



Diakrisis (Australia)

'But strong meat belongs to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern [diakrisis] both good and evil', (Heb.5:14)

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TA Ministries is a non-denominational faith ministry,
teaching, informing and equipping the church.
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The editor may not necessarily agree with all the views expressed by subscribers in this newsletter.

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

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New 'Eternal Questions' Tract

The '*Eternal Questions*' booklet has now been produced in a pocket size version (14.5cm by 10cm). The new size is already proving to be popular and affordable. The booklet has been widely used throughout Australia and overseas as a fruitful soul winning tool. It has been carefully and systematically designed to prepare the heart for a true understanding of the Gospel. Price .75c + postage

Times Are Changing And Fast

We live increasingly in a world of technology and information overload. The propensity for deception and lies has increased dramatically. Almost anyone can put any lie or fake news up on the world-wide web and declare it to be truth. An observable increase in human gullibility will mean, more than ever before, that many will believe it.

The mainstream media outlets have always been manipulated by the barons who own them in a frantic drive for increased revenues. Now it is common for them to release propaganda as news, and nonsense designed to turn the brains of their viewers into uninformed mush. In the last decade this practice has taken on a life of its own. For example; any discerning person will quickly see that certain television stations (such as SBS and ABC in Australia) are driven by what some call 'left wing politics'. Which is simply a warmed-over Marxism. Has anyone noticed lately the aggressive interviewing of anyone viewed as a 'conservative'?

Anyone standing against 'Marriage Equality', the hoax of Climate Change and the criminalising of Free Speech are publicly crucified for daring to hold such a view. They are portrayed as 'Racists', 'Bigots' or worse still 'Fundamentalists'! Should a sound Christian dare to comment on amoral societal norms today they first must prepare themselves for a tirade of abuse and scorn and in many cases legal action against them for 'offending' someone or a certain religion.

In the last few weeks - since the unlikely election of Donald Trump - the mainstream media misinformation and manipulation has been exposed for all to see. This has plunged them into an all out assault on what is known as the 'Alt.' Media, such as InfoWars, Drudge Report and most of the Christian news websites. They have now ironically been labelled 'Fake News' outlets. Politicians of all stripes have jumped on this bandwagon and are speaking out much venom upon organisations which are independently and truthfully reporting on events.

Now Pope Francis has joined the fray. He has warned about the dangers of spreading fake news, comparing the media's desire for scandal with a disorder known as Coprophilia, which we will not interpret here. He went on to say that using the media for this purpose rather than educating the public amounted to sin. Yes, he actually said this!

It is all rather amusing. The real 'fake news' peddlers are now accusing those of trying to bring truth to their readers of doing just as they do! "Fake News" has replaced the derogatory term 'Conspiracy Theorist'. As an example, a publication named Fake News List itemises most of the websites operated by editors who do publish the truth – and yet are deemed to be websites *'that take bits of true stories but insinuate and make up other details to sew fear. Most of these are conspiratorial in nature and are very unreliable'*.

In reality, what's happening is that liberals believe social media contributed to Hillary's loss in 2016; so there's a big push on to shut down conservative voices. The excuse they're using to do that is "fake news."

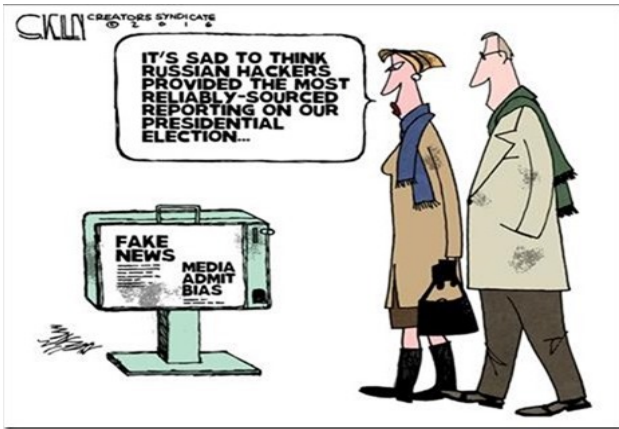
Hillary Clinton, speaking in public in December 2016, called the proliferation of fake news 'an epidemic'. She thinks that fake news - intentionally false stories pretending to be true - should be dealt with by Congress! That we should pass a law to punish the fake news people?

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Hillary Clinton has spent her entire career creating and spreading fake news. The liberal news sites like CNN and MSNBC that promote and protect her have published fake news for decades.

The most mammoth creator and distributor of fake news is not a few teenagers on Facebook or Twitter however. It is an aging Australian multi-billionaire Lothario named Rupert Murdoch, owner of The Times of London, Wall Street Journal, The Australian and a myriad of local, national and international publications.

Murdoch routinely uses his prominence as owner of these newspapers and television news channels to bully politicians, misinform readers and viewers, omit details within the news that do not align with his viewpoint and make headlines out of mindless trivia.



He's not alone. It is now all but impossible to believe in what is being printed or broadcast by the larger media corporations.

A number of critics have said that 'fake news' is merely a poorly defined label - or even propaganda - that's being used to discredit alternative media websites that publish views and opinions that are deemed heterodox by many so-called 'Liberals'.

Fake news, and the proliferation of raw opinion that passes for

news, is creating confusion, punching holes in what is true, causing a kind of crazy-house effect that leaves the reader doubting everything.

There are an alarming number of people who tend to be credulous and form beliefs based on the latest thing they've read, but that's not the wider problem. The wider problem is that fake news has the effect of causing people not to believe the real thing.

One of the great benefits of the 2016 Trump campaign was that it exposed the main stream media for the complete fraud and sham that they are. So-called 'conspiracy' writers for years have been saying this and now the proverbial cat is completely out of the bag. The Godless liberal media are nothing more than paid liars utterly clueless about the lives of the average person. They are the real fake news purveyors.

Watch as this battle heats up. The mainstream media are wounded – badly and deservedly. They would have every conservative and truthful news service labelled 'Fake'...and strive to have them closed down if they can. It smells very much like McCarthy-ism to us.

There are now many Christian news outlets that have been listed as 'Fake News' operations – which are in fact reporting the truth and from credible sources that can be verified. It is wise from here-on-in for the Christian committed to truth to glean their geopolitical news from sites and publications doing their utmost to remain biblically focussed.

Mike Claydon & Terry Arnold

New Bible - Just Add Your Revelations?



U.S. - A new edition of the Bible released by Charisma House publishing includes hundreds of blank pages sandwiched between the book of Revelation and the usual array of maps of the Bible lands...The new pages, intended to be used for regular, personal revelation from God directly to present-day

Christians, reportedly come completely blank, so new authoritative directives from the Almighty can be added to the canon.

'Believers receiving private prophecies and words from the Lord have often been confused as to whether these revelations carry the same authority as Scripture', a Charisma House representative said Friday. 'Now, with the Personal Revelation Edition of the Holy Scriptures, you won't have to wonder anymore, as every whisper from the Lord into your ear can be recorded right in the Bible and instantly adopted into the canon as the inerrant Word of God'.

(Apostasy Alert, Oct.14, 2016)

Editor's comment:

This Bible may shock some readers but Charismatic/Pentecostal believers have been doing this in doctrine and practise for 116 years! Every time they put forth or accept a dream, vision, 'prophecy' or a message in unknown tongues as from God, they ARE adding words to His revelation 'once delivered to the saints' (Jude 3)! Words from God in whatever form would carry the same 'authoritative directive'! They are either from God or not?

Many are unaware of the judgment this brings. God has severely warned not to add to His Word at any time (Dt.4:2; 12:32; Pr.30:6; Rev.22:18,19).

Is God's word, his revelation, finished or not? When the last book was written, did God intend to have us add more revelation in prophecies, tongues and messages from God in various forms as practised in numerous churches today? Why are these not written down for all as Words from God?

What does God Himself say? In Jude 3 the word '*delivered*' is in the past tense with no continuing element. In times '*past*' God spoke to us *by the prophets* (Heb.1:1), but now we have '*a more sure word of prophecy...the prophecy of THE SCRIPTURE*' (2Pet.1:19,20). The New Testament shows God spoke to his people through Jesus Christ (Heb.1:2). If personal revelations are accepted as the words from God then it detracts from the all sufficiency of the Bible as the word of God.

2Peter 1:19 speaks of the '*more sure word of prophecy*'. But the *context* actually shows a subject of *extra biblical Revelation!* (vs.16): '*For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty*'. The context is about false teachers turning people away from '*sound doctrine*' and to '*fables*' (2Tim.4:2-4). But there is also the mention here of the Transfiguration (Matt.17:2; Mk.9:2). That was a *vision*, an *appearance* of

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Moses and Elijah and an *audible voice* from God (vs.17,18). Yet the next verse contrasts something even *'more sure'* than even that vision and audible voice!: *'We have also a more sure word of prophecy...'* (vs.19). (The *'more sure'* here is the Greek *'bebaios'* - something *'fixed, certain'*).

What is this *'prophecy'*? It is the *'prophecy of THE scripture'* (vs.20)! Is this *'Scripture'* now the written word of God as in the Bible? Yes! The next verse says so: *'For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost'*. Is this not what the prophets and apostles gave us? Is this revelation not now in the *'past'* (Heb.1:1-3)? Is this revelation not what we have in the Bible, or are we to *add* new words from prophecies, visions, dreams, tongues...?

We are to *'earnestly contend for'* this - *'the faith once delivered'* (Jude 3). Charismatic/Pentecostals need to be made aware of the tragic consequences of adding to God's word and entertaining extra biblical revelations. Teachers, churches and Bibles that promote this need to be shunned.

Danny Nalliah - Another 'Prophecy'



The following prophecy was given by 'prophet' Danny Nalliah of *'Catch the Fire Ministries'* of Australia and founding president of *'Rise Up Australia Party'*. The transcript is excerpted below:

Regarding the US election, Ps Danny describes his vision from God: *'On Oct 2016...I had an amazing encounter with Jesus...There...in heaven's court room was Jesus and 2 other people. Jesus said to me, 'these are the 2 witnesses (from Rev 11) who will be released very soon to carry out my will on earth'. At once my attention was drawn to Malachi 4:5-6...Jesus said, 'For the spirit of Elijah, operating in boldness, reconciliation and restoration is upon my servant Donald Trump - to open the door for America to seek me'. I asked Jesus as to why he called him servant and not son. He replied, 'even though he invited me into his life, he does not know me as his Lord and Saviour; but if my church pray and stand with him he will come into sonship and know my power at work' ...I asked Jesus why he chose Trump. His answer was, 'he has the boldness like the spirit of Elijah' ...The State of Florida was then brought to my attention... 'Florida is the battle ground for this election'...In an instant I saw Hillary Clinton seated with a clairvoyant speaking and casting curses and spells over Trump, the Church and the people of America. Then I saw Trump very distressed, sitting on his bed and praying. He was saying 'God I don't know you, but if you are real expose this woman, for I love my country and want to protect America'...Jesus appeared, coming with a Golden Sceptre in His hands, and on the sceptre were the words, 'Power to Govern'. He was pointing it towards Trump, but not releasing it. After this I was shocked to see hordes of demons led by the spirit of Jezebel, demanding that the Sceptre be given*

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to Hillary. At once I knew that Heaven was calling out for intercessors from across the world to go into deep intercession for America and pray for Trump to receive the Golden Sceptre to lead America...I personally hope and pray that Trump will be the Victor, a Victory that stands for righteousness, like this, will have a domino effect across the world. The next country where we will see leadership change in politics shift from left to right will be Australia, when Tony Abbott is put back as Leader. I believe this will be followed by Germany, France, England, Canada and also many countries in Europe will see change. This in turn will have a ripple effect around the world. The Judeo Christian heritage of the West will be restored in that hour...I don't want to even mention what I saw if Hillary wins. I...believe the church will rise up in this hour and pray...'

Editor's Comment:

Nalliah is a false prophet. He already prophesied wrongly concerning John Howard winning in a landslide when he lost his seat of Bennelong, and his government was trounced. How many false prophecies does it take to reveal a false prophet - ONE! Nalliah has made many. He is bringing down a curse upon himself by adding to the Word of God. The Canon is closed. God is not bringing fresh revelation to anyone. He has spoken to us in these last days through His Son (Heb.1:1,2). Nalliah often jumps on political situations to make pronouncements that are already easily seen by any thinking person. Is there anything new in this 'prophecy' about America that many cannot already see and read on the internet concerning the two characters?

The Many Who Are 'Changing Their Minds'



Sam Hailes of Premierchristianity.com sat down with Tony Campolo to find out the reasons for his change of heart on gay marriage...

Campolo: 'What Paul is doing here [Romans 1;23-27]...is tying this homosexual behaviour...with idolatry. If you read that passage carefully, it says they gave up their natural affections. The homosexuals say, 'You don't get it, Campolo, my natural affection was never heterosexual. My natural affection was homosexual.' 'So as I began to review scripture, I began to say, 'Wait a minute, maybe this isn't as strong a condemnation as I think...Maybe he's condemning obscenities that were related to idolatry rather than loving relationships between two persons. I know all the arguments pro and con. I've thought of everything, and I'm still open to considering new things when somebody has something new to say...I just meet too many wonderful Christian people who are in gay relationships, and I know this: my own marriage has been an incredible relationship. If I was to ask what has been the greatest influence in nurturing me as a Christian, I would have to say

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it's my wife. I then ask myself a very simple question: can I deny homosexual couples what I am personally experiencing in the way of blessings and joy in a relationship? That became the basis for my final decision. I just knew too many couples who were living out the Christian life, who were committed to the work of the kingdom and who were in edifying relationships'.

(Apostasy Alert, 26 October 2016)

Editor's Comment:

Many like Campolo who are 'changing their minds' are doing so because of pressure from the world's logical or emotional arguments which cast aside absolutes and plain meaning of scripture.

Romans 1:23-27 does speak of 'idolatry' and the '*the glory of God*' turned into 'images' and then worshipping the images (vs.23). God then hands them over to their '*lusts in their own hearts*' (vs.24). One follows the other. But what are the '*lusts of their own hearts*'? One of the lusts was to '*dishonor their own bodies*' (vs.24) and change the '*natural use*' of those bodies (vs.26). The natural use of their bodies here is clearly man with woman: '*For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature...*' (vs.26). What is unnatural is then detailed precisely: '*And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly...*' (vs.26,27).

Why is Campolo open to '*new things*' that would add to this revelation? The '*natural use*' is man with woman; the '*change*' of the '*natural use*', that which is '*against nature*' and '*unseemly*', is '*men with men*' (vs.27)! Why is this not clear? Yet amazingly Campolo says he has '*reviewed scripture*'!

Campolo quotes the homosexuals as stating that their '*natural affection was never heterosexual [but] homosexual*'. But what they claim to be a '*natural affection*' is only '*natural to themselves*, NOT according to God who says it is the '*lusts of their own hearts*', '*dishonouring*' their bodies (vs.24), a '*vile affection*', '*against nature*' (vs.26) and '*indecent*' (vs.27)!

'*The wonderful Christian people...in gay relationships*' Campolo refers to shows the emotion driven agenda. No doubt there are many 'loving' people of such persuasion, but does that change Romans 1:23-27?

Campolo says: '*Can I deny homosexual couples what I am personally experiencing in the way of blessings and joy in a [heterosexual] relationship? That became the basis for my final decision*'. The strawman might be obvious here. No one is '*denying homosexual couples*'. They are free to practise their own desires. But is a '*final decision*' to be based on Homosexual couples '*experiencing*' the same joy of a relationship? Does that change what God says of such a union - that it is unnatural, indecent ('unseemly')?

Campolo's '*final decision*' is NOT drawn from scripture but from logic, emotion and 'experience' - derived from fallen humans. We will be judged by the Word of God itself (Jn.12:48), not by appearances (Jn.7:24) or what we '*experience*'.

Pope Signs Joint Statement With Lutheran Church For ‘Full Unity’



After decades of ecumenical dialogue Pope Francis and Bishop Mounib Younan, President of the Lutheran World Federation signed a Joint Statement...in which Catholics and Lutherans pledged to pursue their dialogue in order to remove the remaining obstacles that hinder them from reaching full unity. This is Exactly 499 years after Luther sparked the release of the captive Christian church from the Roman Catholic Vatican Church system.
(Apostasy Alert Nov/2016)

Editor’s Comment: No matter how much common ground can be found between the two faiths, the Roman Catholic system refuses the fundamentals of the Biblical faith ‘once delivered’. Truths such as Justification by faith alone, the imputation of God’s righteousness and doctrines concerning Grace are still considered by Rome to be ‘anathema’ (cursed). Why find common ground on things that do not count for eternal life and salvation?

The Fence Sitters



During a recently-aired episode of Oprah Winfrey’s ‘Super Soul Sunday’, hipster Hillsong New York City leader Carl Lentz replied in the negative when asked if he believes only Christians can be in a relationship with God.

‘Do you believe that only Christians can be in a relationship with God?’ Winfrey asked. ‘No’, Lentz replied. ‘I believe that when Jesus said that ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life’ - the way I read that, Jesus said that He is the road marker, He is the map’...‘But I believe God loves people, and that’s what this whole gospel is based on - it’s love. You take the love out of it, we’ve got a moral book’...Lentz remarked that he hopes his assembly is ‘hopefully a place where you won’t feel a certain way because of how you’re dressed, what your past is, what you might have done on Saturday night, [or] your background’.

Bobbie Houston, wife of Hillsong Australia leader Brian Houston, also defended the appearance, opining that it was a ‘God-honouring, Spirit-breathed and Jesus ‘front and centre’ interview”.

Editor’s Comment:

The Bible contradicts Lentz outright. The unsaved cannot understand spiritual things, let alone be in relationship with God. And the last thing a pastor should want for his people is to be comfortable and ‘safe’ from the Spirit’s conviction. Hillsong fence sitting is common today on several issues. See <http://christiannews.net/2016/11/05/hillsong-united-band-leader-calls-jen-hatmakers-remarks-on-homosexuality-refreshing/>

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'Diakrisis' (Australia) Newsletters & Back Issues

'Diakrisis' is a free by-monthly newsletter. It's aim is to *teach, inform* and *equip* Christians with balanced answers and Scriptural truths in a variety of topics. Subscription is free or donation for cost of printing, (approximately \$20 per year).

<u>Unit Price</u> <u>(Retail)</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Price</u>
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	Free	
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Back issues of Diakrisis newsletters

A CD is available containing back issues from March/96 of 'Diakrisis Australia' newsletters. Includes *Foxit reader* so as to view in easy to read PDF format. CD is re-writable so new newsletters can be added. (Later *Foxit Reader* programmes have a valuable search facility).

	15.90	
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Bibles

- King James 2000 - a revision of the KJV with antiquated pronouns and words updated. Not a new translation, but a revision only. No missing verses or changes to sentences. Accurate and faithful to Greek Majority text.

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Evangelism/Discipleship/The Gospel

- 'Eternal Questions' by Terry Arnold - (Excellent and proven evangelistic tool with sound preparation and presentation of the Gospel. New pocket size)

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- 'Foundations For Evangelism/Discipleship' (CD + notes) by Terry Arnold, A message on evangelism from material in the book 'Foundation For Evangelism'. Teaching: true preparation of a heart to receive the Gospel; True/False conversions; Law/Grace; What is/not the Gospel; Discipleship...

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- 'The Lamb' (Children's hardcover picture book and CD)

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- 'The Lamb - Just the Story' DVD

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- *Stranger On The Road To Emmaus* (A panoramic look at the Bible. Written in a readable drama/story style. Excellent for the unsaved and for Christians to get a fresh chronological look at the Bible. Highly recommended)

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- 'Hell's Best Kept Secret' by Ray Comfort (book)

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- 'Hell's Best Kept Secret' by Ray Comfort (CD)

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- 'The Invitation System' (dangers/unscriptural methods used in modern evangelism)

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- 'Decisional Regeneration' (Booklet exposing the teaching/theology and results of emphasis on a 'decision' in today's evangelism)

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	<u>Unit Price</u> <u>(Retail)</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Price</u>
- 'Hard To Believe' by John MacArthur (Excellent teaching on the doctrine behind the Gospel and philosophy of ministry. A must for every minister and evangelist)	23.90		
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- 'What Are Christmas and Easter All About?' (Evangelistic tool)	3.50		
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- 'Truth War' by John MacArthur. An excellent summary of the state of the modern church including information on the new Church Growth and 'Emergent' movements	22.00		
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- 'Countdown To Eternity' (DVD) - by Hunt, Missler & others. Excellent icebreaker for unsaved. High quality. Deals with moral decay, Israel and technology...	19.50		
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	<u>Unit Price</u> <u>(Retail)</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Price</u>
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- 'Apostles/Prophecy/Tongues in the New Testament' by Stephen Rees (CD looks at the modern claims in the light of Scripture)	4.00		
- 'The Toronto Blessing - A Critique' by Terry Arnold (an early booklet, but has valuable teaching on the doctrine of the Holy Spirit)	1.00		
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- 'Tongues & The Baptism With The Spirit' by Terry Arnold (Excellent reference book, resource, teaching guide. Includes material from seminar & tape below)	10.90		
- 'Tongues' - (CD) + handouts of 3.5 hr. seminar on 'tongues' by Terry Arnold)	6.50		
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- 'Delivered from the Power of Darkness; A True Story': DVD, excellent on demonology and spiritual warfare. This DVD also has 'The Taliabo Story' on same disc)	15.90		
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- 'To Catholics Whom I Love' by Terry Arnold (Reference book & proven evangelistic tool)	10.90		
- 'Why Were Our Reformers Burned?' by J.C. Ryle	3.90		
- 'Roman Catholic Teaching vs. Bible' by Terry Arnold (Tract)	.15c		
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- 'Seventh Day Adventism-The spirit Behind The Church' (DVD) - Excellent tool	15.90		
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- CD sermon on 'Music' by Terry Arnold. (Ephesians 5:18,19) Is Music 'neutral'?; the components of music and how they affect us?; Contemporary Christian Music ; how to choose music.	4.00		
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- 'Family Fundamentals' by John Ashbrook. One of the best books ever written on divine family order, marriage, children, etc. Challenging and Biblical.	14.90		
<u>Church</u>			
- 'Keys To Fruitful Church Membership' by Terry Arnold: Booklet. Six vital keys to being happy and fruitful in church life.	1.90		

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Women In Ministry

- 'Countering the Claims of Evangelical Feminism' by Wayne Grudem
Book: Should women have authority in teaching, preaching, pastoring...?

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TV Interviews

- 8 by 30 minute TV Q&A interviews on *Life TV Media* channel with Terry Arnold
This is a professional set of two DVD's. Topics include: *What is a Christian?; God's Will For You; Music; Marriage; Depression; Natural Disasters; Cults...*and more.

Sermon Tapes Mailing List:

This ministry will send you two CD's (usually four messages per month). (7.00 + postage each month) Invoiced quarterly. Contact us to add your name.

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About TA Ministries

TA Ministries is a non-denominational and nonprofit faith ministry founded in 1989 when the book '*To Catholics Whom I Love*' was first written by Terry Arnold. This book went through several re-prints and served initially as a fruitful outreach to Roman Catholics. In 1996 the ministry became a full-time operation with the introduction of a newsletter, later named '*Diakrisis*' (*Australia*). *Diakrisis (Australia)* is published bi-monthly to **teach, inform and equip** the church of Biblical truths, and to warn of false teaching.

Terry Arnold is pastor of Hervey Bay Bible Church. He holds a Doctorate in Theology, a Masters degree and diplomas in Bible and ministry studies and teaching. He is the author of several books and papers. His ministry has included preaching/teaching and conducting seminars in a wide range of churches and Bible Colleges in Australia and overseas.

Charismatic/Pentecostal Teaching

The 'Baptism with the spirit' is a secondary, *subsequent* experience of receiving the Holy Spirit

All can have the gift of tongues as 'evidence' of the 'Baptism with the Spirit'

The 'tongues' experience today is the same as Acts 2

The tongues movement began in Acts 2

Tongues is a 'heavenly language'

The 'anointing' is a power of the Holy Spirit; it can be increased and passed on...

Scripture / Truth

The Pentecostal 'Baptism With the Spirit' is new teaching invented at the turn of the 20thC. The Bible Baptism with the Spirit was the giving of the '*promise*' - the *indwelling* Holy Spirit. This occurred in *historical sequence* to groups of people and in order (Jews (Acts 2) > Samaritans (Acts 8) > Gentiles (Acts 10)...In every case the apostles were messengers God used to bestow the Holy Spirit. The recipients heard the Gospel (Acts 10:35-43). The baptism with the Spirit ('*the promise*') is given *by faith* in salvation (1Cor.12:13; Gal.3:14) to *all* who are *called* (Acts 2:39).

'Tongues' as 'evidence' of the baptism with the Spirit became new teaching in 1901. Acts 8 has no 'evidence' of tongues. The gift of 'tongues' was also not for everyone (1Cor.12:30).

The Greek word 'tongues' refers to a language. Tongues in Acts 2 was known human earthly 'languages' (vs.6). In Acts 2:8 the word 'tongue' is '*diálektos*' - known dialects (vs.9-11). The 'tongues' movement today is not that '*diálektos*' of Acts 2 but unknown ecstatic utterance.

The modern 'tongues' movement began in 1901 (see our books on this)

New teaching invented in the middle of the 20thC. No scripture for this.

New teaching in the 20th C. The anointing *IS* the Holy Spirit which *all* receive the '*same*' and *at salvation* (1Jn.2:27).

Continued next page >

Bodily healing was provided for all in the atonement

Bodily healing is available to all if there is enough faith

The gift of healings is in operation today

The Holy Spirit can come upon a Christian

God can speak words to us today through dreams, visions, tongues, prophesying...

We have signs and wonders today and a worldwide revival to come.

There are 'apostles' today

New teaching in late 19thC. Some quote 1Pet.2:24 but ignore context of sin and it being a direct quote from Is.53:5 which refers to sin, not body healing. The redemption of the body is future (Rom.8:21-23; 2Cor.5:1,2).

New teaching in 20th C. In Scripture many were healed without faith.

No one is displaying the gift of healing as in the first C. - ie. healing as in the Gospels - 'all', 'every' person and 'whole' without failures; and healing organic diseases.

The NT Holy Spirit is now an indwelling spirit and permanent (1Jn.2;27; 3:24; Jn.14:17).

If this were true we could add to the word of God - which brings a curse (Rev.22:18,19). The revelation of God was 'once delivered' (Jude 3) and is 'past' through the apostles and prophets (Heb.1:1,2). We now have a 'more sure word of prophecy...the prophecy of the scripture' (2Pet.1:19,20).

In every place where signs and wonders are mentioned to do with the end times they are 'lying' or false (Matt.12:39;24:24; Mk.13:22; 2Thess.2:9; Rev.13:13). The Bible predicts the opposite to a world revival - it repeatedly warns of an apostasy from the faith (2Thess.2:3; 2Tim.3:13)

The Church was built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets (Eph.2:20). They had 'signs of an apostle' not seen today (2Cor.12;12). They also had to be witnesses of the resurrection (Acts 1:22)

Recommended reading: 'Strange Fire' by John MacArthur (See booklist)

Why Expository Preaching?

Topical Preaching

I used to be mostly a ‘topical’ preacher. As an itinerant preacher/teacher I often taught topically, and still do. Topical preaching is selecting a ‘topic’ and then teaching what the Bible says of it with various scriptures taken from varied locations in the Bible. For example, if one is teaching on the ‘anointing’, one would search the scriptures and with word studies see where and how this word is used. This can be a worthy method of correcting false teaching or educating Christians. I have often used it also as a method of teaching people how to do word studies for themselves.

However, topical preaching can also work the other way. The danger is that it often starts with what man wants to preach and then he finds scriptures to say what he wants to say. Much false teaching is often introduced in this way. An example is often seen in Seventh Day Adventist teaching on the ‘Sabbath’. Old Testament Scriptures are ripped out of context to show a command that is actually from another covenant (Mosaic) and to another people (Israel). Then the teacher adds scriptures to bolster what is now really a strawman. It becomes 1+1=3 proposition. Many are fooled in this way.

If topical preaching is the mainstay food given each week it can become a disjointed and fragmented way of growing people in the faith. It was not until I had to produce a sermon every week that I began questioning this ‘topical preaching’. There were times when I struggled and was stressed to ‘find a topic’. I then looked seriously at ‘expositional preaching’ and its benefits. Hence began decades of preaching through the books of the Bible, a joy that has only grown.

Expositional Preaching

Expositional preaching is preaching verse by verse in sequence, exegeting and stating only what the text says, applying the principles to life, to mind and hearts, exhorting the hearers to do and obey. The preacher unveils the text, its meaning and any possible applications. It starts with what God wants to say instead of what man wants the hearers to hear. The preacher becomes an ambassador for the Word in giving out only what the king has said. In an age when most Christians have not read the whole Bible and are biblically illiterate, it at least brings whole books to their understanding and in the same sequence that the Holy Spirit desires. It also ensures that the listeners may well hear books and passages they might not have travelled to frequently.

Sadly ‘topical preaching’ is all that some preachers know. I recently had a pastor/Bible teacher send me one of his ‘expository sermons’. Yet, it was actually ‘topical’ with nil ‘exposition’. The experienced Bible teacher actually did not know what an expository sermon was. I have on many occasions met preachers who have been preaching for decades and they do not know what an ‘exposition’ is or how to go about preparing one.

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The Benefits to the Hearers

Expository preaching widens the recipients knowledge and understanding. J. W. Alexander wrote: *‘All the more cardinal books of Scripture should be fully expounded in every church, if not once during the life of a single preacher, certainly during each generation; in order that no man should grow up without opportunity of hearing the great body of scriptural truth laid open’.*

Expository preaching helps prevent the preacher moulding the way the hearers read and understand their Bibles. There is less input and control from the pastor/preacher and more dependance on the Holy Spirit giving the understanding. Principles of interpretation can be taught by example even without any theological lectures. We show our hermeneutical methods of exegesis and exposition.

People are taught and shown by example how to read and study the Bible for themselves. Expository preaching is also much more pastoral. If one is preaching through the epistles, the same pastoral concerns the apostles had are brought to the ears of the listeners today.

A mention must also be made from experience - I testify I have seen more growth in believers under expository preaching. This is not to say I never do topical preaching but the benefits of long term expository preaching and teaching are documented over and over by many long term pastors and teachers.

The Benefits to the Pastor/Preacher

Lastly, one of the forgotten benefits of expository preaching is the value it has for the preacher personally. There are few other activities in the life of a pastor/preacher that will build up the man in the faith as does preparation for expository sermons. My first few exercises in this form of preaching were laborious and time consuming, but as the years went on one learns and adapts better, quicker and more efficient methods of gathering the data, exegesis of the text and finding applications for God’s people. I can honestly testify that knowledge in the scriptures and doctrine was multiplied greatly when the switch was made from Topical preaching to expository. There have been some passages that I realised I had taught with an unnecessary bias or emphasis but when expositing the passage realised a more accurate context.

Currently I am expositing the book of Daniel - a book I have never taken a deep interest in other than to read it through. However, during the labour to exposit the passages each week I lament the lack of knowledge I previously had of this book. Texts have now stood out to me like never before. Understanding of ‘difficult verses’ has been greatly improved. The excitement and desire to exposit has only increased.

I am convinced the Holy Spirit uses faithful accurate expository preaching!

Terry Arnold

Your Comments and Questions

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

Dear Terry, we pray that you and your co-workers are well...One of our [family] was with [a Pentecostal church]...they have left the church and do not want to know anything about tongues and such teachings. But sadly she has also walked away from God because of it all. We hope your book on tongues might help in understanding this issue...

Editor's comment: Letters like this are common in this ministry. Year in year out we meet people who are confused or ignorant of the true Gospel and its message of what they must be saved from. The turnover rates in the Pentecostal/Charismatic churches are often high. People come and go. Pastors also burn out quickly. Many who are confused by such issues are often hardened or even shipwrecked. They often have been so gripped by the 'froth and bubble' of ecstatic tongues, spiritual manifestations, healings, signs and wonders, a prosperity gospel, or a gospel which highlights the potential of man, that any impact from the true Gospel has been lost or becomes irrelevant. Our book on 'Tongues' will refute the counterfeit tongues today but what is needed is an understanding of the need for a righteousness imputed to those who will trust in Jesus alone as Saviour and Lord.

Dear Terry, as you well and truly know and have experienced denominational attacks against your church and ministry, may I suggest you publish them in a booklet for the warning and edification of others...

G.R. (Vict)

Editor's reply:

The eviction of Hervey Bay Bible Church (HBBC) in 2013 is already documented in a booklet titled '*The Churches of Christ 'Restoration Movement' and Cambellism*' - available from our ministry.

But the article specifically concerning the eviction, titled '*The Day Our Church Was Evicted*', is also available free on request or found on our website under 'Articles' and then 'Churches of Christ'.

We do not advertise this article from the Hervey Bay Bible Church (HBBC) website, as this Church has well moved on from those days, now a free thriving and growing church. (There are also now more new attendees than the original attendees who were evicted from their church and property). However, the history of this ungodly act must not be lost to history or re-written. There are also lessons to be learned from the events which arguably have no precedence in Australia. Hence we still have it available on the TA Ministries website, now with a revised addendum briefly describing the state of HBBC today.

Your Comments and Questions

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

Can you explain Joel 2:28. I read that Joel is speaking of the 'later days' - does this mean that dreams and visions will come back as a way of God speaking to us?

(R.M. Qld)

Editor's Reply:

The book of Joel is one of the most misread and misunderstood of OT books in modern day theology. The immediate context for vs.28 is vs.27-32. It is important to see it is spoken to *Israel*: *'And you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed. 28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: 29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. 30 And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come. 32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call'* (vs.27-32).

I believe vs.28 was fulfilled as shown in the book of Acts at Pentecost and beyond in signs, visions, dreams, (Ananias Acts 9; Peter & Cornelius Acts 10; Acts 12 - Peter in prison; Acts 16 Macedonia help; Acts 18 an angel came to Paul; John in Revelation). The rest that comes after that is clearly telescoping to future events and at the end of the great tribulation. Matthew 24:29,30 details the exact same events of the 'sun' and the 'moon'. The timing is sure: *'Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened and the moon shall not give her light and the stars shall fall from the heaven, and the powers of the heaven shall be shaken: ... and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds ...'*. These events (the same as in Joel), are also spoken of in Revelation 6:12 and 16:10, and the sun and the moon are similarly mentioned in Mark 13:24-27. This clearly refers to the second coming.

Some call this 'dual prophecy' - when one part is fulfilled already or in a shorter time and the other part is still to be fulfilled later. This is common in scripture throughout the OT prophets. (It is like looking at the horizon and viewing two sets of mountains - but one is closer, the other further away).

Remember that the book of Joel is largely about *judgement* on Israel, the coming of the Lord, and the tribulation. To change this to the church and signs and wonders (which the Charismatic/Pentecostals do) is to ignore the context of Joel and teach a 'replacement theology' - confusing the church with Israel and ripping verses out of context.

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Read the whole book of Joel and these *three things* stand out - *Israel*; *Judgement* and '*The day of the Lord*'. Those phrases are repeated over and over. Phrases like '*Israel*' (2:27), '*in Zion*' (2:1,15,32;3:16, etc.), '*in Jerusalem*' (2:32;3:16), '*your people*' (2:17), '*His land...His people*' (2:18), '*my people*' (2:26,27), '*the northern army*' (2:20), '*your sons and your daughters*' (2:28), and '*I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen*' (2:19), show clearly Joel is speaking *to Israel* (2:18-20; 23; 27,32; 3:15,16).

Similarly, Peter (in Acts 2) is speaking *to Jews*.

Joel is also NOT about 'revival' as is often taught today with one or two verses out of context. The book is actually about *judgement!*

The 'last days' or 'latter days' has also confused many. A study of this phrase will show that it can be a long period of time (some call this the 'church age'). The terms were understood by the Jews to be the time of the Messiah and beyond. Heb.1:2 has the phrase '*in these last days*' - which is now stretched to almost 2,000 years. It is literally a 'gap' in time. (Daniel also deals with this where there is a 'gap' in history between the Roman empire and the final kingdom of God).

The 'dreams and visions' have been fulfilled aplenty in the book of Acts. But why would we need more than that when we now have a completed revelation '*once delivered to the saints*' (Jude 3) and not to be added to without a curse (Rev.22:18,19)? That revelation is said to be '*past*' through the apostles and prophets (Heb.1:1,2). We now have a '*more sure word of prophecy...the prophecy of the scripture*' (2Pet.1:19,20). The danger of expecting more revelations is also seen in the rich man in Hades (Lk.16) who asked for more revelation and warnings to be given to save his family from Hades. God said his revelation had already be given in the death of Jesus Christ as the sign of Jonah and if they will not listen to that they will not listen any more. The problem today is people are not satisfied with the revelation given 'once to the saints' (Jude 3).

If I am in error and many of these things in Joel have not been completely fulfilled and there are more 'dreams and visions' to be given, then nevertheless Joel is still referring *to Israel* and the purpose would be to bring them back and in judgement.

The interpretation I have given here is NOT new. It is the consensus of many of the commentators but also can be clearly exegeted chapter by chapter and verse by verse and asking the first questions - *who* is the book and the verses in question speaking to and about, and what is the *purpose* of the book.

Dear Terry,...For many years I have not had a church to attend and have remained obedient to not attend a church where error is preached. The materials from your ministry have been my source of learning. Cd's, Dvd's, books, newsletters. I thank you. And then the Lord led me to [a church]...I know this for many reasons - with the fellowship of other saints being the obvious...Again, Terry, very much appreciated...

Dear Mr. Arnold...Thank you for encouraging me to read the whole Bible in a year. It has been great to have that intensive time each day studying God's Word in depth...

(L.S.) Sydney

Editor's Comment:

This from a young lady is encouraging. My experience on this - if one has not read the Bible completely through one will *not* have a full orb ed view of the plan of God for Israel, for the church and most likely in many other areas such as the sovereignty of God, God's justice, God as a warrior (and in war) and many other issues. My own doctrines were significantly adjusted the year I read the Bible through in systematic study. We urge every reader to make it a necessity to have done this!

Prayer / Praise Points

- We are coming up to 22 years since this newsletter was begun (March 1996). We praise the Lord for the many professions of faith and the encouragement of seeing many being *informed, taught and equipped*.
- Praise the Lord for the wide use of the cheaper pocket size 'Eternal Questions' booklets. Many readers and our church folk are handing them out.
- Hervey Bay Bible Church is gearing up for a big year in 2017 with several outreaches and international guest speakers planned. Many new people have come into the church this year and we are training up more preachers and leaders. Please pray.

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