



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

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The editors may not necessarily agree with all the views by subscribers 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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Editors Comment

'...that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man', (Col.4:6); '*...be ready always to give an answer to every man...*', (1Pet.3:15). We in this ministry are sometimes asked: 'Why do you spend so much time focusing on defending the faith (apologetics)? Why don't you just preach the Gospel?'

Something often neglected in preaching the Gospel is the fact that the great evangelist and apostle Paul constantly *defended* this very Gospel. The same Bible that exhorts us to preach the gospel also exhorts us to contend for the faith once delivered by the apostles, (Jude 3). This is not an option, but a command, and was part of the witness of the early church as shown in the writings of the early church fathers.

The need for apologetics today is desperate when one considers we are living in a time when the church has drastically fallen away from truths once held as essential to Christianity, giving rise to the greatest deluge of false teaching and cults the world has ever seen! A host of new teachings have sprung up, some of which a century ago were considered by commentators as '*Satan's last vomit*'. Many 'Statements of Faith' in 'mainline' churches today bear little or no resemblance to the writings of the early Church fathers or historic Christianity.

The problem lies in the heart of the modern Christian. *Most simply cannot stomach the idea of contending for doctrinal truth.* One of the requirements of an elder/pastor is to expose false doctrine where necessary. Yet many leaders today emphasis love, peace and the 'positive' - to the exclusion of truth, warning and exposure of error. So too, Christians are judged as being unloving when they are dogmatic about true doctrine. But did Joshua lack love when he burned and destroyed Achan and his family? Did Jeremiah and Ezekiel lack love when they boldly brought forth the Word of God and warned of judgement? Was Jesus unloving when He warned of Hell, judgement, false doctrine and sin? Was Paul unloving when he constantly named and vividly described false teachers and false apostles and exhorted the reader to separate from such? Today, it seems a crime to be dogmatic about truth. Paul once said: '*Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?*' (Gal.4:16).

No doubt, we can contend for the truth with a lack of love and compassion. Such is carnal and without excuse. However, it is still the truth that 'makes us free', (Jn.8:32). Not many are called to a ministry of 'contending' but all are called to separation from apostasy and to holiness in doctrine. Such requires *studying* to rightly divide the Word of truth that the true doctrine of Christ might again glorify God and reform His church in a dying world. **Terry Arnold**

*Some commentators so described the new Pentecostal movement at its inception.

Editors Special Note

We desire to distribute material by e-mail concerning 'the strong old doctrines' as spoken of by Spurgeon and other revivalists, evangelists and Reformers. These doctrines and quotes will show the 'faith once delivered' and hopefully will be thought provoking and informative. Not wanting to burden anyone with excessive material, we envisage occasional short e-mails. If you wish to be on this mailing list please e-mail: tam@satcom.net.au

'Healing' Investigation

In various issues of this newsletter we have uncovered numerous fraudulent claims to the gift of miraculous healing.

In *Diakrisis* Dec/99 we quoted a *Christian Outreach* publication in which there was a healing testimony dubbed as a 'true story' and titled 'God Heals Bone Disorder'. The article (July/Aug/99 P.27) was submitted by a Philip Macfarlane of Roma *Christian Outreach Centre*, Qld, Australia, as told to him by a 32 year old Gabriel Laurance from the Solomon Islands. The story relates how Laurance suffered much pain in his legs and took 'pain killers, had x-rays and blood tests. The results always came up negative...Blood tests couldn't pick it up; it wasn't in the blood. Early x-rays had no chance because the holes in the bones were so tiny...' (Underlining ours)

This man was called out by the pastor at a meeting: 'There is a man with holes in his bones...your legs are paralysed!...you can't walk...there are holes in the bones from your knees to your hip...' The man was apparently completely 'healed' that night. The report goes on to say: 'The doctors were stunned. Five x-rays every two weeks for ten weeks showed a complete healing.'

The obvious question is: How can it be a miraculous healing, when the initial x-rays and tests showed nothing wrong in the first place?

The example shown above highlights a fact found in most of our investigations of modern healings - *an incorrect understanding of the initial diagnosis*.

We referred this 'healing' to a subscriber who is a *Forensic Pathologist*. On reading the account of the healing, he wrote:

Dear Terry, Thank you for the article on the alleged miraculous healing in the Solomon Islands. I agree there are a number of medical inconsistencies (not to mention the unscriptural manifestations [slaying in spirit, etc]. I think the most obvious being the twenty-five X-ray examinations of the legs following the 'healing'. The degree of irradiation over such a short period of time would leave the poor fellow at risk of developing bone cancer. I have written to the hospital in Honiara [letter below] requesting more information, in particular the precise medical diagnosis...

Dr. Bogdan Hullewicz, Consultant Forensic Pathologist, M.B; Ch.B; F.R.C.Path (London); ER.C.P.A (Sydney)

The letter by our Pathologist to the hospital in the Solomons on Nov/02 is as follows:

'Dear Doctor, I am writing on behalf of a Christian Ministry here in Australia that investigates miraculous healings. It was recently reported in an Outreach Magazine article that Gabriel Laurance (aged 32 years) a native of the Solomon Islands had been miraculously healed of a bone disorder.

Mr Laurance claimed that in 1996 he developed pain in his legs that prevented him from walking. He was seen at the Central Hospital in Honiara and was told that various blood tests and X-rays were negative. Apparently three months later he was told that he had a bone disorder causing holes in his leg bones.

He was admitted on a 'permanent' basis to a local hospital in Malata when in July 1997, against doctors advice he discharged himself, so that he could attend a Christian conference. It was at this conference that an alleged healing occurred. Mr Laurance claims that the doctors were stunned

and that five X-rays every two weeks for ten weeks showed a complete healing.

I would be most grateful if you could help me with the following: 1) What were the findings on physical examination? 2) Can you confirm that the initial blood tests and X-rays were normal? 3) What did subsequent x-rays show? 4) What was the primary diagnosis and was the disease only limited to the leg bones or was there evidence of other bone involvement? 5) What treatment was recommended and did this treatment alter the course of the disease? 6) Was Mr Laurance re-examined following the alleged healing and what were the results of this examination? 7) Why was it necessary for Mr Laurance to have five X-rays every two weeks for ten weeks? (25 irradiations in total) following the alleged healing? Were these X rays diagnostic or therapeutic? 8) Is Mr Laurance still free from this bone disorder today?...'

Dr. Bogdan Hullewicz...

After more than nine months our pathologist has still not received a reply from the above letter. This is typical of our investigations of such healings. Like so many of the healing claims we have investigated over the years there is no reply to our investigations and the 'story' ends up in a dead end or a report that is so much a 'distant' rumour that it bears no credibility at all. Most stories are invariably in remote areas and the details are handed down through numerous people.

Yet despite non existence of any documentation, many such 'healings' are regurgitated and offered up to the unsuspecting hearers in countless churches each week. We have heard of 'healings' (including the one cited above) later rewritten and with added sensational claims.

Pentecostal evangelist Reinhard Bonnke continues to sell videos of miraculous healings and raisings from the dead despite them having been proved fraudulent or lacking any credible documentation.

One of the most popular modern faith healers, Benny Hinn, has had all his top five 'healings' proved either fraudulent or non miraculous by Christian organisations including the *Christian Research Institute* in the US. Yet he continues to impress his audiences with more 'healings'.

The 'lying Signs and Wonders' Movement will continue to spread and deceive multitudes, (Matt.24; 2Thess 2). Every week more stories of healings and signs and wonders are 'reported' in many Churches across Australia. Very few listeners bother to check the credibility of these. It seems a blind faith is necessary to believe the claims of Faith 'healing' today.

While it is our belief that God can heal whoever He wills, we have issued this challenge to many - show us one person who has this gift. In the Gospel of Matthew alone it is clear that Jesus healed 'all', (Matt. 23:24; 8:16; 10:1,8; 12:15; 14:36; etc.) and whether they had 'faith' or not 'every sickness' that came to him were *immediately* and *completely* healed, (12:13; 20:34;). Today's 'faith healers' are imposters by comparison to Jesus and the apostles. The many 'healers' of today have repeatedly been exposed and challenged to show one authentic case of healing of an organic disease and they have failed every time.

Terry Arnold

Book Review

'Stand For Truth' by Peter Masters

This concise 36 page booklet by *Sword & Trowel* publications needs to be in the hands of every minister, pastor, elder, deacon and lover of truth! It is basically a booklet on the doctrine of separation. The doctrine of separation is not easy to define and arguably harder to apply day to day. Readers will no doubt apply the truths of this booklet to various degrees in their own lives. But the Scriptures defining separation need to be looked at in the modern church that has all but forgotten the practise of separation; and errs strongly on the side of love and fellowship to the exclusion of truth and separation.

Separation is shown to be 'positive', pleasing to God, and a mark of holiness; rather than the negative and legalistic picture many neo-evangelicals and liberals like to portray it as.

One controversial chapter is titled '*Secondary Separation*'. It is our belief that we either practise Biblical separation or we don't. But some, like this author, prefer a part of Biblical separation to be 'secondary separation'. However, I felt the argument for a 'secondary separation' in this booklet, although logical, was arguably less decisive from Scripture than the rest of the booklet.

One of the best sections of this booklet is the '*Arguments Against Separation From Error*'. This includes excellent refutations against such false arguments as: '*Joining hands with non-evangelicals gets opportunities for the Gospel*'; '*The Lord Jesus Christ never separated from false teachers*'; '*The Bible makes belief in Christ's deity the only condition for fellowship*'; '*Separation is the sin of schism*'; '*The wheat and tares must grow together*'; '*The lord prayed for unity between Christians, not separation*'; '*The Lord told us never to judge one another*'...and more.

This book is a worthy contribution to those who aspire unto holiness in doctrine and practise. Considering the price (\$2.95 + postage \$1.50) and its conciseness, this publication would make an excellent gift to those who love truth.

Terry Arnold

Book Review

'The Unresolved Controversy: Unity With non-Evangelicals' by Iain Murray

This 32 page booklet by *Banner of Truth* publications is the substance of an address at a 'Shepherds Conference' in 2001 in the USA. It is actually a succinct summary of the in depth 342 page book '*Evangelicalism Divided*', (see *Diakrisis* Book Review Sept/Oct, 2002).

This publication summarises the history of Evangelicalism. It shows the impact of mass evangelism on evangelical thought...and the erosion of the distinctives of the true evangelicalism that came out of the Reformation. The impact of liberalism and worldly thinking in seminaries and Christian organisations is shown, and its unmistakable influence on western Christianity.

The ecumenists arguments are put forth. Murray shows the history of Protestant groups which flocked to dialogue with Roman leaders...resulting in the rephrasing of doctrine to accommodate the Roman Catholic dogma.

He also details the impact of 'pragmatism' in overriding Biblical principles for the sake of unity; and how subjective 'results' of mass evangelism combined with new pragmatic views weakened vital evangelical distinctives.

One of the key issues raised was the issue of separation and the various views on this over the years. Friendships and associations developed by the likes of Billy Graham and J.I.Packer are intriguing as Murray traces the developments and results. There are real and practical lessons to be learned here.

Murray visits the issue of 'what is the Gospel'. Such questions of 'what is the way of salvation', 'what is non-negotiable', 'what is a true conversion', these are visited through the history of events in the 20th Century.

This is a highly recommended booklet. At the price (\$4.95 + postage \$1.50), this booklet is an excellent insight into recent church history.

Terry Arnold

Editors note on ordering these two books: These books will be available to send with the next September/October newsletter mail-out.

Quotables

Sola Fide: '*Justification by faith alone*' is merely shorthand for '*justification by the righteousness of Christ alone*'. His merit, and only his merit, is sufficient to satisfy the demands of God's justice. It is precisely this merit that is given to us by faith. Christ is our righteousness. God clothes his filthy creatures with the coat of Christ's righteousness. This is the very heart of the Gospel, expressed not only in the New Testament but in the Old as well.'

(RC Sproul, '*Grace Unknown*', P.67)

Evangelism: '*If you want to catch fish, bait your hook. If you want motivated students, build the need...Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, spent three chapters in the book of Romans talking about sin before he moved onto salvation. At the end of those three chapters he has demolished every self justification for goodness you could come up with. You're begging for relief! Only then does he lay out the solution.*'

(Bruce Wilkerson, '*The 7 Laws of the Learner*', P.242-244)

Law/Grace: '*The Gospel is for sinners who cannot keep the law for themselves, who have broken it, and incurred it's penalty, who know that they have done so, and confess it. For such, a living Saviour has come that He may blot out their transgressions. Seek not salvation by the works of the law, for by them shall no flesh living be justified...By the law is the knowledge of sin, and nothing more; but righteousness, peace, life, salvation come by faith in the living Lord Jesus Christ, and by no other means. 'Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved'. But if thou goest about to establish thine own righteousness, thou shalt surely perish, because thou has rejected the righteousness of Christ.*'

(Charles Spurgeon)

Truth: '*When truth compromises with error, it is truth that loses, for error had nothing to give up in the first place.*' (Dr. Bob Ketcham) Someone else put it this way: '*Better to be divided by truth than united in error.*'

(*Calvary Contender*, Feb/2002)

Pat Robertson - Cancer Surgery

High profile Word-faith Tele-evangelist, Pat Robertson, recently underwent surgery for cancer. Why could he not have had his colleagues and guest stars such as Benny Hinn heal him? It seems they are able to testify and claim many healings for others but not for themselves? (Ref:Charisma News) [http://link.crosswalk.com/UM/T.asp?A1.15.10334.2.293576]

Pope - Grace, Works and Deity?

'...a good life is the condition of salvation; and that salvation cannot be attained without the help of grace...The truth according to which man is called to co-operate with God in all things, with a view toward the ultimate purpose of his life - his salvation and Divinization...'

(Pope John Paul II, 'Crossing the Threshold of Hope,' Knopf, 1994, p.194-195) *Apostasy Alert*, 31 March, 2003

Pope's Ruling Bars Blair From Communion

(By Richard Owen in Rome and Tom Baldwin) *'...The 83-year-old Pope has chosen Holy Week to stamp on what he sees as dangerously 'liberal' interpretations of the Roman Catholic doctrine that only those 'in full communion with Rome' can take part in the Eucharist.*

[Prime Minister] *Mr Blair, who remains a committed, if ecumenical, member of the Church of England, regularly attends Catholic Mass with his family. He used to take Communion with them...in 1996, he received a letter from Cardinal Basil Hume asking him to desist...When Mr Blair visited the Pope at the Vatican last month...while his family went to take Communion with the Pope, the Prime Minister only received a blessing..'* (*Apostasy Alert*, 17 April, 2003)

Pope's Debt To The Virgin Mary

(Mexico City, April 1, 2003) *'...Ever since I went...to the splendid Shrine of Guadalupe on Jan. 29, 1979, she [Mary] has guided my steps...25 years of service as Bishop of Rome and universal pastor of the Church,' the Holy Father told the participants...I wish to invoke her, the sure way to encounter Christ, and who was the first evangelizer of America, as the 'Star of Evangelization', entrusting to her the ecclesial work of all her sons and daughters of America'..*(*Apostasy Alert*, 3/4)

A Diary of Billy Graham & The Pope

'In 1979 Graham called Pope John Paul II 'the moral leader of the world', (Religious News Service, Sept. 27, 1979). He also said that John Paul II 'is almost an evangelist because he calls to people to turn to Christ, to turn to Christianity', (The Star, June 26, 1979, reprinted in the Australian Beacon, August 1979, p.1). In an interview with the Saturday Evening Post (Jan/Feb, 1980), Graham described the visit of John Paul II to America: 'The Pope came as a statesman and a pastor, but I believe he also sees himself coming as an evangelist...The Pope sought to speak to the spiritual hunger of our age in the same way Christians throughout the centuries have spoken to the spiritual yearnings of every age - by pointing people to Christ.' In a lengthy article about the Pope in 1980, Graham praised him as a 'bridge builder' and said: 'Pope John Paul II has emerged as the greatest religious leader of the modern world, and one of the greatest moral and spiritual leaders of the century', (Saturday Evening Post, Jan./Feb. 1980). After visiting the Pope in 1981, Graham said, 'We had a spiritual time', (Christianity Today, Feb. 6, 1981, p.88).

Behind Harry Potter

J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter books are full of well researched occult, magic and mythology:

Animagus: 'Adding 'magnus', the Latin word for Wizard, to 'animal' gave Rowling the term 'animagnus' - a wizard who can become an animal yet retain magical powers...'

'Latin, the language of Wizards': Latin is the language of choice for magic folk and is taught at Harry's school, Hogwarts. Many of the Rowling's charms, spells and curses are simply Latin words for their desired effects. Saying 'lumos' (latin word for light) will cause light to appear at the end of a wizards wand. Uttering 'nox', the latin word for darkness, will extinguish the light.

'Fawkes': The Phoenix is a magical bird that according to ancient Egyptian lore, was a symbol of undying love and loyalty...Fawkes, Dumbledore's pet Phoenix...is named after Guy Fawkes. Fawkes tried to blow up England's parliament (Nov.5th, 1605) in the hope of starting a revolt by English Catholics.

'Malfoys': The three villainous Malfoys take their surname from the Latin word 'Maleficus', which means evil doer. Draco's father, Lucius, takes his name from the Latin word Lucifer, meaning devil.

Did you know...The evil Lord Voldemort's name translates from French as 'flight of death'. Hagrid's three-headed pet dog, Fluffy, who guards the philosopher's stone, is based on another mythological Greek beast, Cerberus, a three-headed dog who guarded Hades, the underworld.

(Material from *Sunday Herald*, 26/May/2002)

Mormon Scholar-Genetics Disprove Mormon Claim

(ABP) - *'Modern advances in DNA research discredit the Book of Mormon and show that Mormonism's founder, Joseph Smith, engaged in deception, according to a cultural anthropologist and lifelong Mormon. The recently published research of Thomas Murphy, chairman of the anthropology department at Edmonds Community College in Lynnwood, Wash., drew sharp rebuke from officials with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, often called Mormons. Murphy was threatened with excommunication...'*

Murphy, 35, traces his personal lineage through the first Mormon pioneers who settled in the West. But contrary to Mormon doctrine, he contends it is highly unlikely that Mormons can trace the lineage of American Indians through a Jewish remnant the Book of Mormon calls Lamanites. According to the Book of Mormon, a 'lost tribe of Israel' migrated to the Americas in 600 B.C. The introduction to the Book of Mormon describes these Lamanites as 'the principal ancestors of the American Indians.' The Lamanites allegedly lapsed into apostasy, but Joseph Smith claimed to have been shown golden tablets bearing their story by an angel named Moroni. Smith said he translated these tablets in 1823 from an unknown language called Reformed Egyptian, thus creating the Book of Mormon.

Mormons contend they are the true remnant of the Christian church, the one true church...Although no historical support for Joseph Smith's claims has been found, Mormons accept the church's teachings on faith, including subsequent 'revelations' given to the church's prophet or president...'

Editors Comments: The book of Mormon has nil archeological support as well as inconsistencies, contradictions and clear forgeries from the King James Bible and other sources. For a list of errors and false prophecies see our booklet 'Errors of Mormonism' (\$1.90)

The Forerunners of Pentecostalism

Roberts Liardon* is a Pentecostal author of a 12 volume video series 'God's Generals', featuring the lives of the earliest Pentecostal leaders. Liardon goes back as far as **John Dowie** and **Marie Woodworth-Etter** who came from the holiness tradition in the late 1800's. (Both these evangelists denied each others ministry. Dowie believed 'mother Etter's' meetings to be 'trance evangelism'. Dowie later declared himself to be the prophet Elijah and began dressing in robes).

But it was not until 1901 that the distinctive and new doctrine of a *subsequent* 'Baptism With the Spirit' with the evidence of (unknown) tongues was formulated from a single experiential event. At Topeka, Kansas, **Charles Parham** encouraged his students to seek the *same* experience as at Pentecost, (Acts 2). Agnus Ozman, a 30 year old unmarried woman who had a reputation of wandering around the country seeking mystical things and the sensational, spoke in an unknown tongue. Unlike the three New Testament historical real *known* earthly languages of Acts 2, 10 and 19, no one understood the tongue Ozman spoke, although some thought it to be Chinese. One of Parham's students, Samuel Riggins, who defected from the Parham school, wrote: 'I believe the whole of them are crazy'. (1) Yet this *experience* was soon to become the new doctrine of the subsequent 'Baptism with the spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues'.

Before the Topeka event Parham had suffered a nervous breakdown. Earlier in life Parham had incurred a brain viral infection which some believe caused him to behave disorderly. Parham was documented as having mental, emotional, psychological and sociological disorders. He was earlier rejected for ordination by the Methodist Church. He denied the doctrine of eternal punishment, opposed medical and medicine treatment, and believed serious diseases to be demonic. He believed that missionaries could be endowed with special powers for last days mission work, including the gift of miraculous *known* tongues as in Acts 2. (He later denounced *unknown* ecstatic tongues at Azusa St.). In 1907 he was arrested for homosexual acts with a 22 year old man in San Antonio, Texas. (2) From then unto his death in 1929, he was considered a fallen prophet by church leaders, although many still called him 'father'.

Following the Topeka event, a student of Parham, **William Seymour**, went to Los Angeles and was put out of a Nazarene church for preaching extremes in holiness doctrine. He then set up elsewhere until, after complaints of loud services, he moved to 312 Azusa St. He was known for praying with his head in a shoe box. When Azusa St. got out of control Seymour called Parham to come and assess the situation...

Parham found '*hypnotic influences, familiar spirit influences, spiritualistic influences, mesmeric influences and all kinds of spells and spasms, falling in trances, etc...*' (3) He denounced the movement as a case of '*awful fits and spasms*' and of '*holy rollers and hypnotists*'. (4) This account is backed up by newspaper reports: The *Los Angeles Times*, (April 18th., 1906, P.1) wrote: '*...the devotees of the weird doctrines practice the most fanatical rites, preach the wildest theories, and work themselves into a state of wild excitement in their peculiar zeal...And the night is made hideous in the neighbourhood by the howlings of the worshippers who spend hours swaying forth and back in a nerve-racking attitude of prayer and supplication. They claim to have the gift of tongues and to be able to comprehend the babble*'.

A Christian source stated: '*Our missionaries have been stationed at Los Angeles during the whole history of the tongues movement, and have watched it closely from the very first outbreak in Seymour's meetings; and truly, conditions have been such that it would be impossible to publish the things that have occurred there. The familiarity between sexes in the public meetings has been shocking, to say the least. Hell has reaped an awful harvest and infidelity has become more strongly rooted on the Pacific Coast than ever before*'. (5) Frank Bartleman, an eyewitness to the Azusa St. events, wrote: '*The temptation seems to be towards empty manifestations. This does not require any particular cross, or death to the self life. Hence it is always popular...Any mission that exalts the Holy Ghost above the Lord Jesus Christ is bound for the rocks of error and fanaticism*'. The great commentator, G. Campbell Morgan, described the Azusa St. happenings as the '*last great vomit of Satan*'. Torrey declared this new Pentecostal movement was '*emphatically not of God and founded by a Sodomite*.' H.A. Ironside described it as '*disgusting delusions...pandemonium exhibitions worthy of a mad house or a collection of holy dervishes*', causing '*a heavy toll of lunacy and infidelity*.' (6)

The Azusa St. Mission was terminated by 1911. Seymour ultimately repudiated the 'initial evidence' teaching. Yet Pentecostal churches including the *Assemblies of God* (AOG), trace their roots to Azusa St.

Other founders, or '*generals*' as cited by Liardon, of the Pentecostal movement include:

A.A. Allen: He claimed to turn \$1 bills into \$20. He jumped bail after being arrested for drunk driving and was defrocked by the Assemblies of God (AOG). He is documented on film as going through the leg lengthening routine, (this practise since proved by doctors as fraud). Exaggerated stories concerning Allen abound: Once a 400 pound lady came for prayer. Allen prayed for her...she fell out of the tent and 200 pounds supernaturally disappeared...when she stood up her undergarments fell off!

Allen died of liver poisoning due to acute alcoholism.

John G. Lake: His 'anointed' bubble gum would heal people when they chewed it. When Lake was in Africa the crowds were so great he could not lay hands on all of them, so he 'anointed' a rock and any that laid hands on the rock would be healed.

Maria Woodworth-Etter: 'Mother Etter' built a church named after herself, practised trances, and passed on gifts of the Spirit through her hands. She passed on the 'mantle' to Aimee-Semple Mcpherson.

Aimee-Semple Mcpherson: Aimee faked her own kidnapping to have an adulterous affair. She had three husbands, the third left his wife and children to marry her. That marriage was short...She had a nervous breakdown and her husband filed for divorce. In 1944 *she died from an overdose of sleeping pills*. She passed on the 'mantle' to Kathryn Kuhlman.

Kathryn Kuhlman: Kuhlman married a man who divorced his wife to marry her. Kuhlman then divorced him. She had a meeting with the Pope and felt 'a oneness' with him. Benny Hinn got his 'anointing' from Kuhlman.

Jack Coe: Coe believed medicine was the 'mark of the beast'. He would pick people up out of wheelchairs and if they fell they did not have enough 'faith'. He was defrocked

from AOG in 1953.

Smith Wigglesworth: Wigglesworth prophesied a mighty restoration of the sign gifts of the spirit and revival *before the end of the twentieth Century*. Wigglesworth is associated with dozens of amazing stories of miracles, healings and raisings from the dead. None are authentically documented but therefore hearsay. The late **Lester Summeral** is responsible for many of the stories of the feats of Wigglesworth. Summeral recounts Wigglesworth punching cancer tumour victims until they died and then raising them from the dead. *Not one account of the raisings from the dead was ever authentically documented for proof*. Summeral himself falsely prophesied that he would see the return of Jesus before the end of 1999 and that Jesus appeared to him and spoke this to him personally. When Summeral died he instantly became a false prophet! Summeral was also the subject of a national TV expose for fraud and misuse of funds to do with his 'Feed The Hungry' operation.

Franklin Hall: Many consider Hall to be the founder of the 'Latter Rain' teaching. Hall predicted 'a spiritual substance' would be seen upon worshippers, a fine gold or silver, as they entered into their transformation into immortal sons of God. Hall stated *'The sparkling shining fine gold and silver are seen on the skin, brought about through the faith power of impartation'*. He challenged people to see these manifestations by attending 'Holy Ghost and fire' seminars.

Hall was a renowned exaggerator, claiming miraculous healings and phenomena that were never substantiated. He dabbled in the occult sciences and mentioned the Zodiac signs in his writings, yet cleverly 'Christianised' such. He believed in UFO's and levitation. He also believed in permanent freedom from sickness here on earth for those who could reach immortality.

William Branham: *It is said that Branham had the greatest ministry of signs and wonders of any Charismatic/Pentecostal minister in history*. Branham incorporated ideas from Franklin Hall in 1948 and spawned multiple healing ministries worldwide. When Branham was three years of age he first heard an angel's voice which accompanied him throughout his lifetime. The voice told him that as John the Baptist was a forerunner so 'you will forerun his second coming'. (7) Before his meetings Branham waited upon his personal angel who he claimed did the healing for him

His ministry was similar to the style of the modern day Benny Hinn. However, as with Benny Hinn, Branham has no authentic evidence of any organic healing. A close worker of Branham, A.H. Pohl, testified that the healings and miracles were all false and that no one ever checked the testimonies of healings except himself. Many people supposedly healed, subsequently died. Not one case of a genuine healing was ever documented. Pohl says: *'I believe the gift of healing was given in the early church and was largely something that was a credential for the Lord himself and for the apostles. That was their credential for the fact - in the case of Jesus Christ - that He was the Messiah. And in the case of the apostles, that they were the apostles of Jesus Christ. [See Lk.7:19-22; 5:36; 20:30,31; Acts 2:22; Heb.2:3]. Christ had laid the foundation of the church (Eph.2:20), and the apostles finished building on that foundation. They had their credentials, as Paul says in 2Cor.12:12 that 'the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all power and signs and wonders...I don't think anyone has the gift of healing today. And I think that this is proven by the fact that the percentage of sicknesses*

which are healed is so very low.' (8)

However, like Wigglesworth, amazing stories still surround Branham. Branham would frequently show photos of himself with halos around his head. At one meeting the piano player supposedly fell off the piano yet the piano kept playing. Unfortunately the cameras were never operating to catch such events. Branham believed God's Word consisted of the Zodiac, Egyptian Pyramids and Scripture. (9) He taught that he himself was Elijah come again and that Jesus was a created being - (the heresy of *Arianism*). He later denied the Trinity; and that Hell was eternal. He proclaimed himself the angel of Rev.3:14 and 10:7 and forecast the return of Jesus in 1977. *Branham was injured in a head on car crash* and died on Dec 24th, 1965. Many expected him to rise from the dead.

Most, if not all of the forerunners of Pentecostalism had nervous breakdowns, went insane, became drunks, drug abusers, or taught the worst of heretical teachings. Even Evan Roberts of the great Welsh revival suffered a nervous breakdown partly due to the strange manifestations happening at his meetings near the end of the revival, until he was helped by Jesse Penn Lewis.

New revelations, manifestations, 'slaying in the spirit' and unknown tongues were common to all the above ministers.

Can one hold to orthodox Christianity - '*the faith once delivered unto the saints*', (Jude 3), and to Pentecostalism at the same time? Pentecostalism and its distinctive teaching came at the turn of the 20th Century by Charles Parham and included new revelations never taught for 1,900 years! *The subsequent 'Baptism with the Spirit with the evidence of speaking in unknown tongues' is the decisive doctrine that defines Pentecostalism*. (10) But '*anything which is new in theology or in Christian experience this century is not new and is not truth. This is because anything that is God's truth is not new this century!*' (11)

Many Pentecostal watchman are today different in degree from 'neo-Pentecostalism' but not in roots and not in kind. Those who warn against the current neo-Pentecostal/Charismatic movements, yet are still clinging to its roots, are really giving a mixed message. The core Pentecostal belief that there is continuing prophecy (new revelation), opposes the reformation pillar and cry of '*Sola Scriptura*'.

Many accept Azusa St. and the ministry of the founders listed above as a 'mixture' of good and bad. However, '*Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?...so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh*', (James 3:11,12).

Terry Arnold

*(In 2001 Liardon confessed to a homosexual relationship and was stood down from ministry - see *Diakrisis*, March/April, 2002)

(1) *Topeka Daily Capital*, 6/1/01 (2) '*Fields White Unto Harvest*' by James Goff, PP.106,136 (3) '*The life of Charles Parham*' by Sarah Parham, P.168. (4) '*The Holiness Pentecostal Movement in the United States*' by Vinson Synan, P.112 (5) '*Demons and Tongues*' P. 82 (6) Compiled from various sources including '*Slaying in the spirit*', '*Encyclopedia of Pentecostal Ministries and Preachers*', '*Way of Life*' & *Innecity Christian Discernment Ministry* (7) '*In the Days of the Voice of the 7th Angel*', P.53 (8) (<http://wayoflife.org/~dcloud/tbns/branham.htm>); (<http://wayoflife.org/~dcloud/tbns/branham.htm>) (9) '*Between Christ and Satan*' by Kurt Koch, P.150 (10) See our paper '*Pentecostal/Tongues Roots - The Amazing Facts*'; Dictionary definitions clearly define Pentecostalism as such. (11) Quote by Mark Haville (author of '*Signs & Wonders-Exposed*').

Your Comments and Questions

(Views expressed here are not necessarily those of the editors)

[A sample of letters concerning P.11 May/June 2003]:

Dear Terry, Mike, I would like to thank you for your video on 'Tongues'. It leaves no questions in my mind now about the subject.

[Re: May/June 2003 P.11] *Thankyou for exposing those terrible e-mails. It's hard to believe anyone can call themselves Spirit filled Christians and do this without any convictions of wrong. I have heard they are going to attempt to expose you as liars...*

(Name withheld on request)

Editorial Comment: Terry and Mike have received more unpleasant mail (See May/June P.11) from Philip Powell (CWM Ministries) and Jacob Prasch (Moriel Ministries).

Prasch in particular has since called Terry a 'theological Buffoon' and one who 'behaves like a jerk'... and a 'Ruckmanite' [this false charge seems common in Prasch's attacks]. Mike is now described as having a 'capacity to lie, distort and mislead'...

Continued next column >

...We pray that sense and holy speech will prevail.

We have received letters from those who have left, confused and hurt by so called 'classical Pentecostal' churches, and who believe the leaders appear unable to be questioned and not to give an account to anyone...

These so called 'Remnant Churches' are looking for certain gifts to be restored to the church. The teaching at various conferences has included erroneous interpretations of 2 Kings ch.6:1-7 stating the raising of the axe head refers to the restoration of certain gifts. They say that the raising of Lazarus from the grave/tomb means the church must rise and come forth.

It also seems that many in these 'Remnant Churches' believe they are descendant from the 'Welsh Revival'. However, church history tells us that this was not a revival featuring 'tongues'. At first it was a genuine revival with repentance resulting in thousands saved; however, the enemy moved in quickly and deceived many with false experiences.

Terry Arnold & Mike Claydon

Dear Terry, Thankyou for a very informative paper. You do a wonderful work in the Lord. We have been attending some Churches of Christ but they teach: 1. We must be baptised to be saved 2. That we do not inherit original sin... So because of these false doctrines we have left some very lovely people... we cannot sit under false teachers, preachers. Do all Churches of Christ teach this?; should we leave...?

Editors comment: 'Baptismal Regeneration/Remission' is false teaching we wrote of May/June 2002, P.11. The teaching of an absence of 'original sin' also defies Scripture and the historical 'faith once delivered'.

Some Churches of Christ are not affiliated with the usual mainstream Churches of Christ. And not all Churches of Christ in every state teach such doctrines. (Southern states more so espouse these things). And there are isolated (remnant?) Churches of Christ that are autonomous and independent and adhere to sound doctrine.

Terry, Please include me for distribution of 'the strong old doctrines'... I look forward to receiving these little gems, as the earlier Saint's writings tend to encourage and inspire one to follow Truth through prayer and study of Scriptures. Thank you for 'Diakrisis'... it is very helpful, informative, supported by the Scriptures and delivered in a way that I 'see' Christ in you. This hasn't always been evident in some ministries...(as mentioned recently)... God bless you and Mike.

(P.C., Sth. Aust.)

Dear Terry, The material you sent... I agree on the doctrine of tongues and have learned some very interesting additional insights. This ['Tongues & The Baptism With The Spirit'] is a comprehensive teaching book on this controversial subject and will indeed be a valuable reference source.

(P.W., NZ)

To 'Diakrisis': *What book review is this?* [Jan/Feb/2003] *Mike Claydon's misrepresentation of Dave Hunt: I was stunned to find that you had grossly misrepresented Dave Hunt in your review of 'What Love is This'? You said 'Hunt quotes Calvin as being a Roman Catholic who believed in the Holy Catholic Church' (P.36); then you said 'but Hunt does not tell his readers that the phrase Holy Catholic Church does not mean the Roman Catholic Religion'.*

What! Now this is truly amazing because the very first words of Dave Hunt, after the quote from Calvin, are 'of course by the Catholic Church he (Calvin) did not mean the Roman Catholic, but the true church universal'. It is quite unbelievable that you missed it. You have surely lost your license to do a review of Hunt's book. (R.T., Vict)

Sub-editors reply: Dear R.T., Many thanks for your letter. You are right, and we apologise for this error. However, Dave continues immediately after the statement you quote with the following dissertation on just how Calvin was referring to the 'mother' church which Revelation 17:5 refers to: '...Mother of Harlots the false church headquartered at the Vatican. Nor is the true church ever referred to as the means of salvation or forgiveness of sins. Calvin is simply reflecting Roman Catholic ideas which he absorbed as a devout Roman Catholic during the first twenty four years of his life...'

Thus another contradictory paragraph amongst many in this book. Was Calvin referring to Roman Catholicism or not? That's the point. Dave begins by saying he wasn't, then attempts to prove he was! Therefore we stand by our claim that this writing is thoroughly confused.

Mike Claydon

Dear Terry, God bless you, your work and all involved... there are not many voices like yours in Australia but they are sorely needed in this day and age. Be encouraged... (C.G., WA)

Your Comments and Questions

(Views expressed here are not necessarily those of the editors)

Proposed Tape Ministry

There is a need for more tapes from this ministry. We are offering a ministry to send 2 tapes (4 messages) per month to anyone wishing to receive them. These messages would be from Terry Arnold or other speakers with material we think sound, relevant and important to our readers. Tapes would be \$4 each + postage (invoiced every quarter). Any profit will go to the development of this ministry. If you are interested in being on this mailing list, please contact Terry on **0411489472 Fx.(07)41240915 E-mail: tam@satcom.net.au**

Dear Mr. Claydon, Thankyou for your article (Jan/Feb 2003)...I am a very simple person. All I have wanted is the truth. I came from a non religious background though my parents would be classified as traditional Buddhists. By the sovereign grace of God I came to know the Lord God of the Bible. As I did not come from a 'Christian' background I have no axe to grind, no taught position to defend. All I want is the truth according to the God of the Bible. My prayer has always been that the Lord will lead me in His truth and teach me.

The Lord has sent me much material to read from various sources. The more I read the more I see there are two types of Christianity. One is Biblical, God centred; the other intellectual, man centred. I'm no scholar but from what little I have read, the Reformers and Puritans and their successors are the most spiritual, biblical and Godly Christians to me.

Sadly there are not many who care for the old paths nowadays. As a simple Christian, I could not help but wonder how is it that something which had done so much good, which was so right and true and Biblical at the time of the Reformation...and Puritanism - so good and our Godly spiritual forefathers of the faith - is loved by so few and rejected, reviled, despised, shunned by so many of today's 'Christians'? God and His Word have not changed. God's truth has not changed. The 'faith once delivered unto the saints' has not changed. So who or what has changed? I have not come across many who profess the old truths.

May the Lord Jesus Christ Himself richly bless you in all grace and always keep you in the love for His glorious truth. Yours in Christ, (C.Y., Cairns, Qld)

Praise Points

- Praise the Lord for some wonderful meetings in the recent Sydney trip. The Lord allowed many open doors to speak to non Christians and many saints were very appreciative of information received.

Prayer Point

- Pray for the Sth. Aust. trip, that hearers would be edified by truth as the Word is preached and taught.

Dear Terry, Thankyou for all your answers to my questions over the years...I always enjoy 'Diakrisis' and the Biblical based answers given. It's good to see error exposed, not though viciousness or a desire to bag the individual on a personal basis, but from a solid biblical base....Your articles are stimulating and although not always agreeable it gets me back deeper into my Bible to search the greatness and vastness of His Word. Thankyou...My wife and I continue to pray for all those who work on 'Diakrisis' and their families...God alone be glorified...(T.M. Douglas Park, NSW)

Dear Terry...I brought your 'Finding the Balance'...almost every paragraph is worth sharing with others. Although I am a trained preacher with 1000 sermons under my belt, things are now so much more clearly on my mind that those who ask now will be given simpler answers. God bless your work!

(J.V., aged 80 years, retiring Darwin Tourist Chaplain)

Terry's Itinerary

July 6th 10am Hervey Bay Church of Christ, Qld.
July 13th 6.30pm Hervey Bay Church of Christ, Qld.
July 20th 9.45am Howard Baptist, Qld. Ph.41294292
Aug.3rd,10th,17th 10am Hervey Bay Church of Christ, Qld.
Aug.10th 6.30pm Hervey Bay Church of Christ, Qld.

South Australia Itinerary

(This itinerary is yet to be completed. For final details ring Terry or Andrew (Sth Aust.) Ph.(08)82547678

Aug.23-28th To be completed
Aug.29th (Fri) 7.30pm South West Baptist, Seacliff (Youth Group/Young Adults) Ph.83870248 0403159664
Aug.31st (Sun) 8am Radio slot Ph.0414393300 (08) 82402202
Aug.31st (Sun) 10am & 6pm SW Baptist, Seacliff
Sept.2nd (Tues) 7.30pm SW Baptist, Seacliff
Sept.3rd - 5th (Wed - Frid) 7pm Lighthouse Baptist Church Bower Cottages, Semaphore Park Ph.0414393300 (08)82402202
Sept.6th (Sat) 1.30pm Northside Baptist, Para Vista - Seminar on Evangelism to the Cults Ph.82840913
Sept.7th (Sun) 10am & 6pm Emmanuel Baptist, Flinders Park Ph.82441977
Sept.8th (Mon) 7.30pm Emmanuel Baptist (home meeting) Ph.82441977
Sept.9th (Tues) 7.30pm Emmanuel Baptist Ph.82441977
Sept.13th (Sat) 2pm Church For You, Elizabeth - Seminar on 'Tongues' Ph.82547678
Sept.14th (Sun) 10am & 6pm Church For You, Elizabeth

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