



# 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)*

Newsletter of TA Ministries Vol.1, No.9.

November 1996

**PO Box 1499, Hervey Bay, Qld,  
Australia, 4655 Ph. 018183093**

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

**Editor:** Terry Arnold (Dip. Bib.& Min., Dip. Teaching, Author.)

**Advisory Panel:**

Ps. Wall McDonald (Sen. Pastor, Dip. Bib. & Miss.)

Ps. Steve Sauvageot (Assoc. Pastor, C.B.A., M.Ed., M.A.)

Ps. Buddy Smith (Senior Pastor, Former Bible College principal)

Mike Claydon (Christian Counsellor)

Ps. Ian Davidson (Senior Pastor, Dip. Min.)

Ps. Keith Piper (Senior Pastor, Author)

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

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

Articles in this newsletter may be copied or reproduced provided proper credit and references are given.

### Contents

**P.1 - Editors Comments; Secret Messages in the Old Testament?**

**P.2 - 'Toronto Blessing' News; Toronto Testimonies; Did You Know?**

**P.3 - Jehovah Witnesses Delay Armageddon Once Again; AOG Ban & Court Action - Update; Concern Over Howard-Browne; Did You Know?**

**P.4 - Your Comments & Questions; Worldwide Church of God (Armstrongism) Now Christian?; Pat Robertson (Faith TV Evangelist); Real Healings; Characteristics of Cult Victims; Tolerance & Truth; Angel of Light; Praise & Prayer Points; Did You Know; Terry's Itinerary; Subscription.**

### Smoking

**Its the cigarette that smokes, your only the sucker.**

### Editors Comments

This newsletter reaches a wide range of Christians in various denominations. I want to inform readers that when we expose error, it is sometimes necessary to name denominations and people. However, we are aware that there are faithful local New Testament *autonomous* churches in various denominations who are faithful to the Gospel and earnestly contending for the faith once delivered to the saints (Jude 3). These autonomous churches have not necessarily yoked themselves with the errors and the apostasy of their own denominations.

During the recent Sydney trip I experienced both joy and grief as many Christians shared their encounters with false teachings, particularly the 'Toronto Blessing'. Some of the testimonies were horrific and the cases of demonic control and shipwrecked lives can no longer be ignored. Despite the evidence and our efforts to inform and warn churches involved, most refuse to accept our literature and research.

The 'new wave' unleashed on the church has left countless churches divided. Many Christians on our mailing list no longer fellowship in a local church but instead meet in homes. Others are disillusioned altogether and lacking any ongoing fellowship. I continue to urge those people to contact us that we may be able to suggest churches in their area that we believe will provide fellowship and sound Biblical teaching.

On the good side, I was overjoyed to find that many on our mailing list have relocated into sound churches across Sydney. I was encouraged by the spiritual growth of some of these people who have been spiritually broken and yet have come through with an *increased* love for Jesus and his Word. Some of them shared through tears of joy the past despair, confusion and brokenness they experienced, and now the new simple trust they have in Christ and His precious Word.

I thank those Pastors and brothers and sisters who supported and encouraged me during the time I spent with each church. I give glory to my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for the touch from the Holy Spirit I received while in Sydney. **Terry Arnold**

### Secret Messages in the Old Testament?

Secret encoded messages are believed to have been found in the Masoretic Hebrew text of the Old Testament. A recent discovery by rabbis involved computer searches for words at certain letter intervals which fit a consistent pattern. The original work was done by mathematician statisticians. This original study was with equally spaced letters. Every pair was found in close proximity a number of times. No matter what other pairs were chosen they too would be found to have the same pattern. Mathematically this is impossible by chance, nor could any human, even with computer aids, devise a text in which the letters form words and sentences with normal meaning yet contain hidden sequences.

These experts then took the names of the most prominent Jewish men over 1000 years and discovered these names in the Masoretic Text. The researchers then added the names of the next most prominent leaders and again the computer found them together with their dates of birth or death. The editor of the published results wrote, *'Our referees were baffled: their prior beliefs made them think the book of Genesis could not possibly contain meaningful references to modern day individuals, yet when the authors carried out additional analysis and checks the effect persisted'*.

The results have since been verified by mathematical and scientific scholars from Harvard, Yale, and other universities. No one has yet been able to find a flaw in the work. Other texts have undergone the same tests and no similar patterns can be found. Even other versions of the Bible produced no results, but only the Masoretic Hebrew text from which the King James version is derived. Could this be yet further proof of the divine authorship of the Bible? (Adapted from 'The Berean call' 8/96)

## Toronto Blessing' News

- It has been reported that the AOG in Fiji have banned all preachers who promote the laughing revival. (CEFTF)
- *'How many have been saved in this so called revival (Toronto Blessing)? John Arnott, Pastor of Toronto says: 'At this stage none have come to the Lord'. Indeed the laughing revival lacks a clear salvation message. There is no comparison with the sovereign moves of the God of the Wesley'ers. (From 'Fair Dinkum' No.40)*
- The AOG in the UK is torn with division and close to bankruptcy. Conferences have dropped from 8,000 to 1,500. More than half of the churches refuse to pay money into the central fund. Many churches are disgusted by spectacles such as the recent Secretary General spiritually drunk and laying on the floor during the conference unable to address the meetings day after day. (Jacob Prash, UK.)
- Ray Barnett, in his book 'Wild Fire', writes: *'In one country in which this writer works, the progress of the Gospel has been set back decades by these types of experiences; its devotees came and 'performed', leading to riots amongst the simple-hearted village people. Now the government of the particular state has forewarned all Christians against going to any villages... Christ has been mocked and the gospel cast out!..What would people have said if a year or so after his encounter with Jesus, the Gadarene demoniac, whom Jesus had healed, had collapsed on the floor and begun roaring like a lion, barking like a dog, or even laughing in uncontrolled hysteria?..Imagine Mary Magdalene screaming, pogo-sticking and laughing hysterically for three hours!..The Toronto Blessing did not begin in Toronto, it has its foundations in Kenneth Copeland and Benny Hinn'.*
- Jacob Prash writes in the Moriel newsletter: *'When the real fire fell, thousands and thousands were saved..Paul and Moses warned, when the unsaved see this kind of excess they say we are mad, (1Cor. 14:23; Ex.32:25)...As scripture warns this kind of behaviour prevents revival, it does not bring it. It resembles more the priests of Baal ranting and raving in open lunacy, louder and louder, because they are unable to make the fire fall. Acts 2 tells us that on the day of Pentecost people heard the mighty deeds of God in verse 11; they did not hear slurred speech as if from intoxicated men. Peter's preaching was intelligent, coherent and convicting. It was not a human being imitating a monkey or a drunken babbling. The world and the secular media are mocking this in England. It brings no conversions. It only prevents them and discredits the church. The General Secretary of the AOG in the USA, George Wood, has issued a statement questioning it and warning against it. David Wilkerson, the most respected Pentecostal minister in the world has denounced it as a false revival. David Pawson, the most respected Charismatic Bible teacher in Britain rejects it, as does Chuck Smith, the leader of the world's largest Evangelical church in the western world.*
- Editor of the newsletter 'Fair Dinkum' writes: *'A statement is called for as to where I stand...I believe that on the whole, it [T.B.] is unscriptural...I've already been classified as 'religious' and a 'pharisee' by those who ape Howard's Browne's style. I make no apology for the truth. A Pentecostal for 16 years, I have served in many roles and ministry positions. I don't speak from the perspective of one who is traditionally opposed to supposed phenomena of 'the spirit'. I've attended Rodney Howard-Browne's Brisbane meetings for a week, and have numerous of his tapes and several videos. I have read widely on the subject. ..Out of concern for my many readers, I feel the need to raise awareness of it's many dangers...it is a topical subject that is causing tremendous confusion and disunity...I feel to make a stand no matter what the cost. Standing for the truth involves labelling error for what it is. Even if rat poison only contains 5% actual poison, it is a lethal poison, and needs to be clearly labelled. Its the same with this movement. The error in it makes the whole package dangerous. (Andrew Craig)*

## Toronto Testimonies

The following letters are from the newsletter 'Fairdinkum':

- *'It [Toronto Blessing] seems to be splitting churches everywhere - people leaving churches because of it' (Woodmore, SA.)*
- 'There have been many things happening which I cannot accept - the Toronto abomination. I, like many others, have left AOG Paradise because of this, and other unfortunate happenings. I have been with AOG for nearly 18 years. It is not easy to move out after so long. But I cannot endorse things un-Biblical, or, as in the case of Toronto, not of God. We are experiencing times of deception, not only in the secular world but in many churches who are departing from scriptural truth. (Joyce, Adelaide, SA)*
- *'We are Pentecostals...but it is certainly true that people are being deceived with a counterfeit in the Howard-Browne/Copeland/ Hagin blasphemy...the church at large is being deceived by these imposters, who are only out to make empires for themselves whilst they make merchandise of the people of the Lord Jesus. The problem today in the church is that with the Charismatic movement there are so many excesses, and we will have none of them. The Toronto movement has caused countless thousands of people to become confused and misled. We receive report after report of people in tears as they have left their church with nowhere to go...We do not pray for revival, for the word tells us that there will be no revival in the last days. In fact the opposite is said by the Lord...(Matt. 24:12..1Thess.4:1)...The numbers swell in some churches, but holiness and righteousness are not taught. That is why the church is following after the Toronto thing, and the new wave about to break on our shores, the 'Promise Keepers'. This last seems so good on the outside, but we have the full papers on the rules, and they would shock you. It is so subtle...the ecumenical movement is at the bottom of these movements. (Name withheld, Wheelers, Hill, Vic.)*

## Did You Know?

That if 'one takes a flock of highly developed pigeons, with all their shades of colour and variety of markings, and turns them loose in the forest to see if they will improve or degenerate, he will find in a few years that they have all returned to one type. Compelled by an unfailing natural law, all will revert to common colours instead of being a variety with beautiful markings. Improvements brought about by care and selection in breeding will be gone, proving the law of evolution a failure...The missing links between man and monkey have never been found. The manufactured bones of pre-Historic men are fakes. The Pitdown man for example, was no man at all. The story is that in a gravel pit in Sussex, Eng., near Pitdown common, two or three bits of a skullbone, a piece of a jaw bone, and a tooth were found by different persons in different places in different years. From these scraps so-called scientists constructed the Pitdown man and named it the Dawn-man of the dateless past. From the same bones another later type was made by another team of scientists. Finally it was acknowledged that the jawbone and tooth did not belong to the skull but were those of a chimpanzee. The Java-man was built in Java from a skullbone, legbone, two molars, and plaster-of-Paris; The Heilderberg man was built in Germany from a jawbone which was unquestionably human; The Peking man of China was made from human skull fragments found in a cave, in 1929; The Swanscombe man of England was made from the back and one side of a woman's skull; ..The first Neanderthal-man was made from a skullcap in Germany, which one great German pathologist declared to be the cranium of an idiot. (P.56 Dokes Bible) **'Professing themselves to be wise they became fools' (Rom 1:22)**

## **Jehovah's Witnesses Delay Armageddon Once Again**

(The following is extracts from an article written by former Jehovah Witness - Ray Beharrell)

*'The Watchtower Society, the official arm of the Jehovah's Witnesses, in their Watchtower magazine of November 1, 1995, made a subtle change to their teaching about the interpretation of the 'generation' spoken of by Jesus in Matthew 24:34.*

*The teaching of the Watchtower Society for many years was that Jesus meant that 'the generation that saw the events of 1914 would not pass away until the end of this wicked system' and the destruction of all wicked people at Armageddon. In one of their many publications entitled 'You can live for ever in Paradise in earth' on page 154, after pointing to the fact that 1914 was a turning point in world history, it says, 'Which generation did Jesus mean? He meant the generation of people who were living in 1914'.*

*Again on pages 6 and 7 of the Watchtower magazine dated May 15, 1984, it says, 'Jehovah's prophetic word through Christ Jesus is: 'This generation (of 1914) will by no means pass away until all things occur' (Luke 21:32). And Jehovah who is the source of inspired and unfailing prophecy, will bring about the fulfilment of His sons words in a relatively short time.' (The bracketed 1914 is as published in their magazine.)*

*In the early years of the prophecy the Watchtower Society said that those over 15 comprised this 'generation' (Awake magazine, Oct. 8, 1968), later this was changed to age 10 ( Watchtower magazine, Oct. 15, 1980, P.31), and still later as time steadily passed the 'generation' was changed to include babies born in 1914 (Watchtower magazine May 15, 1984, P.5), so buying more time for the failing prophecy.*

*...Now...With one subtle stroke of the pen the society has changed the 'generation'...from that of the '1914 generation' to the present one. In the November 1, 1995, Watchtower the article on page 17 points out the 'generation' is now always the current one who are able to understand what happened in 1914...*

*Other failed prophecies in the past printed in publications distributed by the Watchtower Society include:*

*'The time is at hand', 1908, P.101 - 'The battle of the great day of God almighty which will end in AD 1914'.*

*'Studies in the scriptures, Vol.II, 1908, P.98-99 - 'True it is expecting great things to claim, as we do, that within the coming twenty six years all, present governments will be overthrown and dissolved.'*

*'The finished Mystery Vol VII, 1917, P.485 - 'Also in the year 1918, when God destroys the churches wholesale and the church members by millions...'*

*'Million now living will never die', 1920, P.29-30 - 'Therefore we may confidently expect that 1925 will mark the return of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the faithful prophets of old...'*

*Watchtower, August 15, 1968, - 'Are we to assume from this study that the battle of Armageddon will be over by the Autumn of 1975...it may involve only a difference of weeks or months not years.'*

*...They [J. W. organisation] have in the past claimed to be God's prophet \* (\* Watchtower, April 1, 1972, P.197; July 1, 1973, P.402)...The new teachings have been slipped into the Watchtower magazines without too much fanfare and, of course, the faithful will generally accept the new teaching...without question because they have been taught not to question. There will, however, be many thinking Witnesses who will see this change for what it is, another failed prophecy and we expect many will leave the society...Once disfellowshipped they will need the love and understanding of Christians, who, they have always been taught, are workers for Satan. So you see how difficult is our job. With love and patience, however, we have found many ex-Witnesses who claim that they never felt real Christian love in the Watchtower organisation. So it is up to each of us to be honest and sharing with them, on how we accepted Jesus as our Saviour and how it has changed our lives. **Ray Beharrell, Free in Christ Ministries, Sydney.***

### **AOG Ban & Court Action - Update**

In a recent newsletter we documented how the Assembly of God Church is taking a Christian to court. CETF reports on the two issues in this case. Firstly, Greg Sowerby, former manager of the AOG insurance scheme was dismissed without notice and later *exonerated* of all charges. Greg has now lost his business and had to sell his home. Secondly, Henry Sheppard who wrote a book documenting the cause of Greg Sowerby was then sued for defamation. Now an out of court settlement has failed. AOG is represented by a lawyer and a barrister. Henry Sheppard is defending himself. Costs are estimated to exceed \$20,000 initially. AOG may have grounds for defamation but they have made two mistakes. The first was when they referred the insurance matter to the police disregarding the steps of Matt. 18:15-20 in regard to Greg Sowerby. The second was when they took legal action against Henry Sheppard violating 1Cor. 6:1-8. (CETFF Sept/Oct.)

### **Did You Know?**

- The Jehovah's Witnesses are now larger in Australia than the Salvation Army, the Churches of Christ, or the Assemblies of God. It is now the tenth largest religious group.
- The Mormon Church has overtaken the Baptist as New Zealand's 5th largest religious group, and is growing fast in Australia.
- Australia has the highest proportion of Freemasons in the world

What can we do? Pray! Support the ministries who reach out to these people; hold an evangelism talk or seminar\*; be informed of false teaching; know your Bible! (Stats. from Bureau of Stats.)\* TA Ministries holds talks and seminars on evangelism and witnessing to the cults, with proven results.

### **Concern Over Howard-Browne**

Many Christians (both supporters and critics of the 'Toronto Blessing'), have expressed concern over some of Rodney Howard-Browne's statements. Andrew Lansdown, writing in the 'Briefing' (No.182/3 2/7/96), writes of the November 1995 meeting in Sydney: 'When more people began to leave an hour later he [Howard-Browne] likened them to 'religious devils', 'cockroaches' and 'rats'. A little later still he likened those who had left to excrement, saying, 'If we had to have a bowel movement, it's better we had it tonight. Every living organism needs a bowel movement'. Many have complained that Howard-Browne belittles Pastors, particularly those of 'traditional' styles. Another concern is the de-emphasis on the mind. Howard-Browne says: 'Let your heart tell you whether it's God or not, your head. Your head's going to confuse you but your heart will never lie to you...Don't listen to your head, listen to your heart'. In Sydney, one of the songs sung was:

*I'm a drinkin', I'm a drinkin',  
I'm a drinkin' of that Holy Ghost wine.  
I'm not a sipper, I'm not a sipper,  
I'm a chugger, chugger-lugger,  
I'm a drinkin' of that Holy Ghost Wine.'*

After this song Howard-Browne said: 'We need to get intoxicated with the Holy Ghost'. He likens the filling of the Spirit to being drunk with wine. Yet this theology totally contradicts the Bible! Throughout the Bible God abhors alcoholic or spiritual drunkenness! Spiritual drunkenness is seen as a **judgement** in Isaiah 29:9.10 and Jeremiah 51:37-40. **Terry Arnold**

## Your Comments & Questions

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

### New Tapes Exposing Tongues of Copeland/Howard-Browne

Dear Terry, Received your newsletter today...As to the article on tapes on Toronto exposure. I was a dictaphone secretary in my last job and had to listen very carefully to type reports, etc. correctly. [I] Was secretary to managing director of large corporation and couldn't afford to make mistakes. The tapes in question are 80% accurate...[the] rest should have been cut, as they are not clear..probably are with headphones, but don't want to get that close. He has put a lot of work into this and I believe what he says is the truth.

Susan Brown, Sydney. (See October newsletter P.4 for reference to these two new tapes exposing claimed satanic tongues of Copeland/Howard-Browne & others)

### Tolerance & Truth

**'Tolerance when it comes to truth is a travesty.'**

- Hank Hanegraff

### Angel of Light

'If you were looking for satan and knew only that he was disguised, where would you go to look for him? The corner bar? The pornographic shop? The gambling den? The disco? Would you think of looking in a pulpit? That is where you would find him. For strange as it may seem, satan is more concerned with what you think, and what you believe than with what you do. Satan's desire is to control your mind so he can control your actions'. (Dr. J. Dwight Pentecost).

### \*\*New\*\*

20 Page booklet by ex-JW Ray Beharrell titled 'The 1914 generation that will not pass away'. This is an expose of the false prophesies of the Watchtower organisation. Due to the W.T. headquarters recently changing yet another prophecy, many Witnesses will see the deception of the various changed dates set by the Watchtower over the years. This booklet shows, through copies of their own magazines, where the W.T. is a false prophet. This is good information to give to thinking Jehovah Witnesses! Write to: TA Ministries or 'Free in Christ, PO Box 308, Kingswood, NSW 2747. Cost \$1.95 (includes postage).

### Praise Points

- During the recent Sydney trip I discovered that many people on our mailing list who were disillusioned, broken and adversely affected by the 'Toronto Blessing' and other excesses, have now found their way into sound churches. Many of these have spiritually matured and shared of a renewed love for Jesus and His Word. Jesus heals and restores. His grace is sufficient!

- Praise The Lord for those supporters of this ministry. Praise God for those pastors and friends in Sydney who helped in so many ways to make my visit successful and fruitful.

### Prayer Points

- Pray for wisdom and direction as we plan for 1997 and for doors to open to share the ministry in many more churches.

Cut here

## Worldwide Church of God (Armstrongism) Now Christian?

The World wide church of God has seen dramatic changes towards orthodox Christianity in the last ten years. Since the death of Herbert Armstrong on 1986, Joseph W. Tkach Sr. has led the church out of much of its legalism and false teaching. They have reportedly embraced such doctrines as the trinity, the deity and personality of the Holy Spirit, and salvation by grace through faith. These changes have been reflected in their magazine, 'The Plain Truth'. Many have left the group unable to cope with the changes and there has been a huge loss of income, especially after the doctrine of triple tithing was dropped. Many splinter groups have been formed such as the church of God international (led by Armstrong's son, Garner Ted), Global Church of God, Philadelphia church of God, and United church of God.

We praise God for the changes but just how far the World Wide Church of God has come from being a cult group to being a Christian denomination is difficult to tell. Certainly, it is one of the most dramatic turnarounds this century.

Terry Arnold

### Pat Robertson (Faith TV Evangelist)

Pat Robertson predicts a world revival 'in the next five years'. The trouble is he has been saying the same thing since 1984 when he wrote, 'Somebody has got to sew some tents together, and sew some nets together, and get the literature together, and all the things that are going to be needed to handle 400 million to one billion souls that are going to be saved in the next few years!' \* (\* Despatch magazine, No.24, June 1995)

### Real Healings

Of the 42 occasions of New Testament healing, 32 are by Jesus, 9 through the apostles, and 1 through the seventy. In each case healing was total, permanent, immediate and always successful, even to incurable diseases, (Matt.8:3). Compare this with todays faith healers!

### Characteristics of Cult Victims

Personality Changes: Marked changes for the worse may occur in the way they relate to other people. Some in the more destructive cults will even exhibit two personalities although one will dominate most of the time, especially while around other group members.

Loss of Former Identity: One of the hall marks of a cult is to ask the question - how easy is it to leave without incurring bad reactions from the members within?

A 'Closed' Mindset: Will the person read literature from other groups or listen attentively to criticism?

A De-emphasis on Mind: Does the group emphasise experience over the use of reasoning?

Persecution Complex: The cultist is taught to see opposition as persecution. This acts as a protective barrier for their mindset.

Guilt or Depression: - inability to do enough work to feel satisfying to God or to the leader.

### Did You Know?

- 70-80% of all church growth in the US is 'transfer' growth, or movement of Christians from one church to another.

- Unwanted, aborted babies are described by the medical term 'uterine material', (Uplift, 4/96)

### Terry's Itinerary

Nov - Dec: (Wed. nights) - New Christians class at Fraser Coast Baptist. Contact Terry on 018183093

Nov. 3rd. pm. - Fraser Coast Baptist

### Subscription form

Send this form to:

TA Ministries  
PO Box 1499,  
Hervey Bay, Qld, 4655, Australia

I am interested in receiving the monthly TA Ministries newsletters.

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

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