mere play on words. These passages speak for themselves. No amount of redefining can change the Sovereignty of God in that *noone can come unless drawn*. Yet Hunt continues for many pages trying with misapplied logic to change what is the obvious meaning of the text.

The book boasts of an array of 'exceptional endorsements' including Charismatics and Pentecostals such as Chuck Smith and Joseph Chambers. Hunt says he does not consider 'divergent views' to be 'normal or acceptable', (P.28). Yet Hunt's agent in Australia distributing his books is a Pentecostal and a 'moderate' Calvinist by his own admission!

The *Christian Research Network* in England wrote of the confusion now surrounding Hunt's ministry: '*...the latest conference 'hook up' - between Dave Hunt and Jacob Prasch...confusion and compromise seem to be the hallmark of this strange tie-up which has upset supporters of both camps. In addition, Philip Powell's Victoria state based Christian Witness Ministries (CWM) has been appointed sole agent for the sale of Hunt's materials in Australia...unlike Hunt, Powell describes himself as a 'moderate Calvinist'...yet Powell is selling Hunt's book!...no wonder some supporters of their ministries are bemused...Powell even claims to believe in the historic evangelical doctrine of Sola Scriptura, a doctrine emptied of any real meaning of course, when one believes God is still giving new revelation through contemporary prophetic utterance....*' (CRN News No.15, 2002).

Unfortunately, too many followers of Hunt and this book will now be fired up to attack Calvin, Calvinism and the Reformers. As one writer recently opined: '[Hunt]has handed them rifles filled with blanks'. We in this ministry believe this book will divide Christians unnecessarily and do much damage to the pillars of the Reformation. Far from the book being about 'Calvinism's Misrepresentation of God' it may well be Hunt's misrepresentation of Calvinism, Calvin and the Reformation. **Mike Clayton**

Your Comments and Questions

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

'A number of years ago an older friend of mine fell from his seat in Church and rolled around the floor. A guest 'Charismatic' Baptist Pastor who claimed to have the gift of discernment spent three hours casting demons out of him. At midnight an ambulance was called and my friend died the next morning. He had taken a heart attack.

While once visiting a hospital a matron asked me if I could help to get a women to eat. A 'Charismatic' pastor had placed her on a three day fast to heal her of cancer. She was in her second day. We were able to get her to eat but she died an hour later.

A nursing sister and a school teacher told me that a mute person had been healed at a tent meeting in Murgon, Qld. This person is mute until this day.

...A friend of mine was called to a classroom in a Brisbane school to counsel children. A 'Charismatic' R.E. teacher had a number of children gobbling like turkeys, (they were speaking in 'unknown tongues').

We ask what in the world is going on in the church? The Pentecostal/Charismatic system is under deception and God has given the church over to it's own desires so that they do what is right in their own eyes.

*The Corinthian Church had all the spiritual gifts but they were babes in Christ and worldly. The church today is fast becoming no different to the world. The Corinthian Church was following another Jesus, Spirit and Gospel, (2Cor.11:4). The Apostle Paul said: **'And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness...'**, (2Cor.11:13-15). **'For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect'**, (Matt.24:24). *The Antichrist will deceive the world with signs, wonders and miracles of healing, (Revelation 13). **'Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves'**, (Matt.7:15). **'Not every one 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 will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity'**, (Matt.7:21-23).**

*There will be a great falling away from the Truth before the Lord returns...The Lord also said: **'when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?'**, (Lk.18:8). We are living in days of great deception and thousands are falling for the false Pentecostal/Charismatic teaching.*

The way to heaven is narrow, straight and hard. There are few who enter it. The Christian life is not a life of healing, babblings and prosperity. The Lord Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Believe on Him and you will receive the free gift of eternal life. If you have Christ He is your Life. You don't need tongues, healings or wealth. We still live in a body of sin and death but the Lord and His Word is our Authority and Sufficiency. I have studied, attended meetings, counselled Pentecostals and Charismatics for almost thirty years. It is difficult to be delivered from the deception.

(Pastor Brian Morgan, Molong, NSW)

Kenneth Copeland - 'Prayer For Salvation'?

Word-Faith teachers Kenneth & Gloria Copeland print a popular magazine called '*Believers Voice of Victory*'. At the beginning of each issue is a '*Prayer For Salvation*' in which Copeland explains how a person can be saved. A large proportion of this is taken up with the following prayer for the unsaved: *'I also ask you to fill me with the Holy Spirit. I fully expect to speak with other tongues as you give me the utterance (Acts 2:4). Begin to praise God for filling you with the Holy Spirit. Speak those words and syllables you receive - not in your own language, but the language given to you by the Holy Spirit. Worship and praise Him in your Heavenly language - in other tongues. Continue with the blessing God has given you and pray in tongues each day. You are a born again, spirit-filled believer. You'll never be the same!...'*

We wonder if the people praying this prayer ever attempt to look up Acts 2:4 and read on! Verses 6-11 speak of *known* earthly human languages! The word '*other tongues*' is the Greek word '*heterais glossais*' meaning other groups of known languages. Verse 6 translates this clearly to the word '*languages*' where the Greek word is '*dialekto*'. (We get the word '*dialect*' from this). This same word '*dialekto*' is also translated '*tongue*' in verse 8 and in other verses in Acts, (Acts 1:19; 21:40; 22:2; 26:14). In verse 9-11 these languages are listed for all to see in family groups, (eg. Phrygians & Pamphylans are *Greek dialects*).

Are the languages that Copeland says are '*given to us by the Holy Spirit*' in Acts 2 - known languages? What are the '*heavenly languages*'? Where is this phrase in Scripture?

Added to the deception of this '*Prayer For Salvation*' is the fact that *sin* and the *sinner* are never once mentioned in the entire prayer! The prayer advises people to be saved to speaking in a false unknown tongue and never once tells them *why* they need to be saved or what they are saved *from*! This 'prayer' is a deception written by one who is already a proven false prophet.* **Terry Arnold**

* For proofs of this see our papers '*False Prophecies, Revelations & Teachings*' and '*Word-Faith Teaching - A Closer Look*'.

Truth

'Truth is a path so narrow that two can rarely walk together in it. We usually tread the narrow way in a single file. Two men can seldom walk arm in arm in the truth. We believe the same truth in the main, but we cannot walk together in the path, for it is too narrow. The way of truth is very difficult. If you step an inch to the right, you are in a dangerous error, and if you swerve a little to the left, you are equally in the mire. On the one hand, there is a huge precipice and on the other a deep swamp. Unless you keep to the true line, to the width of a hair, you will go astray. Truth is a narrow path indeed. It is a path the eagle's eye has not seen and a depth the diver has not visited.

Truth is like the veins of a metal in a mine. It is often excessively thin and does not run in one continuous layer. Lose it once, and you may dig for miles and not discover it again.

The eye must perpetually watch the direction of the waterway of truth. Grains of truth are like the grains of gold in the rivers of Australia...shaken by hands of patience and washed in the stream of honesty, or the fine gold will be mingled with sand. Truth is often mingled with error, and it is hard to distinguish it.' **Spurgeon**, '*The Holy Spirit*', P.64,65

Your Comments and Questions

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

Possible Sth Aust. Trip

Consideration is being given to a possible ministry trip to Sth Australia in 2003. Those churches and fellowships wishing to be involved please contact Terry: E-mail: tam@satcom.net.au or Mob. 0411489472 Fx (07)41240910.

Dear Terry, I would like to thank you for your help in finding a church. I just thought I'd inform you that I have finally found a church which is solid in its doctrine...The Lord is good. Thanks again. (P.T., Sydney)

Dear Terry & 'Diakrisis',...Thankyou so much for the [newsletters]...The situation at home in NZ is grim. Very few churches remain now in our city that have not taken on 'Alpha' with enthusiasm or major in 'Hillsong' and all its musical theology. Your newsletter gets devoured on arrival. I deliver about 20 copies to interested believers who have all come out of their churches or are on their way out, forced by the false doctrine...The believers that love the truth usually feel uncomfortable in their spirits but don't always understand why they get confused and they assume 'the church' is right and they are wrong and it's a relief to them, when you point out the error and how far the 'church' is off the target...They then read their Bible with new enthusiasm...Rescuing has become quite a ministry in itself and very satisfying.

...I run a 1,000 tree apple orchard, care for my elderly parents (both 91), voluntarily teach Bible in schools to 5 classes in the country and Hebrew to high schoolers and run the local Sunday school - so my spare time is pretty limited.

...We really appreciate what you do and pray regularly that God will keep you well and strong and active for the spreading of the truth. May many more hearers and readers move from confusion and darkness into the light and peace of God because of your efforts and faithfulness, God bless,

(L.S., New Zealand)

ARE THEY IN HEAVEN?

It's common these days to hear people testify that their deceased loved ones have gone to heaven. Recently, after the tragedy in Bali, there were comments made by people (in the media) indicating their belief that their loved ones were 'up above'. Similar sentiments were voiced in America after the

> continued next column

Praise Points

- Thank the Lord for a fruitful Victorian trip. Pray for Terry & family as they take time out to rest.

Prayer Points

- Pray for wide distribution of the booklet 'Eternal Questions'. Pray that it will fall into the hands of those who need the Gospel or those who would check their foundations.

September 11 tragedy. It's a nice thought that all the firemen who perished that day went to heaven, and that many of the unfortunate young people who perished in Bali are now in peace. It's 'nice' - but not true.

Non-Christians do not go to heaven when they die. There is no hope of heaven for those who do not know Christ. The bricklayer, the shopkeeper, the postman, the bank manager, the housewife and the Nun can only go to heaven if they trust in Christ as Saviour.

The TV shows would have us believe that there is a white light and a life of bliss awaiting all 'good' people when they die, but this is simply not true. The devil wants the public to believe that they are heaven-bound. It gives them a false sense of security.

To challenge the belief that 'good people' go to heaven is to stick one's neck out these days! It is very unpopular to suggest that Princess Di may not have gone to heaven. And to question whether Mother Theresa went there would horrify some! (Even though she made comments such as, 'I've always said we should help a Hindu become a better Hindu, a Muslim become a better Muslim, a Catholic become a better Catholic', which surely casts doubt on her salvation).*

It is a deception of the devil that unsaved people who have died are 'looking down from above' and 'at peace.'
This gives comfort to bereaved relatives, but it is a false comfort.

As Christians we need to sound out loud and clear that Jesus is the only way to heaven. While it's important to be gracious in our communication, the content of our message needs to be clear. It is not 'trendy' to proclaim that there is only one way, but it is the truth.

Those without Christ are not heading for a party. The Bible says, '...it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgement', (Hebrews 9:27).

Many whom some believe to be in serenity are actually in Hades right at this moment. They will later stand before the Great White Throne where they will be judged according to their works and cast into the lake of fire, (Rev.19:11-15). Oh how urgent it is to reach people for Christ while there is time! They need to know that everything is not 'okay' and that they are not heaven-bound. (Source : www.christianmystics.com/quotes/small.html) (D.H., Sydney)*

Terry's Itinerary

Jan.5th 9.30am Hervey Bay Presbyterian church, Qld, Ph.(07)41247018

Jan.12th 9.30am Hervey Bay Presbyterian church, Qld,

Jan.19th 9.45am Howard Baptist church, Qld. Ph.41294292

Jan.26th 10am Hervey Bay Church of Christ, Qld

Feb.23rd 6.30pm Hervey Bay Church of Christ, Qld.

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