



# 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.10.

December 1996

**PO Box 1499, Hervey Bay, Qld,  
Australia, 4655  
Ph. 018183093 Fax (071) 284014**

TA Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational 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; New Version of Lord's Prayer?

**P.2 -** The Amazing Templeton Prize; Sabbath Facts.

**P.3 -** Christmas Bible Test - How Well Do You Know Your Bible?; Experience and Scripture.

**P.4 -** Your Comments and Questions (Tapes Copeland/Howard-Browne); Answers To Christmas Bible Test P.3; Praise & Prayer Points; Terry's Itinerary; Subscription.

**Please note our new fax number: (071) 284014**

### Editors Comments

We wish all our readers a safe, healthy and happy Christmas! This is the time to take a break and spend quality time with family and friends. However, let us not forget to continue to have quality time with the Lord in prayer and the study of His Word. We thank all our supporters for their prayers, finance and encouragement that have meant so much to me. We are thankful to The Lord for the souls saved and those rescued from deception, as well as the opportunities to reach hundreds of other people through literature and teaching. We hope the resources have also been a blessing and an equipping to many Christians throughout Australia. We encourage readers to continue to distribute the newsletters around that more people might be informed.

1996 has been an eventful year. There has been much sifting in the church and as I travel and meet pastors and discerning Christians, there is the consensus that we need something akin to a 'reformation' in the church at large. The original reformation largely emphasised justification by faith alone, in Christ alone, without works ('Sola Fida'), as well as scripture alone for doctrine, ('Sola Scriptura'). Churches will stand or fall on these scriptural truths! Unfortunately, today we have a proliferation of man made ecumenical movements which either blur the boundaries of sola fida or destroy it in the minds of the average Christian. Extra Biblical teaching and phenomena has also blurred Sola Scriptura, which was won at the loss of much bloodshed and millions of lives over the centuries.

The 'Toronto Blessing' and the 'new wave' is losing intensity despite exaggerated reports to the contrary. I personally believe 1997 will be a year when the leaders of this movement should be held accountable for false prophecies and teaching. The church must get back to a semblance of order and preaching the simple Gospel of The Lord Jesus Christ. The cross, holiness and the results of sin, must be preached without compromise. Then God will do the rest in His own sovereign way.

Please pray as we all seek direction from the Lord for 1997. We have some challenging material to put forward in upcoming newsletters. I am also convinced the new year will be a year in which many things will come to a head. The church is being polarised, sifted, purified and tried in some measure. The difference between ecumenism and separation will become clear to many more people. God and His Word continually calls us to be sanctified - a separate and holy people, not touching the unclean things in or out of the church. Let us look to His appearance and be found good and faithful servants to Him and to the Gospel of the Lord Jesus

Christ. **Terry Arnold** **Shooting in the Philippines**

*'In 1989 FEBC Philippines lost a technician and an on-air pastor in a Muslim gun attack at a regional station. The pastor's brother Juanito Hapalla was murdered in January and two days later another Christian pastor was shot during a church service in the same Zamboanga area', (HCJB No.90, 1996)*

### New Version of Lord's Prayer?

The Colorado Legal Secretaries Association stated that if an attorney had written the line of the Lord's Prayer, 'Give us this day our daily bread', it might have read like this: 'We respectfully petition, request and entreat that due and adequate provision be made, this date and date first above inscribed, for satisfying of petitioner's nutritional requirements and for the organisation of such methods of allocation and distribution as may be deemed necessary and proper to assure the reception by and for said petitioners of such quantity of cereal products (herein after called 'bread') as shall, in the judgement of the afore, and petitioners, constitute sufficient amount!'

## The Amazing Templeton Prize

Wealthy Wall St. money manager, John Marks Templeton, is well known for establishing a religion prize of larger monetary value, (now over \$1 million), than the Nobel prize. Recipients of this prize have been such people as Bill Bright, Charles Colson, Billy Graham, as well as a list of Buddhists, Muslims, Hindu leaders, liberal theologians and atheists. Read what Templeton's view of Christianity is: '*Microbes slowly evolved into worms, fishes, reptiles, and mammals. Humans did not appear until forty thousand years ago...According to the Jesuit palaeontologist and mystic Teilhard de Chardin [known as the 'Father of the New Age']...there came first the sphere of mineral evolution...and lastly the sphere of the human mind...Evolution is accelerating...I am hoping we can develop a body of knowledge about God that doesn't rely on ancient revelations or scripture...that is scientific...'*\* Templeton is also a blatant Pantheist: '*God is billions of stars in the Milky Way...God is untold billions of beings on planets...God is beginning to create His universe and allows each of His children to participate in some small way in this creative evolution...God is all of you and you are a little part of Him*'. \*\*

According to Templeton, the world's scriptures (including the Bible) '*were written...[by] men whose minds were limited by cosmologies long since discredited*'.\*\*\* Those who wrote the Bible '*could write down only what they understood [as] ignorant and primitive...Jews*'# Here Templeton contradicts the Bible itself since '*All scripture is given by inspiration of God*', (2Tim.3:16). No other book but the Bible claims this and remains disproven. Yet Templeton says, '*The truly humble should be so open-minded that they welcome religious views from any place in the universe that is peopled with intelligent life...In fact at the heart of true religion is the willingness to see truths in other religions. The Persian scriptures claim, 'Whatever road I take joins the highway that leads to thee...Broad is the carpet God has spread...No one should say that God can be reached by only one path. Such exclusiveness lacks humility ##...The basic principles for leading a sublime' life...may be derived from any religious tradition, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and others, as well as Christian.###* However, contrary to what Templeton says, Christ also spoke of the **broad road** but He said it led to **destruction**, (Matt.7:13) and He said **I am the way...No man cometh to the Father but by me**, (Jn.14:6).

Templeton's idea of Heaven and Hell should make Christians shudder. He says: '*Astronauts travelled into outer space; and...they did not bring back any evidence of heaven...drills had penetrated the earth, they'd found oil, not Hell, in the depths. The definitive descriptions of the afterlife we received as children called for some revision...through our own choices and attitudes we create our own heaven or hell right here on earth.####*

With these statements in mind, why have the Christian leaders accepted the Templeton prize for progress in religion? Does this act not show sympathy with its founder and his heretical beliefs? Recent recipient of the prize, Charles Colson declared '*I salute Sir John for establishing this award...*'. Would Paul, Daniel or Jesus have accepted this prize from the pagans of their day?

Despite being an evolutionist, a pantheist, a universalist, and having occultic ideas, Templeton is endorsed by leading evangelicals! One of his books, '*Discovering the Laws of Life*' was recommended by '*Christianity Today*' (24/4/94), with endorsements by Robert Schuller and Billy Graham. The magazine said this book '*will inspire millions of readers*'. On the contrary, the '*Berean Call*' (5/96), rightly said it '*will send to hell any who believe it*'. The Christian leaders that have accepted this prize did not speak against Templeton or his teachings but took the money. What does the unbeliever or a young Christian see when they see these men accepting this prize? What deceptions will they take in if they read Templeton's books? Should we support such heretics? What would Jesus do? **Terry Arnold**. \* Material adapted From 'The Berean Call', May, 96 \*\* 'The Humble Approach' by Templeton P.37-38 \*\*\* Ibid.P.61 # Ibid P.39-40 ## 'Discovering the Laws of Life' by Templeton P.6,7 ##### Ibid P.208

### Sabbath Facts

Did you know that the Jewish Sabbath fell on different days? It fell on the first day (Lev.23:39), sometimes on the 7th day, (Ex.20:8) and sometimes on the 8th. day, (Lev.23:39). Sabbaths were also of different lengths. Some were one day long, (Ex.16:23-39), some two days long (Lev.23:6-8,15-22), some one year long (Lev.25:4), some 70 years long (2Chr. 36:21), and some eternity long, (Heb.4:9).

*'The seventh day sabbaths of Israel were changing sabbaths being observed on two different days each year because of an additional Sabbath being observed at Pentecost. If we suppose, for instance, that the 15th of Abib (when Israel left Egypt), which was on the Sabbath, was Saturday, then the seventh day sabbath would fall on Saturday for seven weeks or until 49 days had run their course. The 50th day which would be Sunday, would be Pentecost. The next 7th. day sabbath after Pentecost would fall on Sunday, and so it would be until Pentecost of the following year which would change the 7th. day sabbath again. This time it would fall on Monday until the next Pentecost which would be 50 days after the first 15 days of Abib, as stated, or on the 65th. day of that particular new year. Thus there was no such thing as the sabbath always being on Saturday throughout the year, or perpetually.'*\*

Many people falsely believe that Jesus died on a Friday. It is impossible to get three days and three nights from Friday to Sunday morning. An understanding that there were *two sabbaths* in the one week that Jesus died, expels this myth. The Gospel of John alone explains that the sabbath which began at sunset the day Christ was crucified '*was a high day*'. In other words it was not an ordinary sabbath which began Friday at sunset. It was, in fact, the first day of the feast of unleavened bread (15th Nissan), the beginning of a sabbath period. Most scholars believe Jesus was crucified on Wednesday or Thursday depending on how the three days and three night periods are viewed, (ie. whether 24 hr. periods or not). However, Friday is out of the question.

Sabbaths were for Israel only, (Ex.16:29; 31:14; Ezek.20:12). To Israel the sabbath was a memorial of deliverance from Egypt, (Dt.5:15).

Christians are not required to observe Saturday or Sunday, (Rom.14:5-6; Gal.4:9-11). Although I do believe in a day of rest, we are free to choose our own day of rest, (Rom.14:5-6). We are commanded not to judge anyone as to how they keep the sabbath (Col.2:14-17), and any legalism of the sabbath is rebuked by Paul, (Gal.4:9-11). It is interesting to note that all the 10 commandments are mentioned in the New Testament except the fourth concerning the sabbath!

It is also important to realise that the early Christians kept the first day of the week - *Sunday*, (Jn.20:1, 19, 26-29 Acts 20:6-12, 1Cor.16:1-2). This is the day that Jesus rose from the dead. **Terry Arnold**

\* Dakes Bible, P.111, (For more information see the book, '*How Close are we?*' by Dave Hunt).

**I Live to die. I die to live: The more I die. The more I live** Benjamin R. De Jong

## Christmas Bible Test - How Well Do You Know Your Bible?

(Give this test to your Christian friends at Christmas - the results are often embarrassing. Answers are on P.4 - Do not look back until test is completed)

1. As long as Christmas has been celebrated, it has been on December 25th. (True or false)
2. Joseph was from: A. Bethlehem B. Jerusalem C. Nazareth D. Egypt E. Minnesota F. None of the above
3. How did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem? A. Camel B. Donkey C. Walked D. Volkswagon E. Joseph walked, Mary rode a donkey F. Who knows?
4. Mary and Joseph were married when Mary became pregnant. (True or false)
5. Mary and Joseph were married when Jesus was born. (True or false)
6. What did the innkeeper tell Mary and Joseph? A. 'Come back after Christmas rush and I should have some vacancies'. B. I have a stable you can use'. C. 'There is no room in the inn'. D. Both B and C E. None of the above
7. Jesus was delivered in a: A. stable B. Manger C. Cave D. Barn E. Unknown
8. A 'Manger' is a: A. Stable for domestic animals. B. Wooden hay storage bin. C. Feeding trough. D. Barn
9. Which animals does the Bible say were present at Jesus' birth? A. Cows, sheep, goats. B. Cows, donkeys, sheep. C. Sheep and goats only. D. Miscellaneous barnyard animals. E. Lions, tigers, elephants. F. None of the above
10. Who saw the star in the east? A. Shepherds. B. Mary and Joseph. C. Three kings. D. Both A and C. E. None of the above
11. How many angels spoke to the shepherds? A. One B. Three. C. A 'multitude'. D. None of the above
12. What sign did the angels tell the shepherds to look for? A. 'This way to baby Jesus'. B. A star over Bethlehem. C. A baby that doesn't cry. D. A house with a Christmas tree. E. A baby in a stable. F. None of the above
13. What did the angels sing? A. 'Joy to the world, the Lord is come'. B. 'Alleluia'. C. 'Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given'. D. 'Glory to God in the highest, etc.'. E. 'Glory to the newborn king.'. F. 'My sweet Lord'.
14. What is a heavenly host? A. Angel at the gate of Heaven. B. Angel who invites people to Heaven. C. Angel who serves refreshments in Heaven. D. An angel choir. E. An angel army. F. None of the above
15. There was snow that first Christmas: A. Only in Bethlehem. B. All over Israel. C. Nowhere in Israel. D. Somewhere in Israel. E. Mary and Joseph only 'dreamed' of a white Christmas.
16. The baby Jesus cried: A. When the doctor slapped Him on His behind. B. Just like other babies cry. C. When the little drummer boy started banging on his drum. D. He never cried.
17. What is 'frankincense'? A. A precious metal. B. A precious fabric. C. A precious perfume. D. An eastern monster story. E. None of the above
18. What is Myrrh? A. An easily shaped metal. B. A spice used for burying people. C. A drink. D. After-shave lotion. E. None of the above
19. How many wise men came to see Jesus? (Write in the correct number)
20. What does 'wise men' refer to ? A. Men of the educated class. B. They were eastern kings. C. They were astrologers. D. They were smart enough to follow the star. E. They were 'sages'.
21. The wise men found Jesus in a: A. Manger. B. Stable. C. House. D. Holiday inn. E. Good mood
22. The wise men stopped in Jerusalem: A. To inform Herod about Jesus. B. To find out where Jesus was. C. To ask about the star they saw. D. For gas. E. To buy presents for Jesus.
23. Where do you find the Christmas story in order to check up on all these ridiculous questions? A. Matthew. B. Mark. C. Luke. D. John. E. All of the above. F. Only A and B. G. Only A and C. H. Only A, B and C. I. Only X, Y and Z. J. Aesops Fables
24. When Joseph and Mary found out that Mary was pregnant with Jesus, what happened? A. They got married. B. Joseph wanted to break the engagement. C. Mary left town for three months. D. An angel told them to go to Bethlehem. E. Both A and D. F. Both B and C
25. Who told Mary to go to Bethlehem? A. The angel B. Mary's mother C. Herod D. Caesar Augustus. E. Alexander The Great. F. No one told them to.
26. Joseph took the baby Jesus to Egypt: A. To show Him the pyramids. B. To teach Him the wisdom of the pharaohs. C. To put Him in a basket in the reeds by the river. D. Because He dreamed about it. E. To be taxed. F. Joseph did not take Jesus to Egypt. G. None of the above.      Answers on P.4

---

### Experience and scripture

The recent so called 'revival', including the 'Toronto Blessing', has swept through churches in the western world. Many mature Christians have been shocked by the roarings, shakings, laughter and other manifestations that are taking place in various meetings.

True Biblical experiences received from the Lord by God's Spirit effects and moves upon the persons *spirit*. Counterfeit experiences rather affect the *soulish* realm, oftentimes further affecting the body. Within the soulish realm is the emotions. There is nothing wrong with God given emotions but emotions taken too far end up in *emotionalism* which can produce *altered states of consciousness* (ASC). This often comes from seeking experiences rather than God Himself. A common denominator of this ASC state is *passivity* or a leaving behind of the reasoning faculties.

A cautionary balance is necessary here. Whenever one opposes error there is always the danger of running to the other extreme. We need not throw out experience altogether, thus creating another error. The result may be a legalistic, intellectual and dead orthodoxy, rather than a balanced, alive and working orthodox faith.

The key is to worship in spirit and in truth. Doctrine and truth must be the solid foundation while the Spirit makes it *alive* and workable. You cannot have one without the other! A sailing boat has a keel to keep it upright and balanced while the sails generate power from the wind. A Christian or a church without truth and doctrine is like a sailing boat without a keel. It will be knocked down, unable to be borne along by the wind of the spirit. On the other hand, a boat with a solid keel and no sails has no driving power to bring it to its destination. We should never seek the Spirit without the truth of the Word! This is an open door for deception and false spirits! The Spirit and the Word (truth) are intimately connected. We can never be sure about anything, apart from the only infallible Word of the living God, the Bible! Our relationship in spirit to the Lord Jesus Christ is only what we know of His character in the Bible! Let us worship the king in Spirit and in the truth of His precious Word! **Terry Arnold**

**Tapes (See Oct. P.4) - Copeland/Howard-Browne**

Dear Terry, Recently, I was shown two videos ..to oppose the 'ministries' of Copeland and Howard-Browne. My letter is for the purpose of cautioning you against the use of the videos as an adjunct to your very worthwhile ministry of opposing errors...

I believe emphatically that both the above mentioned men are heretics. I have, for most of my Christian life of 45 years, been a conservative evangelical and am of reformed persuasion. As a full time pastor in the Baptist denomination I allowed myself to be deceived by the subjectivism of the Charismatic movement. My heart longed to see the people to whom I ministered come to life in Christ rather than to profess it without any fruit. My personal desires for those of whom I had spiritual charge ...allowed my spiritual judgement to be swayed. I sought and had an experience that some call 'the baptism', but which I now know to have been generated by my own desire for a lifeless church.

...My contention is that the scriptures are more than sufficient in the hands of a man of God to refute all heresy. It is a denial of the power of our sovereign God for us to resort to the same sort of subjectivism as Copeland and his ill use. For instance, Copeland claims that he could have done the work that Christ did on the cross, he claims that he is on the same spiritual level as God. Surely a competent Christian can show from scripture, just using those two points alone, that Copeland is not trustworthy nor fit to call himself a man of God. The same applies to Howard-Browne.

The Christian scene is lacking men of God who will oppose such 'ministries', but please do not discredit your ministry by succumbing to the use of what is really a worldly manner of doing what God will do through the faithful ministry of His precious Word. For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary they, (the weapons we use), have divine power to demolish strongholds, (2Cor.10:3-4). It is my contention that the weapons of prayer and the Word are the only weapons we are authorised to use. All heresy is satanic in essence but more often than not it's expression is not the direct intervention of the demonic in people's lives, but the full expression of the nature of our father, Adam.

As to the videos, I believe the author is sincere in what he is attempting. I also believe that what he claims for the words spoken are what he wants them to say. Yours in our Lord Jesus Christ, (John Gallimore, Ocean Shores, NSW.)

**Editors Comment: I appreciate the sound comments in both these above letters. Scripture is more than sufficient in these matters. We will not be advertising these tapes in future.**

**Praise Points**

- Praise God for a close friend who donated a Fax machine. Please note our **new fax number: (071) 284014**
- We thank and praise the Lord for two people in our new Christians class who were recently water baptised.

**Prayer Points**

- Pray for several people looking for churches to settle in 1997

Cut here

Dear Terry, We listened to quite a bit of the first tape ..we were both in agreement that what the man is putting over is not provable. To call Copeland and Howard-Browne Satanists is not substantiated by the tapes. Using the tongues, slowing them down...especially with the background noise, is not substantiated. We would acknowledge a spiritual dimension to the meeting, soul-power, or seducing spirits, or both...We think these tapes will damage your credibility and ministry...turning people away from examining the real errors which can be substantiated using the scriptures.

We were involved with the faith Movement, following Hagin & Copeland teaching with zeal for several years. We know we were deceived because of ignorance of scripture as two year old Christians, and immaturity in our desire to 'achieve for God', leading to spiritual pride. We know that through the false teachings, seducing spirits come and bind you up to be unable to hear the truth and it was only as we read the Word, 'the truth set us free'; plus Christians praying for us and God allowing circumstances to expose the false teacher to us and humble us. We were also involved with the 'spiritual power' trip, prophesying and seeing many 'manifestations', supposed 'healings', but looking back see much of it was not the Holy Spirit. We know there are many people like us who are being deceived at this time, they have zeal for God without knowledge of the Word and unless leaders stand up and speak out, this movement will take over. The AOG in Australia endorses the 'Toronto' and more 'faith teaching' is infiltrating Pentecostal teaching. More Christians are watching Copeland and Schuller on TV and not seeing the error.

Unless people are open to listen we cannot help them but prayer is vital at this time for the church and other leadership 'to open their eyes'. We will pray for your ministry believing God will bring people across your path who will be open to hear. Yours in Christ, (Bill & Tessa Sked, Brunswick Heads, NSW.)

**Answers to Christmas Bible Test P.3**

1. False. Not until the 4th Century did it settle on the 25th. Originally it was a pagan feast celebrating the birth of Sol, a sun god of the Babylonian queen Astarte. Jesus was in fact born in the middle part of the year, the colder months of December to February too cold for travelling to pay taxes, as Joseph was doing. Scripture also tells us that shepherds were in the fields, which would not normally have been the case in the colder months. 2. A. See Lk. 2:3,4 3. E. The Bible doesn't say 4. False. See Matt.1:18 5. False. See Lk.2:5 6. E. No word about the innkeeper. See Lk.2:7 7. E. No word about it. See Lk.2:7 8. C. 9. E. The Bible doesn't specify. 10. E. The wise men did, (they were not kings). See Matt.2:2. 11. A. See Lk.2:9. 12. F. See Lk.2:12 13. D. See Lk.2:14 14. E. Definition is an 'army'. 15. D. Mt. Hermon is snow covered. 16. B. We have no reason to believe He wouldn't. 17. C. By definition. 18. B. See John 19:39 or a dictionary. 19. No one knows. See Matt. 2:1. 20. C. See most commentaries. They were astrologers or 'star gazers'. 21. C. See Matt.2:11. 22. B. See Matt.2:1-20. 23. G. Mark begins with John The Baptist, John with the 'Word'. 24. E. See Matt. 1:19; Lk.1:39,56. 25. D. See Lk.2:1,4 26. D. See Matt.2:13 27. D, of course!

**Terry's Itinerary**

**Dec. 22nd pm.** Fraser Coast Baptist Church

**Dec. 4th, 11th.** - New Christians class at Fraser Coast Baptist.

Send this form to:

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

-----  
**Subscription form**

I am interested in receiving the monthly TA Ministries newsletters.

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