



# 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.4.

June 1996

PO Box 1499, Hervey Bay, Qld,  
Australia, 4655 Ph. 018183093  
Fax (9am-4pm Mon.-Frid. only):  
(071) 244417

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
  - 'One Life'
- P.2- A Report on the State of the Charismatic Church
  - 'Toronto blessing' news
- P.3- What is a Fundamentalist?
  - There is No God?
  - He Died For Me!
  - The Other Side of Azusa St.
- P.4- Your Comments & Questions
  - Apology
  - Praise & Prayer Points
  - The Pope & Ecumenism
  - Terry's Itinerary

### Editors Comments

Yes, we have changed the name of the newsletter. The word '*diakrisis*' is a Greek word meaning 'discernment'. It means to separate one from another; to divide or part; to distinguish. '*Diakrisis*' is made up of 'Krisis' - to judge, and 'Dia' - through. It therefore means to *judge through* something with the intent of separating the thing to see what is good and evil, or truth and error. To discern means 'to have the ability to see what is not evident to the average mind'.\* It is this ability that we believe the church has largely lost, especially in recent years.

We have recently received many encouraging letters from Christians who identify with what we are writing. Many see the need to *earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints*, (Jude 3).

However, this must be done in love or it is fruitless; with humility or it is carnal; with integrity and knowledge or it becomes dishonesty full of half truths. Half truths are worse than no truth. Many of the cults have an abundance of half truths and yet are more deceptive than outright devil worship. We must also be careful not to pull things 'out of the air' or from dubious sources, to support our doctrine or stance on any one issue. I pray that we in this ministry will be as accurate as is humanly possible.

When witnessing to the cults or people involved in false teaching, it is important to keep all of the above in mind, but also to feed them *milk* before we give them *meat*. If you shine a bright light into someone's eyes who has not seen light for some time, you will make them retreat from the very light that they need.

Many people caught up in false teachings of which we expose in our newsletters, are *Christians*. They are our *brethren*! Although Paul rebuked the Corinthians for carnality, selfishness, false teaching and practices, he called them *saints* and *brethren*, (1Cor.1:2; 13:6). In Mark 9:38,39 Jesus reminded John to recognise others, (who were not following the disciples but doing the Lord's work), as Christians. Rather than judge a person's salvation we would do better to test the fruit. If what is being said and done or taught is unbiblical, then we are commanded to separate from it.

Terry Arnold

\* 'Tongues' by Spiros Zodhiates, P.161.

### One Life

He was born in a stable, in an obscure village  
From there he travelled, less than 200 miles.

He never won an election; He never went to college, He never owned a home; He never had a lot of money...

He became a nomadic preacher; Popular opinion turned against Him  
He was betrayed by a close friend, and His other friends ran away...

He was unjustly condemned to death  
crucified on a cross among thieves  
on a hill overlooking the town dump  
And when dead, laid in a borrowed grave.

Nineteen centuries have come and gone;  
Empires have risen and fallen;  
Mighty armies have marched; And powerful rulers have reined...

Yet no one affected men as much as He,  
He is the central figure of the human race,  
He is the Messiah, the Son of God!

## A Report on the State of the Charismatic church

At the beginning of 1995 Charismatic leaders in England issued a report on the direction they believed the Charismatic church had recently gone. The following is an adaptation of part of their report.\*

In the 1940's William Branham prophesied a great worldwide end-time revival. This would come by a second Pentecost Latter-Rain church which would be separated from the denominations to conquer the world. Branham taught that God was raising up apostles and prophets to resurrect a new church in the new age to come. He taught that the wicked would be removed from the earth, (N.B.: opposite to rapture theory), and that this elite group would reign on earth. In 1949 the Assemblies of God, after much deliberation, finally declared these teachings to be heretical. However, by the early 1970's these teachings had resurfaced in the teachings called 'restorationism' and 'Dominionism'. Bob Jones, of the 'Kansas City Prophets', (later involved with the Vineyard Movement), taught that the children of believers born since 1973 would make up this end-time church. This generation would have powers greater than the apostles, and would conquer nations, and even control major institutions to take the land for Jesus.

Bob Jones was later to fall in gross sexual sin. However, to continue the deception there came many 'waves' of the 'spirit' with their usual prophecies and promises. Each wave has taken the Charismatic church further away from a scriptural base, with more emphasis on experience and less emphasis on the mind. The 'Toronto Blessing' is the latest and strongest of these waves.

In the 1980's Paul Cain, a disciple of Branham, prophesied that a mighty revival would take place in Britain beginning June, 1990. This was revised later to come into line with a visit by John Wimber in October, 1990. Wimber, as well as Bob Jones and several leading Charismatic leaders, embraced this prophecy which later proved to be false. Bob Jones also had prophesied that God was raising up a 300 strong army of 'overcomers' to defeat the enemies of Christ and to prepare the way for the second coming.

These false prophecies have continued down through the years, usually without repentance. This is the stuff that makes cults! Jim Jones, David Koresh and Moses Berg are examples of prophecies taken to their limits, and thousands were affected adversely, even to unnecessary deaths.

Rodney Howard-Browne openly teaches that the manifestations at the Toronto type meetings are evidence of 'Latter rain' and a 'second Pentecost'. The Gospel being preached at these meetings is not centred on the cross nor repentance. When Howard-Browne shared a platform with Kenneth Copeland he gave prophecies that people at the meeting would be different afterwards, and that outsiders would fall at their feet in shopping malls etc. This simply has not taken place. The church is in perilous times!

**Terry Arnold** \*(Charismatic Crossroads' - Leadership report & consultation by Charismatics on the current situation in the Charismatic Churches by the Centre for Contemporary Ministry Bawtry hall, Bawtry, South Yorkshire, DN106JH.)

### 'Toronto Blessing' News

- Charismatic Clifford Hill from England writes: *'there are signs that the Toronto 'wave' is ebbing. People no longer flock to meetings. The prophecies of a great revival remain unfulfilled. The so-called 'refreshment' has proved equally false, with some leaders exhausted and others suffering severe headaches and depression....people are beginning to search the scriptures for themselves, to see if there really is any support for prophecies of an end-time signs and wonders revival. It is this 'Latter Rain' teaching at the heart of the Toronto message which appears to have been rejected by John Wimber...Only about 15% of church-goers, according to a recent survey, read their Bible regularly. Thus they do not know when they are following leaders who are giving false teaching...the majority of believers do not have sufficient knowledge of the Bible to be able to discern truth from deception'. (Prophecy Today, Vol.12, No.2 by Clifford Hill)*

- Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum, Co-Director of Ariel Ministries writes: *'God will certainly do what he must to strip people of their pride and humble them, but He will never strip them of their dignity in light of the fact that man still has the image of God in him. Another man wrote to me and said that what he sees is that God is now 'taking back His church'. How people making animal noises and uncontrollable laughter could possibly be construed as evidence that God 'is taking back His church' is certainly a point beyond belief....Matthew 7:22-23 (says) **Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity...**They will be able to do three specific things: prophesy events which did come to pass; cast out demons; and do many mighty works, such as miracles of healing and other signs and wonders. Yet, in that day, Jesus said to them: **I never knew you.** Here, you have all the ingredients of some of the things that are happening in Toronto, Kansas city, and elsewhere... Satan can duplicate these...But the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;..Satan would not be very successful in*

*his program of deception if his strategy was to make people feel bad. That is not going to attract much of an audience..1Corinthians 4:6 (Says)...that ye might learn in us not to think (of men) above that which is written...Paul is saying this to a church which had a strong tendency to move towards the sensational and the experiential...The fact is:the laughing phenomenon and the animal noise phenomenon is found nowhere in scripture. It is something that goes beyond that which is written and must be rejected out of hand..And what happens to those who do go beyond that which is written? Paul declares that they become **puffed up for one against another...**As a result they divide all believers into two categories: those who have 'it', and those who do not..A Charismatic speaker who causes people to become hysterical or act like animals or fall down can fill up whole stadiums with thousands upon thousands of people, who will eventually also be asked to empty their pockets for the offering...Pauls tells us the result of not enduring sound doctrine and pursuing false teachers(2Tim.4:v.4): first, they will **turn away their ears from the truth**, and secondly, they will **turn unto fables**. What are fables? Fables are, again, teachings and doctrines outside of Scripture.(Ariel Ministries, 'The Toronto Phenomenon by Arnold Fruchtenbaum, Th.M.,Ph.D.)*

- A Rev. Gordon Williams writes: *...I had encountered this 'roaring' hundreds of times in meetings and church services over the years. And I can assure you, it was not caused by the Holy Spirit, except in that it was the anguish or the torment (Mk.5:7), that the demon or evil spirit was experiencing as it possessed or harassed the person...Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? No spring yields both salt water and fresh (James 3:10-12)...If there is both blessing and curse coming from any ministry then it must be examined in order to see why. Uncontrollable shaking is not a work of the Holy Spirit. According to the fruit of the Spirit the opposite is the case: self control (Gal.5:23)...During the early days of Pentecost, uncontrollable shaking was seen as an excess of the flesh or a counter-work of the enemy... (Vineyard Experience' by Rev. Gordon Williams, Orangeville.) Gordon*

## What is a fundamentalist?

I once was talking to a dear Christian friend who was concerned that I was 'drifting' towards being a 'fundamentalist'. I was disturbed, not because of the statement, but because of the person's lack of understanding of what the term 'fundamentalist' means.

What is a fundamentalist? Many people when they hear this term conjure up images of wild-eyed Muslims or Islamic invaders. Others have some strange idea of Christian sects who are anti everything else that Christians are for. In very simple and general terms the word means getting *back to basics*. The term was originally used to describe the *Christian* who earnestly believed in the *literal truth* of the Bible!

In 1909 a group of Christians met at a Niagra Bible conference. Following this, in 1895 they wrote a summary of 'fundamentals'. There were five standards of Christian belief: 1. The inerrancy of the Bible 2. The Virgin Birth of Jesus 3. The substitutionary atonement 4. The physical resurrection of Jesus 5. The imminent return to earth of Jesus Christ. These fundamentals were embraced by many denominations, especially Baptists and Presbyterians, in an effort to oppose the rising tide of 'modernist' teaching. This new 'modernist' influence included liberalism, Darwinism and evolution. 'Fundamentalists' were vocal against evolution in schools and strongly opposed to liberalism.

Today, however, the term 'fundamentalist' often has a negative bias partly because most Christians are ignorant of what fundamentalists really believe. It is my opinion that any person who correctly and truly searches for truth among the mish-mash of teachings within today's church will eventually get to roots that are unshakable. These roots will be growing out of 'infallible' soil - The Bible! Yet many will accuse them of 'fundamentalism'. Many who accuse others of being fundamentalist are ideally or in theory fundamentalists themselves!

Personally I don't call myself a fundamentalist because most people are ignorant of its meaning and use. However, if we correctly take the Bible as wholly true and without fault, and are committed to living by it, and testing what we believe by it, are we not 'fundamentalists'? **Terry Arnold**

---

### There is no God?

- The atmosphere of the earth is only 50 miles deep and exactly the right density and the right mixture of gases to sustain human life.

- Water expands when it freezes, while other materials contract. This means that ice is lighter than water and floats. If this were not so, seas and lakes would be solid to the bottom and fish would not survive.

- Who tilted the earth so we get precise seasons?

- Who put a sugar thermostat below the human pancreas? It maintains energy levels in our blood. Without this we would go into a coma and die.

- Birds migrate from Canada to Argentina at precise times and speed. What Calendar do they use?

- Who gave humans a conscience but denied it to animals, and a brain that no computer can match?

- Where did the first seed come from?

- Who designed the ovum to split in time to have a baby with precise numbers of fingers, eyes, etc.

...There is no God? *For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse,* (Rom.1:20).

---

### Book Reviews by Mike Claydon

**'Making War in the Heavens' & 'Weighed and Found Wanting'** by Charismatic Pastor Bill Randles, (imported & distributed by TA Ministries)

I read both in two sittings! I was unable to put them down because of the exciting exegesis of scriptures that had bothered me! 'Making War in the Heavens' deals with a subject close to my heart - 'Spiritual Warfare'. Randles deals with the current heresies doing the rounds in America and Australia with all the attendant theories, such as spiritual mapping, prayer walks, ancestor traits, etc. The teachings of Paul are put into stark perspective with regard to this activity, and by a scholarly opening of the Greek texts the author brings out the true meaning of the words written on this vital aspect of the believer's life.

'Weighed and Found wanting' deals with the current phenomenon of the 'Toronto Blessing'. Again Randles unfolds scripture in an authoritative and convincing manner and helped to crystalise much of my concerned thinking about all these new teachings and happenings in the church world-wide. For anyone interested in an in depth study of the history and roots of the T.B. phenomena this book is a classic reference book. On a recent interview on a shortwave outreach radio programme, he sounded as clear headed and intelligent as his writings - I urge anyone who is questioning these activities to read both these books.

---

### The other side of Azusa St.

Many Pentecostals cite the famous Azusa St. revival as the restoration of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the roots of the Pentecostal movement. It was here in 1906 in Los Angeles that many are said to have received the 'Baptism in the Spirit' with the use of various gifts of the spirit including tongues. At this time 'fundamentalist' Christians immediately opposed many things involved with the events of Azusa St., believing it to be too subjective and a false source of revelation.

At Azusa St. W.J. Seymour, a student of Charles Parham, began a series of meetings that were to run for over three years. What is not widely reported is that when Charles Parham was asked by Seymour to come to assess the situation he found much that resembled the Corinthian church.

Parham found it difficult to distinguish between the true and the false use of the gifts. He found 'hypnotic influences, familiar spirit influences, spiritualistic influences, mesmeric influences and all kinds of spells and spasms, falling in trances, etc. All of these things are foreign to and unknown [the Apostolic faith movement] outside of Los Angeles, except in the places visited by the workers sent out from this city.' \* Parham later denounced the movement as a case of 'awful fits and spasms' and of 'holy rollers and hypnotists'. \*\* The Azusa St. Mission was in fact terminated by 1911.

Other accounts of Azusa St. show that there was a decrease in the preaching. One writer, (writing in favour of the 'Toronto Blessing'), admits that, 'Where the Welsh revival went wrong, and Azusa St. too, was in its repudiation of sound and dynamic instruction from the Word of God.' \*\*\*

Bartleman in his book, 'What really happened at Azusa St.', (1925), rejoices that, 'No attempt was made to preach. A few messages were given by the Spirit'. He also states that the intellect was regarded as thoroughly polluted by sin and that the mind was 'the last fortress of man to yield'. Theologians were also regarded with great suspicion. It is interesting to note that these same features are present in the current 'Toronto Blessing!' **Terry Arnold**

(For further reading see booklist for the book 'Finding The balance') \* 'The Life of Charles Parham' by Sarah Parham, P.168. \*\* 'The Holiness Pentecostal Movement in the United States' by Vinson Synan, P.112. \*\*\* 'Times of Refreshing' by Dr. Mark Stibbe, P.XVIII.

## Your Comments and Questions

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

### An Ex-Mason testifies

*I feel it is my duty to warn people of the hidden dangers associated with involvement with Freemasonry.*

*I was a Mason for 25 years and progressed to the 32 degree level before becoming aware that freemasonry is not what it says it is...(Freemasons) say it is not a secret society. On Page 64 of their ritual book it states that Freemasonry is a peculiar system of morality, veiled allegory and illustrated by symbols. According to the dictionary the term allegory means a description of one thing under the image of another. In the Greek language it means to say something different ie. the language is one thing and the true meaning is another. All the legends of Freemasonry, as quoted in its ritual, are allegorical.*

*...(Freemasons) say a candidate must believe in God. May I point out that the constitution of Freemasonry requires a candidate to believe in a supreme being. As to what or which god is worshipped is of no consequence, because Freemasonry worships a multiplicity of gods, including sun worship, nature worship, serpent worship and phallus\* worship, all of which are worshipped under the guise of the G.A.O.T.U., ('The Great Architect of the universe).*

*All masonic teachings taken at face value, as taught in all lodges, purposely leave Christ out, and clearly conveys the heresy of universalism ie. that men on their own endeavours can expect to enjoy the privileges of Heaven one day. This is opposed to true Christianity.*

*Freemasonry could best be described as a secret subversive order composed of false gods, pagan religions and occult practices from the Cabala. It causes divisions, marriage break-ups, estrange wives, it engineers subversions in governments of the world\*\* and brings curses and sicknesses to its members, their wives and their families.*

*The mason is not told that the obligation he has taken(in the first degree), is the same obligation that is taken by those people when they join witchcraft. The obligation is word for word the same as the witchcraft obligation.*

*After repeating this bloodthirsty and vile obligation they are required to seal it by blessing the Holy Bible with their lips....(Rev. Kevin Ekert, Australian Christian Ministries, Ettalong Beach, 2257) Editors footnotes:\*Dictionary meaning is - 'an erect Penis'. \*\*In recent years Great Britain political leaders banned freemasonry in the party. Even the Catholic church forbade it, although the Vatican has been exposed for its Freemason members.*

### Praise Points

- We have made contact with several Qld. Christian bookshops in the last month and many are now stocking our books.

### Prayer points

- We have changed the name of the newsletter from TA Ministries to 'Diakrisis', (see explanation P.1). We would appreciate suggestions or comments.

- Please pray for two Jehovah Witnesses that have had the Gospel shared with them. One man was interested and promised to study our material and return to us.

Cut here

### Apology

In the May newsletter we printed a spelling mistake in the letter written by Mike Claydon, titled 'Comfort My people!'. We printed 'eternal and invisible capital of Israel' instead of 'eternal and indivisible capital of Israel'. We realise this may have changed the meaning of the sentence, and do apologise to the writer and to our readers.

### Testimony

*Thankyou for your book 'To Catholic Whom I Love'. I too have been redeemed by the blood of the lamb and have been released from the bondage of Romanism; and my saviour has led me to a personal relationship with Him in addition to the blessing of true fellowship with brothers and sisters.*

*At a time when images of the Pope kissing and washing feet, Muslim missionaries denouncing Christ and Easter commercialism have plagued the media, your book has helped give direction in my outreach towards Catholics whom I truly love, not least of all my family. My God has truly impressed upon my heart the riches I have since having been delivered from false religion into a state of deep love for Jesus. All I desire is to share the Gospel with friends and my beloved family, as well as repent of my sins and conform to Christ.*

*For a while I actually became associated with the Sydney Church of Christ\* an authoritarian group which turned out to be even more Roman Catholic than the Roman Catholic church it often ridiculed.*

*Thanks be to God, since then I've been baptised, not into an institution, or into a religion, but into CHRIST JESUS HIMSELF!*

*My experience with both these organisations have, I can see now, been permitted by the Lord - the result being a heavy burden on my heart to proclaim the good news of freedom in Christ.*

*Sometimes my heart feels heavy, I must confess, because of an anxiety for others to recognise their saviour. The eagerness to bring good tidings to the cult oppressed overwhelms me to the point of great anticipation, revealing my faithlessness when the veil which blinds others seems so thick and dark.*

*But God can and will penetrate through even a thick darkness. I can personally testify to this!*

*Once again, thanking you in the name of Christ Jesus,  
Michael Zarb, Plumpton, NSW.*

(\*Editors comment: This cult group is not to be associated with the regular 'Church of Christ' denomination in Australia.)

### The Pope & Ecumenism

'Pope John Paul II has called on Catholics to respect the 'spiritual riches of Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam.' (Christian News, 12/2/96)

### Terry's Itinerary

- June 23th Pm - Fraser Coast Baptist  
- August 24th. - (Saturday) 1.30 - 5.30pm. Seminar on Evangelism and witnessing, followed by BBQ. Venue: Hervey Bay Church of Christ. Admission free. Contact Terry or Pastor Bruce Murray (071) 289375. Billets available for those wishing to stay a night. More details in July newsletter.

### -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-----

-