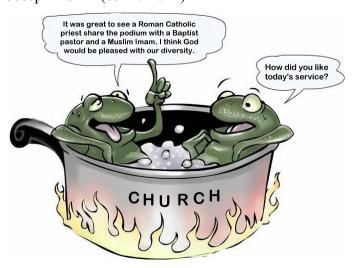
DECEPTION

Joseph Herrin (05-26-2014)



(Click on image to view larger)

I invite the reader to consider carefully what is written in the following words of the apostle Paul. This servant of Yahshua was testifying of what would occur at the end of the age preceding the appearing of Christ. He was speaking of the hour in which we now live. Speaking prophetically, the apostle declared that one of the major characteristics of this hour would be a pervasive deception that would cause the church at large to fall away from the truth.

II Thessalonians 2:1-12

Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Yahshua Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the apostasy (the falling away from truth) comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not obey the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

In this brief passage, the apostle states the following:

- Christians need to beware of deception.
- Christ's return will be preceded by a great apostasy, a general falling away from truth by the

church.

- A lawless one will come who will be worshiped by humanity, including those in the church.
- This lawless one will perform signs and wonders, as he manifests great power that has been given to him by Satan.
- The lawless one will have great power to deceive.
- Christians who do not obey/love the truth will be given over to a spirit of delusion.
- Christians who take pleasure in unrighteousness will fall to delusion and experience the condemnation of God.

As I survey the church of this hour, I see that everything Paul prophesied is occurring. The church at large is turning away from truth. I observed a profound example of this two days ago as I listened to an audio message that a brother in Christ informed me about. Rick Wiles of the TruNews Radio program was interviewing Anglican/Episcopalian Bishop Tony Palmer. Tony Palmer is the man who recently carried a message from Pope Francis to Kenneth Copeland, and the hundreds of ministers gathered together at one of the Kenneth Copeland Ministry events.



Anglican Bishop Tony Palmer

Tony Palmer, in a private meeting with the Pope, made a video with his cell phone of Pope Francis speaking a word of reconciliation and entreaty to Kenneth Copeland, inviting the Protestants to lay aside their rejection of Roman Catholicism, and to be united with the Harlot of Rome in one communion. The message was eagerly, ecstatically, received by Kenneth Copeland, who responded by leading the hundreds of gathered ministers in prayer for the Pope of the Roman Catholic Church.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehFpeVGLyxs

<iframe width="560" height="315" src="//www.youtube.com/embed/ehFpeVGLyxs"
frameborder="0" allowfullscreen></iframe>

Rick Wiles was just as embracing of Bishop Tony Palmer's message. Throughout the hour long broadcast Rick Wiles expressed agreement, and spoke openly of the common experiences and beliefs that he shared with Palmer.



Rick Wiles of TruNews

Ephesians 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the *wiles* of the devil.

The broadcast was a masterpiece of deception. You can listen to it at the following link:

http://www.trunews.com/wednesday-may-21-2014-bishop-anthony-palmer/

Rick Wiles begins the broadcast by asking Tony Palmer to describe the time when he came to know the Lord. He shares how he was saved through the testimony of a carpenter and invited to attend a mega-church in South Africa. The staff at the mega-church recognized that Tony had a call on his life to be a minister, and after just a few months of being saved he quit his job in the medical field and took a full-time position as a neighborhood evangelist with the church. After he had been a Christian for about a year, the church staff agreed that he had a call on his life to be a minister. Consequently he was sent off to a Bible college to receive ministry training.

I have written before of the incongruity between the ways churches prepare men for ministry, and Yahshua's method of preparing men for ministry. Being sent off to attend Bible college is NOT Christ's method for preparing His servants. Christ demonstrated an apprenticeship model of preparing disciples. Key to the success of this method is that the journeyman discipler be a godly individual who walks with God, being directed and empowered by the Spirit of Christ. In this way, the apprentice is able to have modeled before him the entire life of a disciple, rather than simply having ideas and doctrines delivered to him in the sterile environment of the classroom.

After two and a half years of Bible college, Tony Palmer was asked to take over the office management for Kenneth Copeland Ministries in South Africa. Tony married an Italian woman from a Roman Catholic family, and his trips to Italy to visit his wife's family began introducing him to Roman Catholicism. From there, he began to develop a dialogue with Catholics, and rather than seeing them as members of an idolatrous religion that professed to follow Christ while praying to Mary and a pantheon of saints, he began to admire the liturgy and sacramental theology of the early Roman Catholic church fathers. Seeking out a Protestant church with a liturgical and sacramental bent, Tony Palmer found what he was desiring in the Episcopalian/Anglican communion.

The Anglican and Episcopalian denominations are about as close to being Roman Catholic as any Protestant denominations. They are considered "high church," having a liturgical form of service where both the clergy and laity have scripted parts to play. The Anglican/Episcopalian churches also

teach a sacramental theology. They recognize seven sacraments, including baptism, the Eucharist (Holy Communion), confession and absolution, matrimony, confirmation, holy orders (also called Ordination) and anointing of the sick (also called Unction). They believe that the sacraments are a means of grace, sanctification, *and salvation*. In recent years, the Anglican and Episcopalian churches have been drawing closer to Roman Catholicism, and are on track to experience a merging of their communions.

Tony Palmer began to seek a common ground of fellowship between Catholics and Reformation church denominations. He joined with a Catholic minister to form an ecumenical ministry whose goal was to bring Catholics and Protestants together, while also working to re-introduce liturgy and sacramental theology to Protestant churches in what is known as the Convergence Movement. Tony Palmer shared that in the years after he resigned his ministry position with Kenneth Copeland Ministries to pursue this ecumenical work of uniting Catholics and Protestants, that Kenneth Copeland encoruaged him in his work and supported him financially.

In truth, Tony Palmer is a Roman Catholic. He has stated that he has been employed by the Roman Catholic Church for the past four years, and his wife and children are Catholic. On his personal website called *The Ark Community*, he makes the following statement in an address before a group of Catholics.

Because of our close relationship with the Charismatic Catholic Church, my wife has returned to her Catholic faith and even our Children desire to be Catholic. I am the only one in my own family that is not Catholic. This is something I have to suffer for the sake of my Mission. As an Anglican I represent a bridge between the Protestant and Catholic worlds, becoming a Catholic myself would mean losing my ability to be a bridge, therefore I suffer being outside the 'Mother Church' for the sake of the Kingdom of God. God knows how I suffer internally when I am unable to partake of the Communion that I feel so part of. I am reminded of the Samaritan Women who asked Jesus healing, He told her that He had not come for the Dogs but for the Jews... And she answered...'but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the table'... I have become worst (sic) than a dog for the sake of God's calling, remember us when you eat?

[S o u r c e : http://thearkcommunity.org/download/http://www.thearkcommunity.org/Download/WD/Fraternity%20Speech.doc]

I would suggest that the true Catholic view toward those outside of the "mother church" is revealed in Tony Palmer's statement that "I have become worst (sic) than a dog." Brothers and sisters, the true agenda of the Roman Catholic Church is NOT to reform her errors, nor to benefit from the corrective influence of reformation Christians. Her goal is to lure the Protestant denominations, and all those outside of the "mother church," back into her embrace. The way she is seeking to accomplish this is by promoting the lie that doctrinal unity and fidelity is less important than fraternity (brotherhood). This message is present throughout Tony Palmer's writings and speeches. In the interview with Rick Wiles, Tony Palmer shared the following.

The real essence of diversity must be celebrated. Because diversity is a gift. Diversity is divine. Its division that is diabolic. And if we look at it, and if we are honest, and humble enough, we will find

that diversity actually completes us. It should not make us compete against each other.

The diversity that Tony Palmer has in mind is all the varied, conflicting, and often heretical doctrines contained in both the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches. He says **THIS** diversity is divine, and to separate over doctrine, even heretical beliefs, is diabolical (a work of Satan). Nothing could be further from the truth. At the beginning of this post I quoted the apostle Paul's letter to Timothy where he declared that in the last days there would be a great apostasy before Christ returned. The word apostasy literally means "to be divorced from truth." It is this very thing that Tony Palmer, and others, are facilitating through their message of fellowship without doctrinal fidelity or agreement.

Toward the end of the interview, Rick Wiles speaks the following to Tony Palmer.

I am not a Roman Catholic Church basher. I consider my Catholic friends as my brothers and sisters in Christ. I can fellowship with them in love. Yet, at the same time, we have profound theological differences. For example, sacerdotal priesthood, the doctrine of In Persona Christi (where the priest claims to operate as Christ's personal representative on earth and makes intercession for men), the veneration of Mary as a co-redeemer, the immaculate conception and the assumption of Mary (that the Virgin Mary "having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory"), prayers for the dead, veneration of relics, papal superiority..., if there is going to be unity between Roman Catholics and Protestants, Tony how do we get past these differences?

Tony Palmer's answer is filled with the cunning of Satan.

Well, I think you are going about it the wrong way. We are not trying to get unity. The reality is, if you are a Christian and I am a Christian, we are already united in Christ. The problem is that we need to demonstrate it visibly, and we think that we can only become one visibly when we sort out all these issues, and that's not the case. We need to begin with friendship, and forgiveness above all. If we do not forgive the past, we'll have no hope for the future. You will never be able to question me on my doctrines and beliefs with the right attitude, if you do not first love me...

We are going to have to allow one another a diversity of expression. But we need to sit and talk about the issues that are of importance to salvation... Remember, your listeners need to recognize this Biblical fact, if it is Christ's body that makes all mankind one, anything else that we use to separate that which God has united, we are effectively elevating that something, whatever it might be, higher than the cross of Christ itself. Everything is trumped, all our doctrines, all our expressions, no matter how erroneous some of them may be, are trumped by the cross of Christ. If you are in Christ and I am in Christ, you and I are together in Christ. We just need to learn how to offer one another the grace of diversity and learn to work out the issues.

When I heard Tony Palmer state, "You will never be able to question me on my doctrines and beliefs with the right attitude, if you do not first love me...," I knew then that he identified himself as a Roman Catholic and the doctrinal beliefs Rick Wiles had enumerated were the very doctrines that he claimed as his own. Brothers and sisters, the Bible states that there is only ONE WAY to be reconciled to God, and that is through the sacrifice and resurrection of Yahshua, the Son of God. The Roman Catholics would like you to accept them as brothers and sisters while they pray to Mary and

view her as co-redemptrix with Christ. In practice, Mary, the Queen of Heaven, holds a higher position of honor in the minds of Roman Catholics, than does her Son. I observed this personally when I toured a number of Roman Catholic Churches in Manhattan some years back when I was on a speaking trip. In the front center of each sanctuary was a large statue of Mary, while the statue of Christ was off to the side of the sanctuary. Following are the words of some Roman Pope's regarding Mary's role.

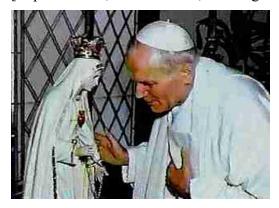
What will it cost you, oh Mary, to hear our prayer? What will it cost you to save us? Has not Jesus placed in your hands all the treasures of His grace and mercy? You sit crowned Queen at the right hand of your son: your dominion reaches as far as the heavens and to you are subject the earth and all creatures dwelling thereon. Your dominion reaches even down into the abyss of hell, and you alone, oh Mary, save us from the hands of Satan.

[Pope Pius XI]

Mary, not one of thy devout servants has ever perished: may I, too, Be saved! [Pope Benedict XV]

Do thou, who art the Seat of Wisdom, enlighten the minds wretchedly enfolded in the darkness of ignorance and sin, that they may clearly recognize the Holy, Catholic, Roman Church to be the only true Church of Jesus Christ, outside of which neither sanctity nor salvation can be found. Call them to the unity of the one fold, granting them the grace to believe every truth of our holy faith and to submit themselves to the Supreme Roman Pontiff, the Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth, that, thus being united with us by the sweet chains of charity, there may soon be but one fold under one and the same Shepherd; and may we all thus, O Glorious Virgin, exultantly sing forever: 'Rejoice, O Virgin Mary! Thou alone hast destroyed all heresies in the whole world!' Amen.

[Pope Pius XII, *The Raccolta*, Benzinger Brothers, Boston, 1957, No. 626]



Pope John Paul II dedicated his general audience to "the Virgin Mary" and urged all Christians to accept Mary as their mother. He noted the words spoken by Jesus on the cross to Mary and to John—"Woman, behold thy son!" and "Behold thy mother!" (John 19:26,27), and he claimed that in this statement "It is possible to understand the authentic meaning of Marian worship in the ecclesial community … which furthermore is based on the will of Christ…"

The history of Christian piety teaches that Mary is the path that leads to Christ, and that filial devotion to her does not at all diminish intimacy with Jesus, but rather, it increases it and leads it

to very high levels of perfection." He concluded by asking all Christians "to make room (for Mary) in their daily lives, acknowledging her providential role in the path of salvation." [Source: Vatican Information Service, May 7, 1997]

The false doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church portrays Mary as the gateway through which all mankind must gain access to her Son. Catholics are therefore in the habit of praying to Mary, in hope that she will in turn present their petition to her Son so that He might act on their behalf.

"Have recourse to that dear Mary who is the Mother of Mercy. She will take you into her Son's presence and use her Motherly intercession with Him on your behalf, so that He will be merciful toward you."

[St. Catherine of Siena]



The many false doctrines of the Roman church that have arisen to venerate Mary and to cause a billion souls to worship her are NOT an example of divine diversity that needs to be celebrated. They are an example of diabolical deception that needs to be firmly resisted. The same is true of the Roman Catholic belief in Papal superiority and infallibility; the practice of confessing one's sins to a priest and doing penance; and the myriad interjections of paganism into Catholic rites through the age old practice of syncretism.

http://www.heart4god.ws/index htm files/Syncretism.pdf

Satan first sought to elevate Mary to a place of worship when Yahshua was still walking the earth in the days of His ministry. The Son of God immediately rebuked the speaker, giving no place to this false spirit of idolatry.

Luke 11:27-28

And it came about while He said these things, one of the women in the crowd raised her voice, and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts at which You nursed." But He said, "On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God, and observe it."

Rick Wiles did not argue with Tony Palmer when he interviewed him. He spoke no disagreement with the answers he gave. Throughout the interview he gave the impression of one who found great

agreement with what was being spoken, and supported the aims of the man being interviewed. Many of the TruNews listeners, however, were surprised, disappointed, and many were angry. A deluge of online comments were posted and e-mails were sent to Rick Wiles, resulting in his giving a defense of his actions in another broadcast two days later.

http://www.trunews.com/friday-may-23-2014-rick-chris-steinle/

I agree that there is much fleshliness and many failures of love among the body of Christ. Nevertheless, Rick Wiles response to the concerns and protests of his listeners fell short of honoring the Lord he professes to serve. His reply was self-serving. Rather than examining the concerns of listeners, and addressing their arguments against embracing Roman Catholicism, he characterized himself as misunderstood while demonizing those who expressed alarm. In doing so, he moved from deception to delusion. These two words are defined in the following manner.

Deception: *the act of deceiving (to mislead or falsely persuade others.)*

Synonyms: trick, stratagem, ruse, wile, hoax, imposture

Delusion: a fixed false belief that is resistant to reason or confrontation with actual fact.

In the interview with Tony Palmer, deception was present, while in the follow-up broadcast where Rick Wiles defends the broadcast delusion is present.



Brothers and sisters, Satan is using the word diversity to promote much perversity in this hour. Diversity is the buzz word of the homosexuals, and they proclaim that we should celebrate diversity. In the spiritual realm Satan is using the same tactic. He would declare that all religious views are merely manifestations of the wonderful diversity of humanity, and this diversity should be embraced and celebrated. It is suggested that it is enough simply to be a "spiritual person," and that specific beliefs and doctrines should not separate spiritual men and women. Tony Palmer goes so far as to state that an embrace of diversity is needed in order to be "Christ-like." In the writing from The Ark Community that I cited earlier, Palmer declares the following.

So to be Christ-like we as believers need to have two things: We need diversity and we need diversity

to be together. Being united does not mean being the same, being united means being together.

The unification of diversity must be manifested on a personal and on a corporate level. Individually we need to embrace all the charismas of Christ in order to be transformed into His image and as His Body Corporately we need to embrace each other's diversity and stand together to be the image of Christ Universally as ONE Holy catholic universal eternal glorious victorious Church...! [Ibid]

Do we actually need to celebrate diversity to be Christ-like? Is division over doctrinal beliefs of the Devil? Yahshua answered these questions in His own statements.

Matthew 10:34-39

"Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man's enemies will be the members of his household. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who has found his life shall lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake shall find it."

Christ is called "the Truth," and truth divides and separates. This is why the Son of God is figured in the book of Revelation with a double edged sword coming out of His mouth, and why in the passage above He states that He came to bring a sword. Yahshua has also spoken to us through His apostles.

II Corinthians 6:14-18

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. 'I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters,' says the Lord Almighty."



Brothers and sisters, the practice of Roman Catholicism is to embrace all religions, and to celebrate the diversity of all idolatrous worship. The Spirit of Christ speaks plainly that this is not of God, and

those who do such things are NOT His people. They will stand before the Lord one day and hear Him say, "Depart from Me, you workers of lawlessness. I never knew you."

Tony Palmer is a deceiver, and a worker of Satan. I watched the video where this man presented the Pope's message to those gathered at the Kenneth Copeland meeting. I listened to his interview with Rick Wiles. In neither of these did he identify himself as a Roman Catholic, or state that the only reason he has not joined the Roman Catholic Church is so that he can act as a bridge between Catholics and Protestants. He confessed his true affiliation only when he was speaking to a gathering of Roman Catholics. This is the behavior of a deceiver.

How deceitful and serpent-like it is for the Pope and Tony Palmer to say that Christians need to forgive the errors of the past. These errors include the Roman Catholic Church's martyrdom of hundreds of thousands of Christians, including women and children. These errors include tortures, and forms of death that were of the most cruel and unusual forms including burning people alive over green wood, disemboweling men to suffer cruelly as their intestines spilled out, and ripping open the stomachs of pregnant women after repeatedly raping them. The history of Roman Catholic persecution is truly Satanic. Very well has this Harlot fulfilled the words that the apostle John wrote about her.

Revelation 17:4-6

And the woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality, and upon her forehead a name was written, a mystery, "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Yahshua.

The present Pope is a Jesuit, the most cunning, treacherous, and dishonest of all groups among the Roman Catholics. He is a wolf in sheep's clothing. He is a serpent along the path. He would ask the disciples of Christ to come and enter into communion with him. He postures, and appears meek and mild, but inwardly he is full of the scheming of Satan, the father of liars and murderers.

Will you be swayed by the words of men like Rick Wiles and Tony Palmer? Will you declare as Rick Joyner of Morningstar Ministries of a recent Pope that he was a champion of Christianity and a righteous man? Will you agree with Rick Warren, author of *The Purpose Driven Life*, and pastor of Saddleback Church that "*Pope Francis is doing everything right*"? (See the video at link below)

http://apprising.org/2014/05/20/rick-warren-on-roman-catholic-ewtn-network/

Rick Warren is on record as stating the following.

"I see absolutely zero reason in separating my fellowship from anybody," he declared. Noting he has theological differences with many of the diverse denominations that invite him to speak (Including Catholics), Warren added, "That doesn't stop me from fellowshipping with them." [http://www.baptiststandard.com/resources/archives/45-2005-archives/3871-warren-calls-sbc-wit hdrawal-from-bwa-a-silly-mistake]

In this same article, Rick Warren trumpets the celebration of diversity message.

"God has called us to enjoy and fellowship with each other and work together. We're all in this together," he said, adding Baptists can "celebrate our diversity and celebrate our unity." [Ibid]

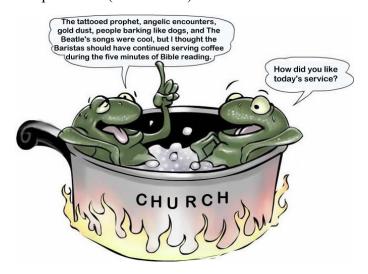
Brothers and sisters, this message that we should not allow doctrinal differences, even heresy and idolatry, to enter into our decisions to have fellowship and communion with others, is antithetical to the commandment of God who has said, "Come out from among them, and do not touch that which is unclean." There are many evil workers among the church today. The pressure to lay aside differences and to embrace all beliefs will only increase. The agenda is clear. The message is going forth. The great apostasy is occurring at this present hour. If you would remain true to Yahshua, you must stand in the truth.

John 4:23-24

"But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

DECEPTION - Part 2

Joseph Herrin (05-28-2014)



What passes for spiritual life in many Christian churches today bears no resemblance to the life of the early church that is set forth in the New Testament. Truly, those who call themselves followers of Christ have fallen from the example of sober minded saints who were intent on bearing the cross and making disciples of Yahshua, and they have become silly, ridiculous, and vain as they have embraced every new claim of God doing something supernatural in their midst. How has the church become a house of quackery where the most ludicrous deceivers are given a platform to speak nonsense to the body of Christ? Why are these men and women and their messages not tested to see whether they are of Christ? I believe a large part of the blame lies with the efforts of Satan, who has for decades worked to condemn and ostracize those who would exercise discernment and judgment among the body of Christ. This has driven the practice of exercising judgment out of the church, leaving her susceptible to the most egregious examples of spiritual charlatanism.

Before the Father called me out of the established church system, He appointed me for a season to serve as both an elder and a minister in a number of churches that had plural leadership structures. I have always recognized my call to be that of a teacher. In the fulfillment of this calling I have had many occasions to do the very things that Paul instructed Timothy to do.

II Timothy 4:2

Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

Being called to fulfill the role of a minister to God's people in this hour, when spirituality and true commitment to Christ are at ebbtide, I found myself needing to offer correction to brothers and sisters in Christ on numerous occasions. I was unprepared for the reaction that I received. I wrote about this experience in an early article posted to the Heart4God website titled *The Issue of Judging*. I will cite a portion of that writing here.

The Bible contains both clear admonitions to judge, as well as warnings against judging. On the surface these admonitions seem to be in contradiction to one another. However, we know that God is not the author of confusion, so there has to be a proper way to view all of these scriptures in harmony with one another.

This has long been a troubling issue for me because, as a minister with a prophetic gifting, God often has spoken words of correction, instruction and warning through me. On many occasions these words have not only been rejected, but they have elicited a very vitriolic response from brothers or sisters. Often my character and motives have been attacked because a member of the body did not want to hear truth, or allow the Spirit of God to delve into areas of their life that they had walled off from His inspection.

Because I grew up under the influence of the strong men of guilt, condemnation, and shame I have been quick to believe that I must have been in error when the words God had me share with others were rejected. I would look for the tiniest indication that the message of God was influenced and corrupted as it passed through the vessel of my flesh. Did I err by not speaking in love? Did I not have the person's welfare in mind when I spoke to them? Did I let my own feelings of rejection add a harshness to the delivery of the word because I anticipated that I would be rejected and criticized?

I am certain that at times there was some substance to these questions that arose in my mind. However, I am fully convinced that the rejection of correction and warning is most often due to the fact that in the Western world the mass of Christian believers simply do not receive these things well. There is little true discipleship in churches. Members are courted and catered to. Offending a brother is looked upon as the most grievous of offenses. There are too many competing churches to risk offending a brother or sister. It is too easy for them to pack up and go somewhere else where no one will interfere with the way they choose to live their life.

In many ways, the mass of church goers are like spoiled children. They are given everything they want with little required of them in return. Even as a spoiled child pitches a fit or throws a temper tantrum when told they cannot do something, or when they are corrected, so do many of the saints of God. It is largely because such an atmosphere of tolerance and appearement has been adopted in the church that the issue of judging has fallen out of vogue and is looked down upon as unkind and uncharitable.

[End Excerpt]



Men and women who are petulant in their fleshly form of Christianity will often respond to the person offering correction by telling them that the Bible commands believers not to judge others. The statement "Judge not lest you be judged" is bandied about as if it is the end of the matter. Christians are told that they are simply not to judge. If they attempt to do so they are labeled as being critical, divisive, or holier-than-thou. The large body of Scripture passages that command Christians to judge, to exercise discernment and correction, is neglected. Following is a further excerpt from the writing *The Issue of Judging*.

Admonishments to judge:

In my 'puzzling' out this issue of judging I began by looking at scriptures that give instructions to judge. I did this because I wanted to understand the scriptures that say not to judge and I knew they could not violate these admonitions to judge. This is therefore a good starting point. The first scripture comes from our Lord and is found in the book of John.

John 7:24

"Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."

The words rendered as 'judge' in this verse are the Greek word 'krino' which according to Strongs' Dictionary is interpreted "to distinguish or decide, and by implication, to try, condemn, or punish."

The context of this verse is not specifically a command to make judgments. Rather, it is a rebuke to those who make judgments according to appearance, condemning that which God has not condemned. The Jewish leaders were condemning Jesus because He healed on the Sabbath. These are told to not judge by appearance but to judge righteously. This principle of not judging by appearance is reflected in the following prophetic passage of scripture that foretells the coming of Christ.

Isaiah 11:3-4

And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge [8199] after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove [3198] after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge [8199] the poor, and reprove [3198] with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. (KJV)

In this passage the word 'judge' is Strongs' number 8199, shaphat (shaw-fat'); meaning to judge or pronounce sentence for or against. By implication, it means to vindicate or punish, and extended out it carries the meaning 'to govern.'

Likewise, the word 'reprove' is Strongs' number 3198, yakach (yaw-kahh'); meaning to be right or correct. In application, it means to argue, to decide, justify or convict, appoint, argue, chasten, convince, correct, dispute, judge, maintain, plead, reason (together), rebuke, and reprove.

This scripture is a prophecy of Christ, but as God's stated purpose for us is to be conformed to the image of His Son, we can by implication draw application to ourselves from this passage. Judging,

pronouncing sentence, determining a person's right standing or wrong standing, or governing is not to be done by what our eyes see, according to appearance. Additionally, reproving, determining what is right or correct, putting forth an argument, making decisions, justifying, or convicting is not to be based upon what we have heard with our ears. In other words, right and wrong is not to be decided through what our physical senses report as it is weighed by our mind.

It is with righteousness that judging and reproving are to be done. What is the source of this righteousness if it does not arise from our reasoning as we evaluate that which is seen and heard?

Psalms 7:11

God is a righteous judge...

Psalms 11:7

For the LORD is righteous; He loves righteousness; the upright will behold His face.

God alone is the source of righteous judgment. As we behold Him we learn of His righteous judgments and we cast off our own judgments formed from what we see and hear. If we are to walk in righteousness, all of our judgments must originate with God lest we find ourselves condemning what God has not condemned and approving what God has not approved. The only acceptable judgment is that which finds its source in God. This is further revealed in the following verse.

John 5:30

"I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."

Jesus is not referring here to hearing with His physical ears, He is speaking of hearing from God. Jesus' judgment is in harmony with the Father's judgment. They are one and the same. Jesus merely speaks that which He hears the Father saying. This is to be our pattern as well.

A further admonishment to judge is found in Paul's instructions to Timothy.

II Timothy 4:1-2

I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge [krino] the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove [1651], rebuke [2008], exhort, with great patience and instruction.

Timothy, an elder in the body of Christ, is told to refute those in error. 'Refute' is Strong's number 1651, elegcho (el-eng'-kho); meaning "to confute, or admonish." The word 'confute' is defined as: to prove to be false or invalid; convict of error. Timothy is also told to rebuke. The word 'rebuke' is Strongs' word 2008, epitimao (ep-ee-tee-mah'-o); meaning "to tax upon, i.e. censure or admonish; by implication, forbid."

In this passage we see that Paul is telling Timothy that as an elder and leader in the body of Christ he is to admonish, he is to prove that which is error to be false or invalid, he is to convict of error, he is to censure those who hold to error, and he is to forbid continuing in error.

All of these things required that Timothy had to discern the mind of the Father to know what was false and what was true. As he did so he was to apply himself diligently to keeping the body free from error and clinging to that which was right. In similar manner, Paul exhorted Titus, another elder:

Titus 2:15

These things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Paul further elaborated to Titus:

Titus 1:12-13

One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." This testimony is true. For this cause reprove them severely that they may be sound in the faith...

The word 'reprove' here is the same word spoken to Timothy. The word 'severely' comes from a Greek word meaning "to cut abruptly or peremptorily." 'Peremptorily' is defined as: final, decisive, precluding discussion or hesitation. It should be noted that reproof and rebuke was not always to be given with such sharpness. This instruction was given to Titus due to the nature of the people he was ministering to. However, Paul gave Timothy this qualification on how to address those in the body he ministered to.

I Timothy 5:1-2

Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, to the younger men as brothers, the older women as mothers, and the younger women as sisters, in all purity.

Through the clear message of these passages we can clearly determine that the admonition to "not judge" found in some scriptures does not preclude an elder or minister from his clear responsibility of correcting, refuting, reproving, rebuking, censuring, etc..

Some further scriptures indicating that there is a proper place for judgment are found in Paul's instructions to the Corinthian church. These hold a somewhat different application in that these letters were not sent just to those who were elders, but to the body in general.

I Corinthians 5:9-13

I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters; for then you would have to go out of the world. But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he should be an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler-not even to eat with such a one. For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church? But those who are outside, God judges. Remove the wicked man from among yourselves.

This passage indicates that the church is to discern who among the body are immoral, covetous, idolaters, revilers, drunkards, or swindlers. This discernment was to be followed with action. If the person would not repent they were to be shunned and the believer was not to even share a meal with

such a one. In the same passage Paul corrected any misconception that this judging was to apply to those outside of the church. It is not the responsibility of the church to judge those outside of the church. Paul states that God will judge these.

In verse 12 Paul asks a rhetorical question, "Do you not judge those who are within the church?" Again, the word 'judge' here is the Greek word Krino which is interpreted "to distinguish or decide, and by implication, to try, condemn, or punish."

That which precipitated this message to the Corinthian believers was the presence of sin in the body that was being tolerated, rather than exposed, confronted and removed. Paul speaks of those who were coming to partake of the Lord's supper who were getting drunk and behaving gluttonously. Additionally, he addresses the issue of a man who was partaking of all of the rights of fellowship among the body when he was in gross immorality having taken his father's wife for himself.

Paul clearly states that such sins are not to be ignored or glanced over. The members of the body are to discern those who are walking in disobedience and to reprove them for their error. If they will not repent they are to be ostracized, excluded from the privileges of fellowship.

By this we can deduce that any scripture speaking against judging does not forbid the actions that Paul states here are the clear responsibility of the body of Christ; to discern that which is blatant sin and to reprove those who are in sin, refusing to associate with them if they will not repent. Paul gives further instructions to the Corinthian believers regarding judging.

I Corinthians 6:2-3, 5

Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts? Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, matters of this life? I say this to your shame. Is it so, that there is not among you one wise man who will be able to decide [diakrino] between his brethren...

The word 'decide' found in verse 5 is Strongs' number 1252, diakrino (dee-ak-ree'-no); meaning "to separate thoroughly, that is to withdraw from, or by implication to oppose." It also means to discriminate.

Again, this passage is prompted by the disobedience of the members of the body who were suing one another in civil courts. This body was very divisive, having different factions who claimed loyalty to different men. Some claimed they were of Paul, some of Apollos, some of Cephas, and some of Jesus Christ. This divisiveness extended even into the arena of legal disputes and many were taking one another to court to their own shame.

Paul rebukes them for this and chides them for not being able to resolve their issues among themselves. He tells them they will judge the world and even angels. How much more should they be able to make simple judgments among themselves. In verse 5 Paul is asking them, "Can no wise man be found among you who can divide a matter and resolve it to its root issue, discriminating between right and wrong?" This was something the church should certainly handle themselves.

In this we can further deduce that any word against judging cannot be interpreted as infringing upon this obvious responsibility of the body to settle disputes among itself, even disputes that would be considered of a civil nature. The body is to police itself. They are to discern right and wrong from God's righteous perspective and conduct their daily lives according to the dictates of what they have discerned.



These Scriptures, and a great many more, shatter the myth that Christians are not to judge. It is really an untenable position to suggest that Christians should not judge. The individuals condemning so strenuously those who practice discernment and judgment in the body of Christ are violating the very principle they are promoting, even as they speak. To be critical of Christians who judge is an example of judging. (For those who have questions about the Scripture passages that speak against judging, and how they are to be harmonized with the many admonitions to judge, I recommend reading the full article cited above.)

The tragic fruit of the false doctrine of "Judge Not" is that the people of God have become passive when it comes to exercising discernment, and tolerant of many things that should not be tolerated. The church has become a menagerie, or circus, filled with ridiculous men and women who are declaring unsound things and engaging in unprofitable behaviors. I recently came across one egregious example of this as I read of Bill Johnson, pastor of Bethel Church and leader of Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry (BSSM). Bethel Church is a Charismatic, Pentecostal church associated with the Assemblies of God denomination, and has weekly membership of about 3,500 people. Bill Johnson's influence is much wider, however, as he is a popular speaker among the prophetic movement crowd.

Bill Johnson has supported the John G. Lake Healing Rooms. This is another one of those modern day movements that has been built upon the foundation of a past historical person who is being described as a champion of Christianity when the individual was in fact a charlatan and a deceiver. These John G. Lake Healing Rooms are spreading across America, with naive and gullible Christians flocking to them to receive healing (and fleecing). In one account of Bill Johnson's involvement with these healing rooms, I read the following.

BILL JOHNSON AND THE JOHN G. LAKE ANGELIC HEALING ROOMS

How the Healing Rooms were founded. These healing rooms having "healing angels;" the Bible says:

Col. 2:18, "Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind," K.JV

I personally know a woman who reported to us that she had gone to Spokane, Washington with Bill Johnson and a group of Christians to investigate John G. Lake's healing ministry... They wanted to see John G. Lake's home. Some of Lake's relatives had bought his home and were restoring it. They refused to let these weird Christians inside. However, they were pulling up old lanoline (sic) and other things and throwing this stuff out for the trash. The Christians, like vultures, grabbed the Lake trash out of the garbage. She brought this rubbish to her home and made a collage cross and hung it over her bed.

After leaving Lake's old home, Bill Johnson and his group went to the cemetery to visit his grave. This woman told us they all "rolled on the grave" to get Lake's anointing. Then they went to the old building where he conducted his healings. To their amazement, the building was up for lease. She said, "A woman needed healing and they were in a back room. Suddenly, peace came into the room... A tall angel was in the room and healed her friend. They got Bill Johnson and when he came into the room, he claimed on Sid Roth program that the angel spoke to him and said, "Where have you been.... I've been waiting for you to come for 80 years."

Sid Roth asked him, "Could you see the angel?" Bill Johnson admitted that he could not see the angel that he sensed his presence.... He then said, "He was about 10 or 11 feet tall."

Johnson leased the John G. Lake building and thus we now having "Healing Rooms," around the nation. The woman friend of mine told us that many then went to Kathryn Khulman's (sic) grave and rolled on her grave to receive her anointing.... Then they went to Aimee Semple McPherson's grave and Corrie Ten Boom.

[S o u r c e : http://www.remnantradio.org/Archives/articles/PH/Newsletters/REV.%20BILL%20JOHNSON %20-%20HEALING%20ROOMS%20-%20GOLD%20DUST%20AND%20GEM%20REVIVA LS%2005-01-10.pdf]

It is bad enough to fail to exercise spiritual discernment by embracing spiritual deceivers from the past. This error is exacerbated when individuals such as Bill Johnson encourage their followers to venerate these men and women, and to engage in bizarre and un-Biblical behaviors such as rolling on the graves of deceased individuals to receive their anointing. The prophetic movement has made much ado about spiritual impartations. Death presents no barrier for them in this practice. If you want the anointing of a deceased Christian, just visit their grave, or some other place they frequented, and you can receive an impartation of anointing. Such ideas are folly at best, and demonic at worst.

The following video shows John Crowder, another individual promoting this false type of spiritual impartation, at the gravesite of John Alexander Dowie. Bill Johnson has endorsed Crowder, who is

here heard saying,

We've just come to the grave today to release to you an impartation of healing revival, of city building, restoration city-taking anointing, master-building apostolic anointing, and so we just rip it right out of the ground, we just suck it right off his dead bones, in Jesus name, and loose it to you, a healing-revival-glory-master-building-apostolic anointing glory...

http://youtu.be/pnrrvw4pz5k

<iframe width="480" height="360" src="//www.youtube.com/embed/pnrrvw4pz5k"
frameborder="0" allowfullscreen></iframe>

There is a great irreverence among some of these individuals as well. About halfway through the video above John Crowder says, "Just take a hit off of controversial glory. Take a hit off of pioneering, forerunning glory." The phrase "take a hit" is street slang that one might use when speaking of illegal drug use. It is common for people smoking marijuana to share the same cigarette, or joint. They would say "take a hit and pass it along." To refer to the glory of God as something that an individual can take a hit off of is to greatly debase the holiness and reverence of Yahweh.

John Crowder speaks glowingly of Alexander Dowie, discounting the many newspaper accounts of his misdeeds as merely the attacks of an anti-Christian press. I do not know whether John Crowder has ever looked into the accusations against Dowie. There is much evidence to condemn the man as a deceiver who greatly misled great numbers of people and was the cause of great suffering for many. Dowie was extreme in his healing views, holding a belief similar to David Eells of Unleavened Bread Ministries, and resulting in similar tragic results (see the story of Kara Neumann).

Dowie taught that healing is promised in the atonement and insisted that those who sought faith healing give up all medical care. He viewed druggists and physicians as instruments of the devil. When his own daughter was severely burned after accidentally knocking over an alcohol lamp, he banished one of his followers for trying to alleviate her pain with Vaseline. He refused to allow her any medical treatment and she died in that condition. Many others who came to his faith cure homes died of their illnesses without any medical attention.

[Source: http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/strange1.htm]

(For a Biblical understanding of faith and healing, I recommend the writing titled *Understanding Faith and Healing*.)

In his later years Dowie claimed to have had a revelation that he was The Elijah of the last days, and the first apostle of the Restoration. In his presumptuous role as Elijah, Dowie began to dress in garb modeled after Aaron's High Priestly garments.



John Alexander Dowie

Dowie purchased land in Illinois and established the town of Zion. The entire town of about 7,000 individuals was comprised of his followers. Dowie owned all the property, and he controlled the local business that church members worked in. He was accused of misappropriating funds, a charge that has a factual basis to it as Dowie built for himself a 25 room mansion while most of the church members lived off of sub-standard wages for the time.

Although Dowie's doctrine declared that physical health was promised to all mankind through the atonement of Christ, he suffered a debilitating stroke in 1905. He never fully regained his health after that, and suffered numerous subsequent strokes. He died after having been depressed and bed-ridden in 1907.

Dowie had chosen as his lieutenant a man as avaricious and deceived as himself. When Dowie suffered a stroke in 1905 while traveling in Mexico, W.G. Voliva, his second in command, took advantage of the situation and wrested control of Zion. Upon his return to Zion, Dowie sought to regain control, but was unsuccessful, being forced to be content with an allowance provided by the church. Voliva, continued to stress the promise of divine health as a consequence of Christ's atonement, yet he also died after being stricken with cancer. In the year 1942, at the age of 72, Dowie's successor confessed that he too had misappropriated church funds for his own personal use, and had committed "other serious sins." There were numerous charges of sexual misconduct relating to Dowie and to Voliva, and it seems likely that it was to this that Voliva was referring. Voliva had previously proclaimed that he would live to be 120 years old, based upon the promise of God in Genesis 6:3. Nevertheless, he fell 48 years short of that goal.

Aside from Dowie suffering the horrific tragedy of his 21 year old daughter Esther being horribly burned by an overturned lamp that was fueled by alcohol, and subsequently dying, Dowie lost his young daughter Jeanie to sickness 17 years earlier when he was in the midst of his healing ministry and claiming great success at healing others.

Understanding the true history of Zion, Illinois, and the ambitious, self-aggrandizing men who founded and ran the town, it seems implausible that John Crowder, or any other person, will be resurrecting and loosing any glory, or healing anointing, from that location. They can sing and dance

atop Dowie's grave, but heaven will not be moved to send forth an anointing.

Many naive and spiritually immature Christians are buying into this hokum. Members of Bill Johnson's Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry have been visiting the graves of dead people and rolling on the graves, or "cuddling" with the spirits of the deceased.



Students of BSSM at the Grave of Alexander Dowie



BSSM Students at Maria Woodworth-Etter's Grave



2nd **Year BSSM Students Sucking Up Anointing from Evan Roberts Grave** (Evan Roberts was instrumental in the Welsh Revival)



BSSM Students "catching some anointing" from Aimee Semple McPherson's Grave



Bill Johnson (on right) at Smith Wigglesworth's Grave

[S o u r c e o f I m a g e s : http://beyondgrace.blogspot.com/2011/07/bill-johnson-and-john-crowders-leaven.html]

Brothers and sisters, one has to exercise only a little discernment to discover that there is something wrong with the behavior that these Christians are engaging in. Only believers who have abandoned the practice of testing all things would be so gullible as to embrace such ridiculous notions. Neither Yahshua, nor His apostles, ever promoted the idea that a person could gain a spiritual anointing by visiting the grave of a dead person. This practice is very similar to the apostate Roman Catholic practice of venerating saints and building shrines at the locations they lived, or were buried. The apostles have declared to us that spiritual gifts and ministerial appointments, are administered by the Holy Spirit according to the determination of Yahweh.

I Corinthians 12:4-11

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. And there are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. <u>But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.</u>

It is not up to Christians to choose their anointing for service. Paul declares in another place that Yahweh has prepared those specific works for each individual believer beforehand.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Yahshua for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

It is not left to mankind to choose what anointing they will receive from God. We may "earnestly desire greater gifts" (I Corinthians 12:31) that we may employ them for the edification and benefit of the body of Christ, but it is up to Yahweh to decide whether we receive specific giftings. These things are not to be obtained by soaking up an anointing from the grave of a deceased person.

An absence of discernment is observable among those who are embracing such foolishness. It would take only a little investigation to discover that individuals such as John G. Lake, Alexander Dowie, Kathryn Kuhlman, and Aimee Semple McPherson were deeply flawed individuals who routinely practiced deception and lived immoral lifestyles. The following information on John G. Lake taken from one Internet website can be found corroborated at many other sources.

According to the 7/24/21 issue of the Oregonian and subsequent issues. John Lake was arrested, charged, and forced to settle out of court for a blue sky scam in which he promised members of his congregation stock in a mining company if they paid their tithes in a lump sum. The stock was never delivered.

Nov. 21, 1933 Lake advertised the appearance of an Arab healer, Abdul Ben Shinandar in the Oregonian. On Nov. 25 the same paper uncovered that the Arab healer was actually Lake dressed in costume.

August 25, 1921 Lake was arrested and had to post \$100 bond for impersonating a police officer.

The May 24, 1920 issue of the Oregonian and subsequent issues chronicle the arrest of John G. Lake after the death of Hanna Anderson who died of neglect when attempts to heal her of the flu failed. Not only did Lake not heal her, but he also failed to report the illness to the CDC which was required by law at the time. He was found guilty of laxity and fined.

Inability to Heal

The Hanna Anderson story is not the only example to show that Lake's claims of tremendous healing power were exaggerated. Consider the following headlines. "Miracles Not Seen"- The Morning Oregonian, May 24, 1920 "X-Ray Belies Healing"- Oregonian 11/27/21. This particular story is of a 7 year old girl with a severely fractured thigh whose parents denied her proper medical care and took her to Lake instead. Lake pronounced her healed, however when the girl still didn't recover she was finally taken to physicians and the fracture was discovered. Doctors indicate that she would have been crippled for life had she not received proper treatment.

"Grandma says girl made to Hear Wasn't Deaf"- Spokane Press 7/16/24 (This article does have a story of another woman who claimed to be healed and able to walk. There is also an interesting account in the same story of a woman who was "healed" by Lake 5 times but the "pain keeps coming back.")

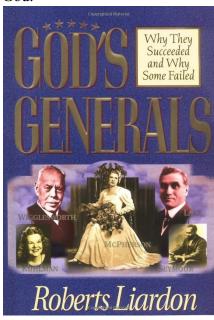
"Miracles Fail, Imp of Tragedy Stalks in Tent" Spokane Press 7/23/24

The reason John Lake became so popular is that, like Benny Hinn and others today, he had a very active PR machine. Many of the positive articles that appear about him were written by him. The reality is that he is long on claims and short on documentation.

[S o u r c e : http://www.remnantradio.org/Archives/articles/PH/Newsletters/REV.%20BILL%20JOHNSON %20-%20HEALING%20ROOMS%20-%20GOLD%20DUST%20AND%20GEM%20REVIVA

LS%2005-01-10.pdf]

With the resources available to Christians today, it is not difficult to discover the true history of men and women who are venerated by groups of believers today. I remember back in the days when I looked at Morningstar Ministries admiringly, that a book was published by a man named Roberts Liardon titled *God's Generals*. This book proclaimed that many of the individuals who are now so widely admired among the prophetic movement were considered great champions of the faith by God.



The cover of the book includes photos of John G. Lake, Aimee Semple McPherson, and Kathryn Kuhlman. The book also includes chapters on William Branham, John Alexander Dowie, Maria Woodworth-Etter, and A.A. Allen. (I am unfamiliar with some of the other individuals named.) A greater collection of apostate deceivers could hardly have been joined together. This book was a big hit among the prophetic crowd, and continues to be popular today. It has influenced the thinking of thousands who believe the individuals featured in this book are truly God's spiritual leaders who have greatly advanced the cause of Christianity. They believe this for no other reason than that Roberts Liardon has said so.

Why are so many Christians duped? It is partly because they have fallen out of the habit of testing all things. The apostle Paul admonished Timothy with the following words.

I Timothy 5:22

Do not lay hands upon anyone too hastily and thus share responsibility for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin.

The act of the laying on of hands is a sign of acceptance and endorsement. Paul is in essence saying that believers should not be too quick to accept any man, or his message. Each person should have their life examined to know their true character. Every message should be tested against the testimony of the Spirit and the Word. When we neglect to do these things, when we are too hasty in

forming opinions about a person or message, we risk being caught up in the sins of others. The result is that we share responsibility for these sins.

Having had an Internet ministry for many years, I routinely receive links to other ministry websites, or to specific teachings, as they are forwarded to me by members of the body of Christ. Quite often I recognize that either the individual, or their message, is deeply flawed. Some people forward to me writings before they have even finished reading them. This is an inadvisable practice. Before we ever share another person's teaching with another human being, or recommend an individual to others, we should have first performed our due diligence in examining both the message and the messenger.

I have erred in this area myself, particularly early on in my ministry. I was too quick to embrace some individuals who had some truth, only to discover later that they also had much error, sometimes very serious error. When I created the first Heart4God website I had a page that included links to other websites. After a few years I removed all the links as I became convicted by the words of Paul that are cited above. I knew some of the men and women whose websites I had links to were teaching error. Others I did not have enough familiarity with to know what all they were teaching.

I am not seeking to be uncharitable, for I have benefitted from the teachings of a great many men and women of God over the course of my life. There are many writings that I can heartily recommend. Yet, even among Christians whose lives and teachings I have found to be most praiseworthy, there can be the leaven of error. Recognizing this, I now tend to be much more specific when I mention another teacher. Rather than giving them a blanket endorsement, I will refer to a specific writing, or even a portion of one of their writings, that I found helpful. By doing so I am seeking to be more precise in my communication lest I should go too far and my words be misconstrued as an endorsement of some error the individual might be promoting.

In the same week that Rick Wiles conducted his interview with Anglican Bishop Tony Palmer, he did two shows with a man who was identified as Pastor Levy. Rick Wiles had never met this individual before, or even heard of him. Pastor Levy called up Rick Wiles' office and said that a man whom Rick Wiles knew and respected had told him to call. Because Rick greatly respected the man who had made the recommendation, he spoke to Pastor Levy on the phone and summarily invited him to join him on an upcoming broadcast. This broadcast was extended to two shows, as Rick Wiles was very much impressed with the man's message, speaking enthusiastically of it throughout the two hour-long interviews.

Two different brothers in Christ listened to these interviews and sent me links to them, asking me for my opinion of what Pastor Levy was sharing. His message was rather startling as he compared America to ancient Egypt, and foretold of great judgment befalling America in September of 2015. He stated that Christians should all head south to nations below the equator, or they would experience the dire judgments to befall America.

I listened to the first hour-long interview, and took some notes. I shared with the brothers who had written to me that some of the parallels between ancient Egypt and America were remarkable, but I was not hearing the Father tell me to leave America. As I shared in the recent series *Double Jeopardy*, Yahweh told me to return to Georgia which would be the location of my school of

spiritual training, and I will not of my own initiative leave here. I will remain until Yahweh tells me I should move somewhere else.

A few days after Rick Wiles' interviews with Pastor Levy, the broadcasts were removed from the TruNews website. Rick then shared in a subsequent broadcast that he had been deceived by Pastor Levy, and that the man was a fraud. Levy had supplied false credentials, had misrepresented the recommendation of the respected friend of Rick Wiles, and had given out some inaccurate information during the broadcasts. Added to this, it was suggested that Pastor Levy had ulterior motives for advising people to move to Central, or South America, for he was selling land to people who wanted to relocate.

Rick Wiles confessed that he had not performed any research at all into Pastor Levy. He had not even called his friend to verify whether he had in fact recommended him. He had not looked for Pastor Levy's website, or examined his teachings, but had given him a worldwide platform to disseminate his message without knowing anything about the man. This confession is found in Rick Wile's broadcast of May 22nd, the day after Rick aired the broadcast with Tony Palmer.

http://www.trunews.com/thursday-may-22-2014-david-jason-benham-2/

What is apparent is that Rick Wiles has not been performing due diligence in vetting those individuals, or their messages, that he is bringing onto his show. I am confident that Rick Wiles did no better in ascertaining the identity and message of Tony Palmer. If he had, he surely would have had cause to ask him some serious questions about his Roman Catholic loyalties and his apostate beliefs.

It is considered socially unacceptable today, to challenge another person regarding their life or beliefs. To do so is politically incorrect within the realm of the church, for it is viewed to be judging, and judging has been deeply denigrated. As Christians, however, we are remiss if we do not exercise discernment by testing both people and their messages. It will prove exceedingly costly as the end of this age approaches for Christians to neglect this vital responsibility. We live in an hour of apostasy and deep deception. We must be practiced in the task of examining all things closely. Let us not become partakers of the sins of others by laying hands on any man too quickly.

DECEPTION - Part 3

Joseph Herrin (05-31-2014)



I want to continue to hammer home the message regarding the vital necessity for Christians to test all people and their messages carefully in this hour of great deception and spiritual darkness. An absence of critical examination of the words of men and women in the church today is leading to a great falling away from truth. The result is that multitudes of believers are embracing deception and being led into bondage to sin and Satan.

In the recent series titled *Double Jeopardy - Deception and Bondage of the Bride of Christ*, I focused on some of the errors of the prophetic movement, particularly mentioning Morningstar Ministries and International House of Prayer (IHOP). The leaders of these organizations are Rick Joyner and Mike Bickle. A common link between these two men is that they were both greatly influenced by Bob Jones, who was either an apostate prophet of God, or a false prophet possessed of an unclean spirit. I would actually lean toward the latter description as most likely.



Bob Jones

Bob Jones died on February 14th of this year at precisely 6:22 A.M.. Regular readers of this blog may recognize the symbolic meaning of the time of his death. For the past ten years I have been sharing that the number 6 represents the carnal flesh (for Adam was created on the 6th day), and the number 22 in the Scriptures denotes the cutting off of wickedness. Following is an excerpt from the book

Evidence of Things Unseen.

The Spirit has for quite some time spoken to me through numbers, and I noticed the prevalence of a certain number when we moved to this home. The house number was 2231, and the road we lived off of was County Road 22. When the Spirit showed me I was to use my push mower, the first thing I noted was that it was a 22" mower. I began to wonder about the significance of this number, and I was certain it had something to do with cutting grass, that is, removing sinful flesh. Before I was to leave this house, which would be our residence for two months, the Spirit revealed the significance. I did a search in my Bible software for the number 22 and I came up with the following.

Jeroboam, the king who made all Israel sin with the two golden calves he set up reigned 22 years and God cut him off (I Kings 14:20). Ahab, the king who did more evil than all the kings who preceded him because of his wife Jezebel, reigned 22 years and God cut him off. Furthermore, the Scriptures record the following about these other wicked kings:

II Kings 8:26-27

Ahaziah was <u>twenty-two</u> years old when he became king, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah the granddaughter of Omri king of Israel. He walked in the way of the house of Ahab and did evil in the sight of Yahweh, like the house of Ahab had done, because he was a son-in-law of the house of Ahab.

II Kings 21:19-23

Amon was <u>twenty-two</u> years old when he became king, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Meshullemeth the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah. He did evil in the sight of Yahweh, as Manasseh his father had done. For he walked in all the way that his father had walked, and served the idols that his father had served and worshiped them. So he forsook Yawheh, the God of his fathers, and did not walk in the way of Yahweh. The servants of Amon conspired against him and killed the king in his own house.

The number 22 has a correlation to wicked kings. As saints we are a nation of kings and priests, and there are among the saints those who are also wicked, for they have allowed the flesh to rule in their lives and have not dealt with it as they ought to. The number 22 speaks of cutting off this wickedness from our lives, even as my 22" mower was used to cut the grass that surrounded my new home on County Road 22. Another astounding confirmation of the symbolism of this number came at this time when a sister in Christ who sends out a daily Scripture, was led by the Spirit to send forth the following:

Ephesians 4:22

Strip yourselves of your former nature [put off and discard your old unrenewed self] which characterized your previous manner of life and becomes corrupt through lusts and desires that spring from delusion...

Amplified Bible

[End Excerpt]

Recognizing the great disparity between my own view of Morningstar Ministries fifteen years ago,

and the Lord's view of it, I can empathize with those who have admired men and their ministries that are deceptive in appearance. Some have watched the memorial service for Bob Jones that was held at Morningstar, concluding that he was surely a godly man who was mightily used of God. Appearances can be very deceiving, as the Lord showed me through the movie *Double Jeopardy*. The main character greatly admired the sailboat Morning Star which became a place of great deception for her, and resulted in bondage. The first man given the opportunity at Bob Jones' memorial service to speak on his behalf was Mike Bickle.

Mike Bickle was only 27 years old, and serving as a senior pastor at a church in Kansas City when he first met Bob Jones. From the time of their first meeting, the much older Jones with his uncanny prophetic abilities, very much impressed Mike Bickle and began to exert a great influence upon his life. In Mike's speech at the Bob Jones memorial service, he stated that for a period of ten years he spoke and interacted with Bob on nearly a daily basis. In articles posted on the IHOP website, Mike Bickle speaks of the profound influence of Bob Jones, revealing that he was the catalyst in the formation of the International House of Prayer movement. In Part 3 of the series titled *Savage Wolves*, I shared the following.

On the IHOP website is an article written by Mike Bickle which documents how IHOP came into existence. In this short history the name of Bob Jones is mentioned 28 times. In contrast the name of Christ is mentioned only 3 times. There is also a heavy focus upon angelic visitations. Following are a few quotes from the article.

The first word that Bob Jones gave to me on march 7, 1983

A. Bob Jones' first prophecy to me, "You will lead a worldwide youth movement of prophetic singers and musicians that God will release in power evangelism and use to mobilize worldwide prayer for Israel. This youth movement will be given abundant grace to operate in the prophetic and intercession..."

Bob Jones encounter with angels – Aug. 8, 1975

- A. History on Bob Jones: he was born in 1929 and grew up in the hills of Arkansas. **He had two angelic experiences in his youth** (Age 9 and 15). Bob met the Lord at age 39 (Sept. 1969). He worked on trees (spraying and trimming) for many years in Kansas City.
- B. He had his first major prophetic experience on Aug. 8, 1975. Bob had a "near death experience" in which his spirit left his body and stood before the Lord. The Lord sent him back from death to help the earliest leadership of a future worldwide youth movement. Bob saw two angels who spoke to one another about the future outpouring of the Spirit in Kansas City. They described it as being like an atomic explosion of light and that it would be characterized with prophetic and intercession (in Jan. 1984 the Lord showed Bob that "prophetic and intercession" would need to be joined with "compassion and worship" to be complete).
- C. Bob saw both a great revival and crisis coming on a worldwide scale just prior to Jesus' return. Holy believing persevering prayer is God's primary appointed means for releasing abundant

mercy and grace through His Church in the time of revival and crisis.

- D. God showed Bob that He would raise up a worldwide youth movement in Kansas City that would persist in night and day prayer that was led by prophetic singers and musicians. The first anointing will be on prophetic singers and musicians leading to an "open heaven." God would answer their prayers by releasing revival in the Church, power evangelism (world missions), justice in society, pockets of mercy ("cities of refuge") and worldwide intercession for Israel.
- E. **The angel told Bob** of the coming of a world war followed by worldwide famine. The urgent need for night and day intercession is understood in context to the coming worldwide crisis...
- H. On Aug. 8, 1975, **Bob heard the angels speak** to each other about God sending a spiritual and a natural breadbasket across the earth from a 500-mile radius around Kansas City in a time of natural and spiritual famine. The prophetic and intercession are redemptive gifts in the Midwest that are essential to releasing this blessing (bread, revelation, finances, houses of prayer, etc.).
- I. **The angels** saw God raising up what we refer to as "pockets of mercy." For example, there will be rain on areas in the time of drought and financial prosperity in the time of economic crisis...
- C. Bob tells of over 100 prophetic revelations of a youth movement rising up in KC (1975-1983). Bob's former pastor testified of how Bob publicly prophesied of the young people that would come to south Kansas City in the spring of 1983 seeking revival through intercession...

Bob explained that God will give specific prophetic signs in heaven (i.e., the sky: including comets and weather patterns) and on the earth (earthquakes, etc.) to validate prophetic words. Signs in heaven (sky) and earth that are foretold with accuracy cannot be manipulated by man. Thus, they confirm the important content of the prophetic dreams and visions. God holds people accountable to believe and act in obedience when He confirms words by signs in the heavens...

Thursday April 14, <u>Bob Jones is visited by Gabriel</u> who says, "give the young man Dan. 9 and he will understand." The Lord shows Bob that the fast will be confirmed by a comet unpredicted by scientists and it should start on May 7. This would be a significant time in which God would sovereignly speak to the youth movement and establish some of its spiritual DNA.

[End Excerpt]

A scripture that immediately comes to mind as I read about all of Bob Jones' claims of having been visited by angels is the following:

Colossians 2:18

Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind.

It is concerning to me to hear a man speak continuously of the visions and angelic encounters he has had. Bob Jones testified that he would regularly have as many as 7 prophetic encounters every night. Rick Joyner shared that Bob would speak with him each morning, telling him what he had received

the night before in his dreams and angelic encounters. This emphasis upon prophecy and mystical experiences, coupled with the de-emphasis of Bible study and the teaching of sound doctrine, has been the legacy left behind by Bob Jones. Some years back when Bob Jones was exposed for serious moral and ministerial transgressions while in Kansas City, Mike Bickle confessed that they had strayed into error. In the same blog post cited above, I included the following quotation taken from an online source.

The news about Jones was reported in the Olathe Daily Newspaper, 11/31/91. It contained that Jones admitted to sexual misconduct. He was removed from "ministry" to undergo a process of "restoration." This news was also published in a book called "What Happened To The Fire" by Lee Grady (1994). On page 103 it states, "About a year later, after the church had become affiliated with John Wimber's Vineyard network of churches, Jones admitted to a moral failure and was removed from his leadership position. Later, Mike Bickle stated publicly that he had promoted Jones improperly. He admitted that his church's emphasis on prophecy and mystical experiences had been unhealthy and destructive."

Then, in another review of the Kansas City Prophets, Bill Alnor of the Christian Sentinel reported the following: "Jones, who was using his spiritual authority to induce women to disrobe for him, was removed from that church..." The Apologetics Index, which is a ministry that researches resources on cults, sects and other religious movements, doctrines and practices, also reported on the matter. They state the following, that Bob Jones "was removed from the Vineyard Anaheim because of sexual improprieties, which consisted of encouraging women to undress in his office so they could stand 'naked before the Lord' in order to receive a 'word.'" In addition to this, several cult watch organizations have put him (Bob Jones) on watch for the same thing.

[End Excerpt]

Sadly, nothing changed, for the emphasis on prophecy and mystical experiences continues with IHOP. Bob Jones, before his emergence as a prophet, spent time in a mental hospital. Bob later reported that during this time the Lord spoke to him and told him that in order to get his mind back he would either have to kill, or forgive, twelve people. This is NOT the voice of God. Yahweh does not instruct people to kill others to regain their sanity. There is a very high incidence of demonic possession and oppression among the mentally ill. With all of Bob's claims of communicating with angels it should have been considered that these were fallen angels, or unclean spirits masquerading as messengers of God.

I Timothy 4:1

But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons...

Brothers and sisters, do you understand that these are the "later times" of which the apostle Paul spoke? The Spirit EXPLICITLY stated that during the time we now live in many will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons. Where do you suppose this is happening? It is certainly occurring with the false prophets of the modern prophetic movement. Paul Cain, Bob Jones, Todd Bentley; these are just a few of the individuals who have been paying attention to deceitful spirits and promoting doctrines of demons.

The words of the apostle Paul are being fulfilled in this hour. You can observe it happening at IHOP, at Morningstar, at Bill Johnson's Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry, and in the thousands of churches who are imbibing the unclean doctrines and practices being promoted by these places.



I believe it would be profitable to identify two issues that contributed to Mike Bickle's fall into deception. I do not say these are the only issues, but these two are readily apparent and serve as a lesson to others. One of the issues was pride. Mike Bickle was too immature at the age of 27 to be the "senior pastor" of a church. The vast majority of males in America are grossly immature. The phrase "late bloomers" hardly expresses the truth. There is a culture of childish irresponsibility that pervades American culture. A man of 27 years old is often less mature than a child of 14 a century ago. The apostle Paul gives the following admonition which I mentioned earlier in this series.

I Timothy 3:4-6

[An overseer] must be one who manages his own household well..., and *not a new convert*, lest he become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil.

Whether a man is a new convert, or has been a Christian for years while remaining spiritually immature, there is a great danger of placing such men in positions of church leadership. During his talk before those gathered at Bob Jones' memorial service, Mike Bickle states that upon their first meeting Bob Jones told him that he was a "youth pastor." Mike pridefully responded, "I am not a youth pastor, I am a senior pastor."

The second issue that contributed to Mike Bickle's fall into deception was a lack of patient testing of Bob Jones to know his character and his message before embracing him. Mike Bickle's speech at the memorial service is very enlightening. He shared how he was previously in St. Louis preparing to relocate to Kansas City. A man with a prophetic gift told Mike that when he arrived in Kansas City that he would experience four things. One of the things he mentioned was that Mike would encounter a false prophet.

Mike goes on to share that when he arrived in Kansas City that he began hearing people tell him about this prophet who was there, urging him to meet him. Mike refused repeatedly, fearing that this was the false prophet he had been warned about. This prophet was Bob Jones. Mike finally agreed to meet with Bob Jones, and at once was struck by his strangeness and had deep reservations about him. Bob began prophesying to Mike Bickle about how God was going to use him to raise up a ministry that would eventually become what is observed today as IHOP. When Mike went home that evening he told his wife he had met "the strangest human being on the planet." He stated that Bob Jones, "was either totally of God, or totally of the devil." Mike's leaning at the moment was that Bob

was of the devil. However, Mike's wife responded at once and said, "He is totally of God. I can tell right now."

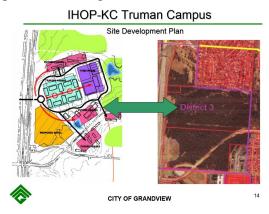
Brothers and sisters, Mike's wife was also young at the time. They both grew up in a Christian culture that has abandoned the patient testing of people and their messages. The response of Mike's wife violates the commandment of the apostle Paul to "Lay hands on no man suddenly." A wife has a tremendous influence upon her husband. This influence can be used to tragic consequence as has been observed as far back as Eve giving to her husband Adam the forbidden fruit to eat. Mike Bickle's wife could have withheld judgment. She could have encouraged her husband to test carefully both the man and his message. She did not do this. Instead, she used her influence to cause her husband to lower his guard; to allay his concerns; and to be more susceptible to the thought that this was a true prophet of God who had been sent to him.

I am including a link to the video of the Bob Jones memorial service. The portion where Mike Bickle speaks runs from the 22:00 - 35:30 minute mark. I encourage you to watch this entire portion of about 13 minutes, as I have some comments to share about Bob's prophecy that IHOP would one day be located on Harry S Truman's property. The following link will start the video at the appropriate point.

http://youtu.be/2k5LwlqWrxM?t=22m

<iframe width="480" height="360" src="//www.youtube.com/embed/2k5LwlqWrxM"
frameborder="0" allowfullscreen></iframe>

Mike shares during the memorial service that one thing Bob prophesied to him was that he would eventually build on land that once belonged to former U.S. President Harry S Truman. It was later explained to Mike that the significance of this is that President Truman was the first national leader to recognize Israel as a sovereign state after it was established in 1948. It was explained that because of this act, the blessing of God resided on President Truman, for those who bless God's people, Yahweh will bless. It was indicated to Mike Bickle that there would be a transference of blessing simply by locating to property formerly owned by PresidentTruman. Mike Bickle explains that these words of Bob Jones were fulfilled when 125 acres of land formerly owned by Harry S Truman were presented as a gift to IHOP in 2007.



IHOP Property on Harry S Truman's Land

There is much that is left out of the account. This land was not spontaneously gifted to the IHOP ministry as Bickle's account may lead one to assume. A lawyer/real estate developer who has had a long association with Mike Bickle and IHOP approached the landowners and expressed interest in purchasing the land. When he found they were receptive to the idea, and offered a very attractive price, the news was made known to IHOP's ministry partners. One of the ministry partners from Texas contacted Mike and said he wanted to pay for the entire purchase, including all closing costs. You might describe this as a self-fulfilled prophecy. A fuller account of the matter is available on a video posted at Mike Bickle's website.

http://mikebickle.org/resources/resource/1385

In the video above Mike Bickle states that Bob Jones prophesied to him that he would lead a group that had "a ministry like Harry S Truman." He goes on to explain that Harry S Truman was a political intercessor for the nation of Israel, and that the IHOP ministry to be located on land formerly owned by Truman is to be a center for spiritual intercession for the nation of Israel. In the plans for the \$150 million dollar development of this land, IHOP has drawn up blueprints for a building to be known as The Truman Prayer Center.

If you listen to Mike Bickle speak about their acquisition of the Truman property, you will hear him mention Bob Jones repeatedly. Bob Jones was constantly relaying information to Mike Bickle (and later to Rick Joyner) from all the angelic encounters he was having. The soundness of these works raised up by Mike Bickle and Rick Joyner are just as sound as Bob Jones, the man who was acting as their spiritual guide to understand the will of God. If this man was deceived, and has in fact been hearing the voices of fallen angels and unclean spirits from the time he was in a mental hospital, then these ministries are in a lot of trouble.

In a previous writing I mentioned that the prophetic movement has adopted a whitewashed view of Count von Zinzendorf and the Moravians. There has been a great deal of whitewash applied to historical figures. Zinzendorf's Moravians who joined him in the order he created that was dubbed *The Order of the Grain of Mustard Seed*, were also known as *The Fraternity of Moravian Brothers of the Order of Religious <u>Freemasons</u>. Readers who are unfamiliar with the diabolical character of Freemasonry may not understand how troubling an association with Masonry is. For those who are interested, I have a writing posted on this subject that is titled <i>Freemasonry - The Spirit of Babylon*.

I mentioned that both Morningstar Ministries and IHOP have deep ties to Zinzendorf. Rick Joyner has followed in the spiritual path of Zinzendorf by being initiated into the Knights of Malta, a group that springs from the same root as Freemasonry, The Knights Templars. Morningstar has purchased property at Moravian Falls, North Carolina, which is also where Rick Joyner lives. IHOP has named some of their property after the Moravian community that was established on Zinzendorf's land in Germany. They have an apartment complex for interns that is called Herrnhut. They also have murals on their property that feature the Moravians and Zinzendorf, and they have publicly stated that their 24/7 prayer meetings are modeled after this group.

One begins to note a pattern when they see IHOP venerating Harry S Truman, and moving to property that he formerly owned, for Harry S Truman boasted of having attained "all of the degrees of Freemasonry." Truman was a 33rd degree Freemason, and served as Grand Master of Masons of the State of Missouri.

Truman was Initiated: February 9, 1909, Belton Lodge No. 450, Belton, Missouri. In 1911, several Members of Belton Lodge separated to establish Grandview Lodge No. 618, Grandview, Missouri, and Brother Truman served as its first Worshipful Master. At the Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, September 24-25, 1940, Brother Truman was elected (by a landslide) the ninety-seventh Grand Master of Masons of Missouri, and served until October 1, 1941. Brother and President Truman was made a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, and Honorary Member, Supreme Council on October 19,1945 at the Supreme Council A.A.S.R. Southern Jurisdiction Headquarters in Washington D.C., upon which occasion he served as Exemplar (Representative) for his Class. He was also elected an Honorary Grand Master of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay.

[Source: http://www.theforbiddenknowledge.com/hardtruth/uspresidentasmasonspt3.htm]



Harry S Truman in Masonic Apparel

Albert Pike, author of the encyclopedic Masonic tome *Morals and Dogma*, and Supreme Commander of all Scottish Rite Freemasonry, a man whose statue stands in Washington, D.C., spoke the following.

That which we must say to the crowd is - We worship a God, but it is the God that one adores without superstition.

To you, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General [of the 33rd degree], we say this, that you may repeat it to the Brethren of the 32nd, 31st, and 30th degrees - The Masonic religion should be, by all of us initiates of the high degrees, maintained in the purity of the Luciferian doctrine.

If Lucifer were not God, would Adonay, the God of the Christians, whose deeds prove his cruelty, perfidy, and hatred of man, barbarism and repulsion for science, would Adonay and his priests,

calumniate him?

Yes, Lucifer is God, and unfortunately Adonay is also God. For the eternal law is that there is no light without shade, no beauty without ugliness, no white without black, for the absolute can only exist as two Gods: darkness being necessary to light to serve as its foil as the pedestal is necessary to the statue, and the brake to the locomotive...

Thus, the doctrine of Satanism is a heresy; and the true and pure philosophic religion is the belief in Lucifer, the equal of Adonay; but Lucifer, God of Light and God of Good, is struggling for humanity against Adonay, the God of Darkness and Evil.

[End Quote]

The Freemasons of the highest orders have revealed to them that the god of the lodge is Lucifer. He is testified to be the god of light, while Yahweh (Adonai) is professed to be "the God of Darkness and Evil." What a deception has been pulled over the eyes of Mike Bickle and all those associated with the International House of Prayer that they would believe they would receive a divine blessing by acquiring the land of a 33rd Degree Freemason, a man who held the highest position in Freemasonry in the state of Missouri. What a profaning of the name of Christ it is to establish a house of prayer and stamp upon it the name of a chief servant of Satan.

In the video linked above, Mike Bickle shares that in Bob Jones' first prophetic encounter relating to Kansas City and the future ministry that is now known as IHOP, that he saw two angels speaking and they were discussing a revival that would break out from Kansas City. They said it would be like an "atomic explosion of light" to bring revival to the earth. How twisted and cunning are the ways of Satan. Harry S Truman, a 33rd degree Freemason, understood the Luciferian doctrines. He recognized Lucifer (the light bearer) as the god of Freemasonry. Lucifer was known to him as the god of light. What manner of light should the people of God anticipate to break forth from Kansas City, from land formerly owned by this Masonic adept? What kind of light will come forth from a building that is named in honor of America's 33rd President, who was also a 33rd degree Freemason?

The very words Bob Jones claims to have heard the angels speak, comparing the light of revival going forth from Kansas City to the explosion of an atomic bomb, is filled with subtlety and dark innuendo. An atomic bomb is an instrument of destruction and death, and our Lord has told us that Satan "comes only to kill, steal, and destroy." It was President Harry S Truman who ordered the atomic bombs to be dropped on the Japanese cities of Nagasaki and Hiroshima. The effect of dropping these two bombs is estimated to have resulted in approximately 100,000 dead, and a similar number of wounded. The long term effect of these bombs is reported to be nearly 200,000 dead. The majority were women, children, and the elderly, for most men of military age were off fighting in the war. It is estimated that 65% of the casualties were 9 years old, or younger.



A Mother Tending Her Injured Child - Hiroshima

The spiritually sensitive should have a sense of foreboding when they understand that Bob Jones was overhearing deceiving spirits, or fallen angels, comparing the acts of Harry S Truman in dropping the atomic bomb on these two cities, to the spiritual forces to be unleashed from Harry S Truman's property in the hour in which we now live. This is the spiritual heritage of the International House of Prayer and The Truman Prayer Center.



A Victim of Truman's Atomic Bomb

To understand the grotesque evil of Truman's decision to drop the atomic bomb on these two Japanese cities, one needs to understand what was truly going on in Japan at the time. Japan had been making overtures, seeking an end of war for months while President Roosevelt was still alive (another Freemason and a member of the New York financial elite). The Japanese had even advanced an offer of surrender that was nearly identical to the ultimate surrender agreement signed aboard the U.S. Naval Battleship Missouri (quite fitting that the ship was named after the state of the President who dropped the atomic bombs on Japan).



Japan was a beaten country, and the dropping of the atomic bombs served no purpose other than to demonstrate to the world that America had this awesome weapon, thereby announcing her ascendancy over all other nations. It also served the purpose of providing to the military/industrial complex data on the actual devastation wrought by nuclear bombs on centers of human population. It proved untenable to drop the bomb on Germany. Germany's surrender came before the bom b was ready, and the fallout would have spread to other European nations. Japan was chosen because of its isolation from other American allies. There are myriads of sources that report the unnecessary use of the atomic bomb. Following is one account.

A Beaten Country

Apart from the moral questions involved, were the atomic bombings militarily necessary? By any rational yardstick, they were not. Japan already had been defeated militarily by June 1945. Almost nothing was left of the once mighty Imperial Navy, and Japan's air force had been all but totally destroyed. Against only token opposition, American war planes ranged at will over the country, and US bombers rained down devastation on her cities, steadily reducing them to rubble.

What was left of Japan's factories and workshops struggled fitfully to turn out weapons and other goods from inadequate raw materials. (Oil supplies had not been available since April.) By July about a quarter of all the houses in Japan had been destroyed, and her transportation system was near collapse. Food had become so scarce that most Japanese were subsisting on a sub-starvation diet.

On the night of March 9-10, 1945, a wave of 300 American bombers struck Tokyo, killing 100,000 people. Dropping nearly 1,700 tons of bombs, the war planes ravaged much of the capital city, completely burning out 16 square miles and destroying a quarter of a million structures. A million residents were left homeless.

On May 23, eleven weeks later, came the greatest air raid of the Pacific War, when 520 giant B-29 "Superfortress" bombers unleashed 4,500 tons of incendiary bombs on the heart of the already battered Japanese capital. Generating gale-force winds, the exploding incendiaries obliterated Tokyo's commercial center and railway yards, and consumed the Ginza entertainment district. Two days later, on May 25, a second strike of 502 "Superfortress" planes roared low over Tokyo, raining down some 4,000 tons of explosives. Together these two B-29 raids destroyed 56 square miles of the Japanese capital.

Even before the Hiroshima attack, American air force General Curtis LeMay boasted that American bombers were "driving them [Japanese] back to the stone age." Henry H. ("Hap") Arnold, commanding General of the Army air forces, declared in his 1949 memoirs: "It always appeared to us, atomic bomb or no atomic bomb, the Japanese were already on the verge of collapse." This was confirmed by former Japanese prime minister Fumimaro Konoye, who said: "Fundamentally, the thing that brought about the determination to make peace was the prolonged bombing by the B-29s."

Japan Seeks Peace

Months before the end of the war, Japan's leaders recognized that defeat was inevitable. In April 1945 a new government headed by Kantaro Suzuki took office with the mission of ending the war. When Germany capitulated in early May, the Japanese understood that the British and Americans would now direct the full fury of their awesome military power exclusively against them.

American officials, having long since broken Japan's secret codes, knew from intercepted messages that the country's leaders were seeking to end the war on terms as favorable as possible. Details of these efforts were known from decoded secret communications between the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo and Japanese diplomats abroad.

In his 1965 study, Atomic Diplomacy: Hiroshima and Potsdam (pp. 107, 108), historian Gar Alperovitz writes:

Although Japanese peace feelers had been sent out as early as September 1944 (and [China's] Chiang Kai-shek had been approached regarding surrender possibilities in December 1944), the real effort to end the war began in the spring of 1945. This effort stressed the role of the Soviet Union ...

In mid-April [1945] the [US] Joint Intelligence Committee reported that Japanese leaders were looking for a way to modify the surrender terms to end the war. The State Department was convinced the Emperor was actively seeking a way to stop the fighting.

A Secret Memorandum

It was only after the war that the American public learned about Japan's efforts to bring the conflict to an end. Chicago Tribune reporter Walter Trohan, for example, was obliged by wartime censorship to withhold for seven months one of the most important stories of the war.

In an article that finally appeared August 19, 1945, on the front pages of the Chicago Tribune and the Washington Times-Herald, Trohan revealed that on January 20, 1945, two days prior to his departure for the Yalta meeting with Stalin and Churchill, President Roosevelt received a 40-page memorandum from General Douglas MacArthur outlining five separate surrender overtures from high-level Japanese officials. (The complete text of Trohan's article is in the Winter 1985-86 Journal, pp. 508-512.)

This memo showed that the Japanese were offering surrender terms virtually identical to the ones ultimately accepted by the Americans at the formal surrender ceremony on September 2 -- that is, complete surrender of everything but the person of the Emperor. Specifically, the terms of these peace overtures included:

- Complete surrender of all Japanese forces and arms, at home, on island possessions, and in occupied countries.
- Occupation of Japan and its possessions by Allied troops under American direction.
- Japanese relinquishment of all territory seized during the war, as well as Manchuria, Korea and Taiwan.

- Regulation of Japanese industry to halt production of any weapons and other tools of war.
- Release of all prisoners of war and internees.
- Surrender of designated war criminals.

Is this memorandum authentic? It was supposedly leaked to Trohan by Admiral William D. Leahy, presidential Chief of Staff. (See: M. Rothbard in A. Goddard, ed., Harry Elmer Barnes: Learned Crusader [1968], pp. 327f.) Historian Harry Elmer Barnes has related (in "Hiroshima: Assault on a Beaten Foe," National Review, May 10, 1958):

The authenticity of the Trohan article was never challenged by the White House or the State Department, and for very good reason. After General MacArthur returned from Korea in 1951, his neighbor in the Waldorf Towers, former President Herbert Hoover, took the Trohan article to General MacArthur and the latter confirmed its accuracy in every detail and without qualification. [Source: http://www.ihr.org/jhr/v16/v16n3p-4 Weber.html]

The Japanese had a very different view of Harry S Truman than that which the western press promoted. To the Japanese, President Truman was known as "Dirty Harry." Years later, when the Clint Eastwood movie came out with this name, many Japanese thought the movie was about the 33rd U.S. President.

There is a similar whitewashing of Truman's role in pushing forward the acceptance of Israel as a sovereign nation in 1948. Rather than Truman being a champion of the descendants of Abraham, his actions were based upon pecuniary motives. It is reported that while Truman was campaigning for election in 1948, and facing defeat, that his campaign was rescued by Abraham Feinberg, a Jewish Zionist and agent of the Rothschild banking family. According to now released FBI records, Feinberg personally pledged \$100,000 to Truman's campaign.

http://www.irmep.org/ila/feinberg/

Texe Marrs comments on the relationship between Feinberg and Truman, stating that Feinberg delivered to Truman a 2 million dollar bribe aboard their campaign train. The money was in suitcases filled with 100 dollar bills. The bribe was in exchange for Truman giving recognition to the new Zionist state of Israel.

http://www.texemarrs.com/092011/truman and the jews article.htm

This goes a long way toward explaining why Truman rebuffed offers of corporate employment after his two terms as President. Despite the fact that Truman received very little income after his Presidency, he showed no interest in pursuing lucrative contracts in industry. Historians have suggested that this was due to his strong sense of ethics and an unwillingness to capitalize on the office of the Presidency. It seems more likely that Truman had already made his money, freeing him up to pursue personal interests upon leaving political office.

The heroic image championed by Bob Jones, Mike Bickle, and others, of Harry S Truman being an intercessor for Israel is based upon lies and deception. It has all the hallmarks of a work of Satan who

is "the great deceiver who deceives the whole world."

Brothers and sisters, there is no divine blessing to be obtained by IHOP locating to the land once owned by this high ranking Freemason and chief servant of Satan. This deception is similar to the one I wrote about previously where BSSM students were visiting the graves of deceased Christians to receive blessing and anointing from the location. It is similar to the belief shared by people involved with Morningstar Ministries that there is an "open heaven" over Moravian Falls, North Carolina, and the suggestion that the location is a spiritual portal, a special place to contact angels. Tragically, I believe there may be truth to these claims, but the angels being contacted are the "deceiving spirits" that Paul wrote about. The Holy Spirit explicitly warned that many would be led astray by these deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons in these latter days.

If spiritual impartations, or access to angelic beings and spirits, is more pronounced at some locations than others, the specific locations Bob Jones has influenced both IHOP and Morningstar to acquire are far more likely to be cursed than blessed. The past history of these lands owned by Freemasons, men who practiced deception and lying while engaging in many immoral acts, has defiled these places. That Christians today would not attempt to cleanse these lands, or to renounce the unrighteousness of former owners, but have instead made heroes of wicked men, choosing to emblazon their names upon their ministries, reveals the effectiveness of Satan's deception.

Is it not exceedingly necessary for Christians to test every man and every message carefully? Many are falling into great error by laying hands on men too quickly. Bob Jones should never have been embraced by Mike Bickle, Rick Joyner, or other leaders of the prophetic movement. He was a mentally disturbed man. He was conversant with deceiving spirits. He introduced Todd Bentley to the angel Emma, and other unclean spirits. To their continued injury, men in the prophetic movement will not allow Bob Jones's influence to wane, even now that he has died. In a recent blog post, prophet Bobby Conner, an associate of Rick Joyner, and a fellow resident of Moravian Falls, shared how he had an encounter with Bob Jones in a vision of the night.



IT'S About the HARVEST! - LOOK AT YOUR HANDS! A Dream Concerning A Visitation From Bob Jones

by Bobby Conner April 10, 2014

In the early morning hours of March 28, 2014 around 3:30AM I received a very vivid dream, which I feel is significant to help the Body of Christ gage (sic) the season we have entered into. This was much more than a mere dream. This was a prophetic encounter! The dream commences, I am in my study at my desk in **Moravian Falls**, North Carolina I am working on a new book.

The Holy Spirit said; "you have a visitor" thinking someone was at the door I am about to open the door. However the Holy Spirit said, "your visitor is at the window". Turning to look at my windows, suddenly with a flash of light appearing just outside my window striding down what appeared to be translucent pearl colored stairs was Bob Jones. He had the most winsome warm smile and looked absolutely wonderful. However in the dream I was completely aware that Bob had gone to heaven on Feb 14. 2014.

Bob simply stepped into my study. I did not need to open the window he just walked right in. His appearance was incredible, he was firm and fit He was dress (sic) in a wonderful soft beautiful elegant white robe past his waist down below his knees, like a long shirt. His hair was extremely white and glistening I was amazed at his skin it was without blemish white and soft his smile was truly radiant and beautiful. His eyes were bigger than normal and extremely clear sparkling like that of an excited child.

I had been expecting his visit nevertheless words can't describe my delight and thrill I was so excited to see my dear friend I said; "I been (sic) expecting this meeting!" And looking forward to it." He quickly replied in an excited tone "Me too!" His next words were, "You are doing fine!" And he said placing both hands on his chest, "And I am doing wonderful."

In this encounter is seemed as if we could communicate without actual conversation, spirit to spirit with our hearts. Then he said, "Have you noticed your hair?" I replied, "no not really!" He said in an instructive tone. "Run your hand through your hair." Accordingly I ran my right hand through my hair it felt perfectly normal. Then Bob said in a delighted gleeful tone, "Look in your hand," when I looked at my hand I had hundreds of golden pieces of strands. These golden particles seemed to me like the shaft (sic) of arrows only much smaller! They were round and very straight about one foot in length.

Bob said in an excited informative manner, "do it again and again and again" each time more and more golden shafts appeared until my hands as well as his were overflowing with these golden strands. Bob declared with a wonderful twinkle in his bright blue eyes, and a smile of someone who knows a secret that you are about to learn, "watch closely!" Suddenly these golden shafts appeared to turn into wonderful huge stalks of ripe grain. These golden stalks filled not just our hands they were now huge you could hardly get your arms around them. And they continued to expand larger and larger. The rapid acceleration of their increase was breathtaking.

Bob said with a child like smile, "YOU know what this means don't you! "I replied somewhat tentatively, "I think I do!" He said in a most confident tone, "it is the HARVEST!" He said "the coming harvest will be spearheaded by the prophetic." The Prophets will be used in an unprecedented way to announce and declare the fields that are now ripe and ready for harvest. The prophetic voices will sound a clear trumpet call bring (sic) forth the Body of Christ to stand-up and speak up becoming anointed evangelists.

Bob said almost in a personal matter of fact manner, "it is so much better to watch from my vantage point." He added, "I know we have much to talk about, but we will do that later!" And suddenly there was a strong flash of light extremely blue bright, and he was gone. In the dream I am standing

in my study my body and mind both pulsating shaken to the core by the visitation.

Abruptly I am awake laying in my bed my body still responding to the event that I just experienced my heart pounding and my spirit electrified. The main enlightenment we must comprehend from this encounter is: it is harvest time. The end of the age is now upon us. Arise prepare your heart to thrust yourself into the harvest field.

Bobby Conner

EaglesView Ministries

[Source: http://bobbyconner.org/Articles.cfm?id=153]

(Emphasis Added)

One hundred years ago, a similar emphasis was being laid upon spiritual manifestations and angelic encounters in what is known as the Azusa Street Revival. A Christian brother who was concerned about what he was hearing visited this revival. His name was Frank Bartleman, and he gave the following account.

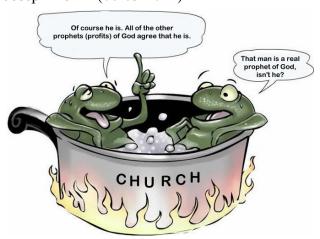
The temptation seems to be toward empty manifestations. This does not require any particular cross, or death to the self-life. Hence it is always popular... Any mission that exalts even the Holy Ghost above the Lord Jesus Christ is bound for the rocks of error and fanaticism.

This is an exceptionally insightful comment. Frank Bartleman pinpointed the most fundamental error of the prophetic movement today. I have observed it myself in an IHOP group that I spoke to some years back, and among churches that have embraced the prophetic movement. There is an emphasis on empty manifestations that do nothing to bring a man or woman to conformity to Christ. The disciple's cross, the instrument Yahshua appointed to transform His disciples, is neglected. There is no emphasis on dying to self, and surrendering one's life to be directed by the Spirit of Christ to that path He has appointed for our perfecting as sons.

You will observe this everywhere that Bob Jones has had an influence, for he was not a prophet of Yahweh. He promoted doctrines of demons and misled multitudes as he became inflated in his fleshly mind, speaking continuously of his encounters with angels. Let the people of God observe, and learn, from these errors.

DECEPTION - Part 4

Joseph Herrin (06-03-2014)



II Corinthians 10:12, 18

For we are not bold to class or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves; but when they measure themselves by themselves, and compare themselves with themselves, they are without understanding... For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends.

One thing that I have continually come across as I have looked at the lives of men and women who laid the foundation for the prophetic movement of this day, is that these individuals were self-promoters of the highest degree. Whether a person looks into the life of Alexander Dowie, John G. Lake, Aimee Semple McPherson, Kathryn Kuhlman, A.A. Allen, Oral Roberts, or any of the other big names of the healing movement, it is quickly discovered that these individuals invested much time and resources into building up their own reputations.

The one distinction I would note regarding these men and women of an earlier generation, and the present crop of leaders among the prophetic movement, is that there is a greater degree of cooperation and networking among those who are esteemed to be prophets, apostles, and spiritually gifted men and women of renown today. Whereas the early generation of healers were well known for their spirit of competition and jealousy, today's prophetic leaders are much more likely to be found singing the praises of one another. This spirit of cooperation has proven to be mutually beneficial to all involved. It certain bolsters the financial bottom line, and increases name recognition when Jim Bakker, Rick Joyner, Mike Bickle, Bill Johnson, Steve Schultz, and a myriad of others, all sell one another's books, CDs, and DVDs at their respective websites.

The fame and regard afforded to those who appear as luminaries in the prophetic movement largely owes its existence to the frequent accolades that these ministers pay to one another. There is a sort of "you rub my back and I will rub yours" agreement that exists among them. Somewhere along the line, the leaders of the prophetic movement discovered that they were shooting themselves in the foot whenever they criticized another leader in this group. There appears to be a sort of gentleman's agreement that they will cease and desist from offering criticism, even when the behavior or teaching of a colleague is so egregious that it demands nothing less than bold public censure.

At times the mutual admiration and praise is so obvious that it is astonishing no one seems to question the propriety of it. Take as an example, the celebration held at Morningstar this past December 6-7th to honor Rick Joyner's 30 years of public ministry.



It is more than a little self-serving for Morningstar, a ministry which Rick Joyner founded and where he serves as Executive Director, to organize and host a 2 day celebration in honor of a currently serving leader. As Executive Director, Rick Joyner had to approve this use of the ministry's resources and facilities. I am reminded of the following words of King Solomon.

Proverbs 27:2

Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not your own lips.

Rick Joyner, and the Morningstar leadership may protest that they actually fulfilled this verse, for the celebration did feature other men offering up praise of Rick Joyner. Such a response would be disingenuous, however, for this was not a spontaneous offering. Morningstar invited a raft of well known personalities to show up for this two day event in order to celebrate Rick Joyner's 30 years in ministry.



Some Who Were Invited to Celebrate Rick Joyner



More Who Were Invited

These two promotional images are taken from a video on Morningstar's website that advertises this celebratory event.

http://www.morningstarministries.org/events/morningstar-conferences/celebration-rick-joyner-s-30-years-ministry#.U4yA vldV8E

Of course, each of the speakers received plenty of praise themselves, for even on the promotional page for this event there is a short biography of each speaker. Just in case people attending the event don't know of the fame, spiritual greatness, or worldly achievements of these men, a bio is provided so everyone can be duly impressed.



Let us take as an example, the biographical statement for Lt.Gen. (Ret.) W.G. Boykin. The following information is provided.

Lt.Gen. (Ret.) W.G. Boykin was one of the elite warriors chosen in 1978 to make up the first unit in America's ultrasecretive and deadly Delta Force. He then became commander of the unit, and later still, commander of all U.S. Army Special Forces. His thirty-six years in the military included a tour at the Central Intelligence Agency and clandestine missions around the world. Jerry retired in 2007, serving his last four years as the deputy undersecretary of defense for intelligence.

Boykin is a leader of *The Oak Initiative*, a ministry of Morningstar in which Rick Joyner also serves in a leadership capacity. I would question why a man with General Boykin's background should be associated with a ministry that bills itself as being Spirit led and empowered, doing the work of the Lord on the earth. Did his background with the "ultrasecretive and deadly Delta Force" impart to him some spiritual character that made him more Christ-like? Was Boykin able to violate the Lord's statement with impunity where He stated "those who live by the sword will die by the sword"? Did not Boykin violate the counsel of the apostle Paul who declared "Do not be entangled with the affairs of this world"?

The biographical statement also relates that Boykin's 36 years in the military included service at the Central Intelligence Agency. The CIA was created by none other than President Harry S Truman, the 33rd degree Freemason who dropped two atomic bombs on Japanese cities. The CIA serves as the intelligence gathering, and death dealing arm of the global financial elite. It is well known that the CIA controls the global drug trade as well as running prisons throughout the world where men and women are tortured, humiliated, and killed. Who was General Boykin truly serving during his many years in the military? Was his career of violence and death dealing in service to Christ, or was it in service to the one whom Christ said "comes only to kill, steal, and destroy"?

I highly recommend the book *War is a Racket* written in 1935 by U.S. Marine Major General Smedley Butler. After a career in the U.S. military, including service during World War I, General Smedley Butler came to the realization that the only ones who profit from war are bankers and corporations, and their profits are huge. Butler sadly confessed that he had spent his years in military service as an "enforcer" for the biggest, most corrupt, group of racketeers that exist in this world. Blinded by patriotic fervor, few in the military realize that they are not servants of the United States people, nor are their activities promoting the welfare of America as a nation. They are indentured servants of a fascist corporate/government system that seeks always its own interests and profits. General Smedley Butler wrote:

I spent 33 years and four months in active military service and during that period I spent most of my time as a high class muscle man for Big Business, for Wall Street and the bankers. In short, I was a racketeer, a gangster for capitalism. I helped make Mexico and especially Tampico safe for American oil interests in 1914. I helped make Haiti and Cuba a decent place for the National City Bank boys to collect revenues in. I helped in the raping of half a dozen Central American republics for the benefit of Wall Street. I helped purify Nicaragua for the International Banking House of Brown Brothers in 1902-1912. I brought light to the Dominican Republic for the American sugar interests in 1916. I helped make Honduras right for the American fruit companies in 1903. In China

in 1927 I helped see to it that Standard Oil went on its way unmolested. Looking back on it, I might have given Al Capone a few hints. The best he could do was to operate his racket in three districts. I operated on three continents.

[Source: Smedley D. Butler, War is a Racket]

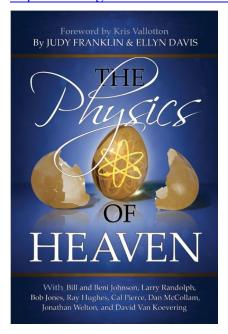
http://www.amazon.com/War-Racket-Antiwar-Americas-Decorated/dp/0922915865/

Unlike Major General Smedley Butler, not only has General Boykin not admitted the truth of his service as a death dealer for the global elite, but he is using his achievements in this industry of violence and destruction to impress Christians who have lost all discernment. General Boykin was made a Knight of Malta during the same investiture ceremony as Rick Joyner. These men are either profoundly blind leaders of the blind, or they have sold themselves intentionally to be servants of Satan and corrupters of the body of Christ.

The system works very well, nonetheless. As long as Christians have abandoned discernment, and it is no longer considered politically correct to examine a man's life to see whether he is walking in conformity to the character of Christ, the church has become defenseless. The most ungodly men, and the greatest spiritual charlatans can sing the praises of one another and the body of Christ eats it up like candy.

Let me pass on to draw attention to the man who is at the top of the list of those who were invited to speak the praises of Rick Joyner. This is Bill Johnson. After I posted the recent blog exposing the bizarre and errant activities of Bill Johnson and the students of his Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry, a reader posted a comment that included a link to an expose of a book that Bill Johnson contributed to (Thank you Carina).

http://www.lighthousetrailsresearch.com/blog/?p=15508



Three of the men who spoke at Rick Joyner's celebratory event contributed to this book; Bill

Johnson, Bob Jones, and Larry Randolph. It would be naive to think that Rick Joyner does not find agreement with what is written by these men whom he counts as colleagues and fellow ministers in the prophetic movement. This book is a shockingly blatant endorsement of New Age spiritualism. Following are some excerpts from the tract offered at the link above that reviews this book. Please note that I do NOT agree with everything in this tract. I do agree, however, that Bill Johnson, Bob Jones, Larry Randolph, and those who walk in agreement with them, are teaching New Age spirituality.

The New Age Propensities of Bethel Church's Bill Johnson By John Lanagan

At that time I could not find a single Christian leader who shared a similar interest in finding out if there were truths hidden in the New Age. Now we are beginning to hear more and more revelation that is in line with what New Agers have been saying all along and we are hearing more and more teaching about Christians "taking back truths" from the New Age that really belong to citizens of the Kingdom of God.

[Ellyn Davis, co-author, *The Physics of Heaven*]

In Redding, California, Bethel Church has become one of the largest evangelical churches in North America. Many people from around the world travel to Redding to attend the Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry, and C. Peter Wagner ("founder" of the New Apostolic Reformation movement) has called Bethel's senior pastor, Bill Johnson, an "apostle."

Given that title with claims on the church website that Bethel has a "global impact as a revival resource and equipping center," it is expedient and responsible to examine Johnson and determine if he is indeed an apostle sent from God to the body of Christ.

The Physics of Heaven, a recent book Bill Johnson contributed to, and his personal assistant co-authored, reveals a very different picture than that of the apostles described in the Bible. It appears that rather than an apostle of God, Bill Johnson may be poised to serve as the vehicle that carries the New Age and quantum spirituality deep into the Body of Christ.

Being drawn to New Age ideas is not something new to Bethel's leader. In a 2006 book titled *Dreaming with God*, Johnson writes, when referring to a practice associated with the New Age:

Many prominent pastors and conference speakers add fuel to the fire of fear by assuming that because the New Age promotes it, its origins must be from the devil. I find that form of reasoning weak at best. If we follow that line of thought we will continue to give the devil the tools that God has given us for success in life and ministry.

Stop and think about what is being said here: "the tools that God has given us" somehow ended up in the New Age? How did that happen? And which tools is he talking about? Why would a professing Christian say something like this? New Age teaching is in total opposition to the Word of God. To suggest that New Age practices are really just hijacked Christian truths is utterly absurd. Research analyst Ray Yungen explains the basis of New Age thought:

Everything that exists, seen or unseen, is made up of energy - tiny particles of vibrating energy, atoms, molecules, protons, etc. All is energy. That energy, they believe, is God, and therefore, all is God. They believe that since we are all part of this "God-energy," then we, too, are God. God is not seen as a Being that dwells in heaven, but as the universe itself.

Bill Johnson and Bethel Church exert significant influence in the body of Christ. And whatever path Bethel and its leaders travel is the path on which many will follow. We need to pay attention to what is happening here, using discernment and godly wisdom.

While Bill Johnson's approach to prayer and worship and the extreme emphasis placed on signs and wonders has concerned many, it is the 2012 book titled *The Physics of Heaven* (in which Johnson is one of eleven contributors) that indicates the real direction Johnson and Bethel are heading.

In addition to Johnson's own contribution to the book (one full chapter), his personal assistant, Judy Franklin, is a co-author; and the foreword of *The Physics of Heaven* is written by Kris Vallotton, Senior Associate leader at Bethel. Vallotton lauds the contributors as "seers." Banning Liebscher, Director of Bethel's Jesus Culture, adds his praise. Bill Johnson's wife, Beni Johnson, also has a chapter in the book. With all that, *The Physics of Heaven* undeniably has the approval of Bethel's leaders.

So what does *The Physics of Heaven* reveal?

The Next Move of God?

Ellyn Davis, one of the authors of The Physics of Heaven, says this:

[The contributors of the book] all agree that the next move of God will cause a shift at the deepest level of who we are - perhaps the very "vibrational level" that the New Age movement has been exploring. They also all agree that there are precious truths hidden in the New Age that belong to us as Christians and need to be extracted from the worthless.

Contributor Jonathan Welton adds:

I have found throughout Scripture at least 75 examples of things that the New Age has counterfeited, such as having a spirit guide, trances, meditation, auras, power objects, clairvoyance, clairaudience, and more. These actually belong to the church, but they have been stolen and cleverly repackaged.

Welton believes:

We need to begin to use [New Age] counterfeits as signposts. Every time a counterfeit shows up, take it as the Lord presenting you with an opportunity to reclaim . . . the Church's stolen property.

This is like taking a bottle with a "Poison!" warning on it and re-labeling it, "Honey." Contemplative prayer, which is essentially Eastern/New Age meditation disguised with Christian terminology, entered the church in just this manner.

Co-author Ellyn Davis asserts:

It wasn't that I wanted to become a New Ager, I just wanted to find out if maybe they had uncovered some truths the church hadn't.

Davis then attempts to justify her position by claiming much of what she found "embodied biblical principles" and "could be backed up by Scripture..."

Bill Johnson's view of Scripture may give us a clue as to how he ended up being attracted to extra-biblical leanings. According to Johnson:

Those who feel safe because of their intellectual grasp of Scriptures enjoy a false sense of security. None of us has a full grasp of Scripture, but we all have the Holy Spirit. He is our common denominator who will always lead us into truth. But to follow Him, we must be willing to follow off the map - to go beyond what we know.

This is dangerous thinking. The Bible is our map. To go "beyond what we know" is to go beyond the parameters of Scripture...

The Physics of Heaven, whether intentionally or unintentionally, serves to illustrate how the false church will form - or, more accurately, how it is forming. New Age practices will increasingly be welcomed into the Body of Christ. These practices will be presented as redeemed or Christian in origin. The church will be subverted - turned toward Eastern/New Age/Quantum mysticism. Language, terms, and trappings may even remain essentially "Christian" - but acceptance of the biblical Christ will diminish.

Quantum Sounds?

In light of this, consider how *The Physics of Heaven* describes what God is supposedly going to bring about. A theme of the book is that God may somehow bestow incredible power on believers through vibrations/sounds/frequencies/energies, with "sound" mentioned a number of times throughout the book:

This book is just a precursor to the revelation that God is going to give us when He releases a new, transforming sound.

We're talking about 10 times the power that was released at Pentecost.

The sound God desires to release will chase religion from the church and bring truth.

[We] suspect God is up to something new—something that will transform us at the deepest level of who we are and will be ushered in by a new form of "sound" or "vibration."

This coming new sound . . . can change DNA so we are genetically growing up. Your genetics are the same as His was. Our genetics came out of the Father in our spirit. We are becoming like an

instrument being tuned, where our genetics are getting aligned with the Father's genetics, in harmony with Him.

What if there really are "good vibrations" that God has imbedded into everything He created and we just need to be open to experiencing them?

[W] e became interested in such weird and wonderful phenomena as energy, frequencies, vibrations, and quantum physics.

What *The Physics of Heaven* is doing is turning God into more of a cosmic quantum force that permeates everything rather than a Creator who is separate from His creation as described in the Bible (e.g., Romans 1:25; Isaiah 42:8; 46:9). New Agers frequently talk about sounds and vibrations as signs of this "god" force. Occult "prophetess" Alice Bailey says:

[T] here is a group of human beings, integrating now... upon whom is laid the burden of leading humanity. They are starting movements that have in them the new vibration, they are saying things that are universal in their tone, they are enunciating principles that are cosmic...

Bethel and Contemplative Prayer

Some may be asking, what would cause an evangelical church to become receptive to New Age ideas and concepts? For Johnson and Bethel, as with so many Christian leaders and churches today, contemplative prayer has played a significant role in "conditioning" the people at Bethel to head in the New Age direction. There is much irony in suggesting, "[E] very time a counterfeit shows up, take it as the Lord presenting you with an opportunity to reclaim . . . the Church's stolen property," since this is how contemplative prayer snaked its way into the body of Christ in the first place.

Contemplative adherents, such as Richard Foster, have convinced Christians that Eastern and New Age meditation are actually counterfeits of the real deal (i.e., contemplative prayer). Contemplative prayer is presented as an ancient Christian tradition.

Yet, contemplative prayer is not prayer at all. It is essentially Eastern/New Age meditation thinly coated with Christian terminology. The goal in contemplative prayer is to stop the thinking process and to enter what is known as the silence. This is accomplished by repeating a word or phrase over and over (or focusing on the breath) until the word loses its meaning and the mind becomes void. In this void—this silence—many wonderful deceptions can occur: spirit guides, ascendant masters, oneness, bliss, false "christs." The deception that occurs through contemplative prayer destroys doctrinal soundness and ultimately even faith.

In comparison, when we are truly "meditating" on God's Word, the mind remains active, and we ponder upon or think about the Word of God. Never do we try to cease active thought in order to empty our mind or as Ray Yungen says putting our mind into "neutral" so that God can supposedly fill it.

Where does Bethel stand with regard to contemplative prayer? There is ample evidence that Bethel

has embraced it. For example, Bill Johnson's wife, Beni, oversees Bethel's prayer intercessors and Prayer House. In a book that Beni compiled, in a chapter she wrote on prayer titled, "Mystics, Mystical Experiences, and Contemplative Prayer" she says that the chapter is "dedicated to the mystics, the contemplatives, those now and those who have gone on before us."

Like all committed contemplatives, Beni believes, "When it comes to prayer and intercession, words are important but not necessary."

Practicing contemplative prayer changes how one understands spiritual things. Beni writes:

A thin place is where heaven and earth are close. It is easier to experience the spiritual realm in these places.

[End Excerpt]

Now you know where all the nonsense about visiting graves of dead mystics who professed to be disciples of Christ comes from. You can perceive why Mike Bickle at IHOP thinks there is spiritual blessing and impartation to be received by locating to President Harry S Truman's property, and why Rick Joyner and Morningstar feel the same way about Moravian Falls, North Carolina. These are viewed as "thin places" where access to the spiritual realm is more readily accomplished.

It should be noted that what Mike Bickle has promoted at IHOP with its non-stop, 24/7 music and open prayer rooms, is a form of contemplative prayer. The interns at IHOP are taught to fixate on some romantic image of the Christ, and to quiet their minds. They open themselves up to mystical experiences, and the music serves as a mind drug to put them into the proper contemplative attitude. This is more readily accomplished when interns are encouraged to visit the prayer rooms at all hours of the night when their minds are tired, and their thoughts are fuzzy.

The same thing occurs at Morningstar with their emphasis on "prophetic music." If you listen to the albums Morningstar produces, a single song may be 20-30 minutes long, consisting of phrases that are repeatedly sung producing a sort of spiritual stupor among those in the audience.

As far back as 1933, Watchman Nee warned about this form of New Age/Eastern Mysticism entering into the church. In his book titled *The Latent Power of the Soul* he warns Christians of the danger of mistaking the stimulation of the soul of man for a divine spiritual work. This is another book that I highly recommend. The Preface includes the following statement.

When in 1924 I first called the attention of God's children to the dividing of spirit and soul, many well-disposed brethren thought of it as merely a dispute over words having no great significance. What they failed to see was that our conflict is not concerned with word but with that which lies behind. The spirit and the soul are two totally different organs: one belongs to God, while the other belongs to man. By whatever names one may call them, they are completely distinct in substance. The peril of the believer is to confuse the spirit for the soul and the soul for the spirit, and so be deceived into accepting the counterfeit of evil spirits to the unsettling of God's work.

This series of articles had originally been intended to be written immediately following the

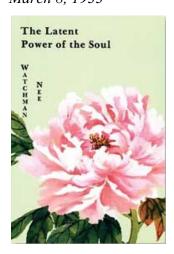
completion (in 1928) of "The Spiritual Man." But because of physical weakness and the heavy burden of other service, I was only able to have them published in last year's issues of Revival magazine. In response to the request of its readers, I now put forth this booklet.

The greatest advantage in knowing the difference between spirit and soul is in perceiving the latent power of the soul and in understanding its falsification of the power of the Holy Spirit. Such knowledge is not theoretical but practical in helping people to walk in God's way.

Just last night I was reading what F. B. Meyer once said in a meeting shortly before his earthly departure. Here is a section of it:

"This is an amazing fact that never has there been so much spiritualism outside the church of Christ as is found today... Is it not factual that in the lower part of our human nature the stimulation of the soul is quite prevailing? Nowadays the atmosphere is so charged with the commotion of all kinds of counterfeit that the Lord seems to be calling the church to come to a higher ground."

Today's situation is perilous. May we "prove all things; hold fast that which is good" (1 Thess. 5.21). Amen.
Watchman Nee
March 8, 1933



http://www.amazon.com/The-Latent-Power-Soul-Watchman/dp/093500825X/

There exists today a large number of evil workers among the body of Christ who are leading the people of God into the bondage of deception. These men and women in positions of leadership go about praising one another, extolling the spiritual insight and divine power resident in each other. Christians who are impressed with spiritual manifestation more than spiritual fruit will be led astray. Tragically, these false leaders are immensely successful in their efforts. Their influence goes far beyond their own churches and organizations and is infiltrating churches worldwide.

Brothers and sisters, you need to test ALL THINGS carefully. Do not be impressed with the pedigrees of men. How many do you suppose read on the Morningstar website of the accomplishments of General Boykin, his involvement with the elite killers of Delta Force and service

with the CIA, and were impressed by what they read? The Son of God is NOT impressed by such things. The day will come when men like W.G. Boykin will stand ashamed of the very things of which they now boast. Like the apostle, Paul they should renounce the vanity and shame of all the years they spent in darkness.

Philippians 3:4-8

If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Yahshua my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as refuse, that I may gain Christ...

Brothers and sisters, we live in a very dark hour spiritually. Truth is being eclipsed. Spiritual manifestations are accounted as evidence of divine approval. Those who despise the practice of discernment, of judging all men and their teachings, will suffer greatly as Satan's deceptions advance. The end of the age is upon us. Let us walk in soberness and wisdom

Proverbs 1:7

The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

May you be blessed with peace and understanding in these days.

DECEPTION - Part 5 (Conclusion)

Joseph Herrin (06-07-2014)



Recent correspondence with two different brothers in Christ has led me to a consideration of how the church was rendered susceptible to the great falling away from truth occurring in this hour. Beginning with the Azusa Street Revival that occurred a century ago, there has been a renewed interest in spiritual gifts in the church. Spiritual gifts are a wonderful thing. They were given by God to the saints for the mutual edification of the body of Christ. As so often happens, however, the church which had wrongly despised spiritual gifts for centuries climbed out of the ditch on one side of the road only to fall headlong into the ditch on the other side.

If you have been a Christian for very long, you have likely heard someone ask, "Have you received the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues?" Such a question was relatively unheard of prior to the Azusa Street Revival. In the past century, with the rise of the Pentecostal Movement and the emergence of Charismatic churches, people began to speak openly of spiritual gifts. Consequently, the role of the Holy Spirit in the churches gained a new ascendancy. In an earlier post in this series I remarked upon Frank Bartleman's insightful comments upon visiting the Azusa Street Revival. He discerned that an imbalance existed in this revival movement.

The temptation seems to be toward empty manifestations. This does not require any particular cross, or death to the self-life. Hence it is always popular... Any mission that exalts even the Holy Ghost above the Lord Jesus Christ is bound for the rocks of error and fanaticism.

What essentially occurred is that men and women began to measure their spirituality, their standing and approval before God, by the spiritual gifts they possessed. Speaking in tongues; prophesying; healing the sick; these things became badges of honor worn proudly by Pentecostal and Charismatic believers. If you manifested these gifts you were considered to be spiritual, and highly favored of God. Spiritual manifestations became the yardstick by which Christian men and women measured one another.



Religious men demonstrating pride about their actions is nothing new. Yahshua rebuked the Jewish religious leaders of His day for their spiritual pride.

Matthew 23:5-7

"But they do all their deeds to be noticed by men; for they broaden their phylacteries, and lengthen the tassels of their garments. And they love the place of honor at banquets, and the chief seats in the synagogues, and respectful greetings in the market places, and being called by men, Rabbi."

It is common to find men (and women) among the leadership, as well as the laity, of the Pentecostal and Charismatic churches who manifest spiritual gifts while carrying on grossly debauched lives. One brother whose father was a Pentecostal minister has shared horror stories regarding what he has observed and personally experienced within one of the major Pentecostal denominations. The transgressions reported by this brother include his own father seducing the son's wife, and spiritually dominating her so that he could continue to engage in sexual relations with his daughter-in-law. Think this is an exception? Tragically, it is not. The Pentecostal and Charismatic churches are rife with scandals, and what has come to light is only the tip of the iceberg.

I mentioned previously that Roberts Liardon wrote the book *God's Generals*. He has actually written a significant number of books on this theme, as well as producing a 12 video set on the lives of 12 of these Pentecostal/Charismatic/Healing leaders. A brother in Christ wrote to me after reading the post in which I made reference to Roberts Liardon. He informed me that Liardon was exposed as a homosexual, and publicly confessed to a "short term homosexual relationship" with a young man who served as a youth minister at his church. Upon looking further into this matter I found that Roberts Liardon was involved in this homosexual relationship at the very time he was writing his books relating to the leaders of the Pentecostal, Charismatic, and Healing movements.



Roberts Liardon

I believe there may be a connection to Roberts Liardon's intense focus on these Pentecostal and Charismatic leaders and his own behavior. Liardon has testified that he provided a "warts and all" account of these leaders. He did not shrink back from disclosing many of their serious moral failings. At the same time, he stridently argued that God can, and will, use any instrument of His choosing to display His power and to speak forth His truth, irregardless of the individual's shortcomings. Liardon's approach essentially indemnifies these "gifted" spiritual leaders from being disqualified by any moral failing. Such a view is erroneous. At the same time it explains the mindset of Roberts Liardon. We are enabled to understand how this man was able to continue to engage in Christian ministry while living a lifestyle that Yahweh has declared to be an abomination. If gifts, rather than character, are the measure of a man's spirituality, then a person can persuade both themselves and others into believing they are walking in God's favor while living grossly immoral lives.

This was certainly the mindset adopted by Jim Bakker. He was recognized as being a man of great Charisma. He boasted of walking in the blessings of God, and being a partaker of the Holy Spirit. Yet, Jim Bakker's veneration of the Holy Spirit did not lead to personal holiness. Jim Bakker was focused far more on the gifts of the Spirit, than the fruit of the Spirit.



Jim Bakker's trial brought to light his hedonistic lifestyle which included six luxury homes, as well as an air-conditioned dog house. Bakker was charged with diverting \$3.7 million of the donations given to the PTL ministry for his personal use. It was also disclosed that he paid Jessica Hahn \$250,000 in an attempt to keep the sexual affair he had with her hidden. Tammy Bakker also appeared before millions as a spiritual leader, yet her focus on the gifts of God did not produce spiritual fruit in her life either. Tammy divorced Jim after he was sent to prison and then committed adultery by marrying Roe Messner, a contractor that had built many of the facilities at PTL. Tammy carried on a "non-judgmental ministry" to homosexuals, even making appearances at Gay Pride events nationwide.

http://youtu.be/ XVy88x63yg

<iframe width="480" height="360" src="//www.youtube.com/embed/_XVy88x63yg?rel=0"
frameborder="0" allowfullscreen></iframe>

Tammy Faye Messner on RuPaul (Transexual) Show



Tammy Faye at the Queer OUTFEST

It has become the norm, rather than the exception, to find gross moral failures among those who elevate the gifts of the Holy Spirit above obedience to the commandments of Christ. Christ spoke through the mouths of His apostles that the people of God should walk in holiness even as God in heaven is holy.

Ephesians 1:4

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him.

My own home state of Georgia has known its share of moral failures by Pentecostal and Charismatic church leaders. One of the wealthiest was Earl Paulk, founder of The Cathedral at Chapel Hill near Atlanta. One of the first scandals occurred when Earl Paul and his brother Don had allegations brought against them of sexual infidelity by four women in their church. Later, in 2001, another female church member filed a lawsuit claiming Paulk sexually molested her as a child and into her teen years. This was followed by more allegations in August 2005 when church soloist Mona Brewer and her husband Bobby, major financial supporters of the church, filed a lawsuit against Earl Paulk charging him with abusing his spiritual position by manipulating her into being his mistress over a period of 14 years. Mona Brewer says that the members were conditioned to give unconditional obedience to the pastor, who called himself "Archbishop Paulk," and that he taught her that those who are spiritually exalted can have sexual relationships and it isn't adultery. He called it "kingdom relationships." Mrs. Brewer stated that Paulk even "shared" her sexually with family members (including Paulk's brother Don who was serving as senior pastor at the church) and visiting Charismatic preachers.

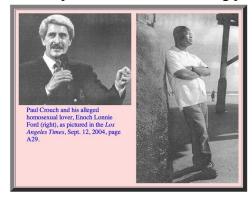


Earl and Don Paulk After Beating by Mona's Husband

After 14 years of being Earl Paulk's personal sex toy, Mona confessed to her husband what had been going on. Bobby Brewer arranged a meeting with Earl and his brother Don and gave them both a thrashing, leaving Earl Paulk with two black eyes, and Don with a busted lip and one black eye. Further claims of sexual abuse by other members subsequently came to light, including the account of Cindy Hall, another married church member whom Paulk used for sexual favors for a period of ten years. An expose on CNN stated, "Cindy Hall is also a married former member of the Chapel Hill Harvester Church, who claims to have also been manipulated by Paulk for ten years into performing sometimes twice daily sexual acts with him and occasionally other men and women." Hall recalled how Paulk would even pray over her during the act and make it look like something holy she was doing for God.

Again, these are not aberrations from the norm. Like the widespread sexual abuse of minor boys by Roman Catholic priests, this is a systemic problem. It stems from a fundamental error that the belief systems of these churches and ministers are based upon. This error is the belief that spirituality is measured by gifts rather than character.

The Los Angeles Times reported over a three day period beginning September 12, 2004 that Paul Crouch, head of Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) had paid \$425,000 in 1998 to Enoch Lonnie Ford, an employee at TBN, to keep him from going public with his allegation that they had a homosexual encounter. The payment was made in an out-of-court settlement, and included a gag order to prevent Ford from making public a written testimony of his affair with Paul Crouch.



One of the biggest names, and most financially successful of the Charismatic preachers was Jimmy Swaggart, cousin of Rock legend Jerry Lee Lewis. (Lewis was himself an exceedingly evil man and is believed to have murdered one young wife who objected to his lifestyle.) By the mid-1980s Swaggart's broadcast appeared on more than 250 television stations across the U.S. and pulled in about \$150 million dollars a year. Swaggart jealousy guarded his corner of the Charismatic market. When Marvin Gorman, another Assemblies of God minister with a television broadcast was gaining in popularity, Swaggart hired a private investigator to dig up whatever he could on his rival. Evidence revealed that Gorman was having multiple affairs, though he eventually confessed to only one. He was defrocked by the Assemblies of God. Jimmy Swaggart had removed a rival to his popularity, but payback was soon to come.

Gorman, being a great example of Charismatic/Pentecostal morality, refused to take his lumps and move on. He hired his own private investigator, and placed upon his son Robert the task of assisting

the private detective in gathering dirt on Jimmy Swaggart. Dirt was not hard to find. Swaggart was caught visiting a prostitute at a local hotel. The prostitute, Debra Murphree stated in a Penthouse interview that Swaggart visited her often, and had asked if he could have sex with Murphree's nine year old daughter.

Marvin Gorman confronted Swaggart at the hotel and proffered a deal. If Swaggart would initiate Gorman's reinstatement with the AOG churches, Gorman promised not to expose Swaggart. Gorman waited a year, and when Swaggart did not comply, he contacted the AOG leadership and presented the evidence against Swaggart. Swaggart was the largest financial contributor to the AOG churches, contributing more money to their missions' budget than all other AOG churches combined. The AOG presbytery were loathe to be too harsh on Swaggart, and asked him to take a 3 month break from public ministry. This was extended to 2 years when Swaggart manifested great arrogance to the AOG leadership and demonstrated no contrition. A few years later Swaggart was once again caught in the act, this time by a California patrolman who pulled Swaggart over for driving on the wrong side of the road and for propositioning a prostitute.



Jimmy Swaggart in 2002

Following are another half dozen accounts of Pentecostal/Charismatic transgressions that were collected on an Internet website.

By the 1980s Pentecostal evangelist PETER POPOFF had a ministry on 51 television channels and 40 radio stations and an annual income of seven million dollars. He also held healing crusades in many cities, during which he would exercise a "word of knowledge" by calling out the names, addresses, and illnesses of strangers who were in attendance. In 1986 the news broke that Popoff's amazing "revelations" were actually broadcast to him by his wife after she had conversed with members of the audience. She transmitted her information by radio signal and Peter could hear her voice through a tiny receiver in his ear. A team of skeptics discovered the ruse and recorded the private broadcasts using a scanning receiver and recording equipment (Los Angeles Times, May 11, 1986). When questioned about the matter by John Dart, religion writer for the Los Angeles Times, Popoff replied that his wife only supplied him with about 50% of the information and the rest he got from the Lord! Popoff was forced to file for bankruptcy in 1987 but by 1990 he was back in business with a new book entitled Dreams, which he announced in a full-page ad in Charisma magazine...

In November 2006, TED HAGGARD resigned as senior pastor of the 14,000-member New Life Church in Colorado Springs and as head of the National Association of Evangelicals on revelation of exploits with a homosexual prostitute named Mike Jones. Though Haggard denied the accusation at first, he eventually admitted his 'dark side." A letter from Haggard was read to the New Life Church on November 5 in which the founding pastor admitted that he is "guilty of sexual immorality" and "a deceiver and a liar." He said, "There is a part of my life that is so repulsive and dark that I've been warring against it all of my adult life." Haggard is a Charismatic, a New Evangelical, and a radical ecumenist. In October 2005 Haggard said, "New Life doesn't try to 'convert' Catholics" and "the church would never discourage its members from becoming Catholic or attending Catholic Mass" (Berean Call, Jan. 2006). In January 2009, Brady Boyd, who succeeded Haggard as senior pastor at New Life Church, disclosed that Haggard also had a homosexual relationship with a member of the church that "went on for a long period of time" ("Disgraced Pastor Faces More Gay Sex Allegations," AP, Jan. 24, 2009)...

In 2007 wrongful termination suits were filed against Oral Roberts University by former professors alleging that the founder's son RICHARD ROBERTS and his wife LINDSAY misappropriated school money and other improprieties. According to the suit, they spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to fund their lavish lifestyle, including a stable of horses for their daughters, a \$29,400 trip to Orlando and the Bahamas aboard a university jet for a daughter and her friends, and a \$39,000 shopping spree at one clothing store for Lindsay ("Healing ORU," Christianity Today, September 2008). The suit also alleges that the Roberts' home has been remodeled 11 times in the past 14 years, that Lindsay spent nights in the ORU guest house with an underage 16 year old male, and that she frequently had cell phone bills of more than \$800 per month, with "hundreds of text messages sent between 1 a.m. and 3 a.m. to underage males who had been provided phones at university expense" ("Oral Roberts University Faces the Blue Screen of Death," http://shakespearessister.blogspot.com/2007/10/oral-roberts-university-faces-blue.html). The professors were fired for trying to expose "the leadership's moral failings and financial improprieties..."

Also in August 2008 MICHAEL GUGLIELMUCCI of the Assemblies of God in Australia admitted that he had been lying about having an advanced stage of cancer. For the past two years Guglielmucci, a popular contemporary worship leader and former pastor, had claimed to have terminal cancer. He even recorded a song called "The Healer" that became a hit and was featured on Hillsong's latest album. For two years he allegedly fooled even his wife and parents and closest friends into thinking that he had cancer. He sent e-mails to his wife from phony doctors, shaved his head, walked with a cane, and carried around an oxygen bottle. In one church performance that attracted one-third of a million hits on YouTube, he sang with an oxygen tube in his nose! He claimed that God gave him the song after he learned that he had "an aggressive form of cancer." Guglielmucci now claims that he faked cancer to hide a longtime addiction to pornography. He is the former pastor of one of Australia's largest youth churches called Planetshakers. More recently he was the worship leader at Edge Church International, an Assemblies of God congregation pastored by his father, Danny.

In July 2009, RIVA AND ZACHARY TIMS, founders of the charismatic megachurch New Destiny Christian Center in Orlando, Florida, were divorced. This occurred two years after Zachary

admitted a year-long affair with stripper Judy Nguyen. In August 2011, the 42-year-old preacher was found dead in a New York hotel room under suspicious circumstances. The Wall Street Journal reported that police suspected drug overdose and that an envelope of white powder believed to be narcotics was found on Tims, but his mother is fighting in court to have the record sealed, claiming that his "cause of death would be an embarrassment to her, his children, her grandchildren and his congregation."

In February 2010, "healing evangelist" BENNY HINN'S wife filed for divorce. On August 2, National Inquirer published a photo of Hinn and Pentecostal preacher Paula White (who was divorced the previous year) walking hand-in-hand leaving a Rome hotel. The accompanying story said that the two spent three nights in a five-star hotel which Hinn booked under a false name. Hinn admitted to being with White in Rome and having a "friendship" and an "inappropriate relationship" with her, but both parties claimed there was no affair.



Benny Hinn and Paula White - National Enquirer

In September 2010 megachurch "bishop" EDDIE LONG of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta was accused of seducing four young men into sexual relationships in exchange for cars, clothes, and trips. Long settled out of court by paying the men off. In December 2011, Long's second wife filed for divorce.

[Source: http://www.wayoflife.org/database/recent_pentecostal_scandals.html]

This is just a sampling of the sordid immorality that occurs commonly among the leadership and the laity of the Pentecostal, Charismatic, and Healing movements. I have previously recounted the transgressions of some in the Prophetic Movement, including the homosexuality and alcoholism of Paul Cain, the seduction, sexual and spiritual abuse of women by Bob Jones, and the adultery and drunkenness of Todd Bentley.

The multitude of egregious moral failures among the Pentecostal/Charismatic/Prophetic sectors of the church require exploration. Why is there such a prevalence of financial and sexual transgression among the leaders of this group? Why is integrity so lacking? Why is there no fear of God before the eyes of these men and women who publicly disgrace the name of Yahshua? Why do the mass of churchgoers in these churches tolerate this behavior? Why are these men and women's sins made

light of, allowing them to either continue to minister without interruption, or to quickly return to ministry after a period described as "restoration"?

I believe the answer lies to a large degree with the shift away from a focus on Christ coming to set men and women free from sin, to an emphasis on spiritual gifts. Rather than emphasizing the growth of spiritual character in the disciple's life, the focus has shifted to one of empty spiritual experiences. This past week someone told me about a young rising star among these segments of the church. When I looked up the person's name I was led to websites where this young man was speaking of oil supernaturally dripping from his hands and fingers, gold dust appearing, and diamonds miraculously materializing. Vanity of vanities. It is all vanity. None of these things has any power to transform a self-centered, fleshly man or woman into the image of Christ.

The disciple's cross has been replaced with the mystic's mantle. Self-denial is eschewed in favor of self-fulfillment. Mortifying the deeds of the flesh has fallen out of vogue. The theme of these new movements is prosperity, ease, pleasure, and the titillation of mystical experiences.

Brothers and sisters, it is gross delusion to believe that God's favor rests upon covetous and immoral men and women. It does not matter how charismatic the personality, or how spiritually gifted the individual appears, a person is NOT spiritual if their behavior is carnal.

Galatians 5:16-21

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please... Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

"The deeds of the flesh are evident..." These are the very deeds that these men and women are engaging in. Regarding such ones the Spirit of Christ declares, "I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." This truth was declared by all of Christ's apostles.

I John 3:7-10

Little children, let no one deceive you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, that He might destroy the works of the devil. No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God...

It is insightful to note that of the seven churches Christ addressed in the book of Revelation, there was one that was noted for giving place to a false spirit of prophecy, and sexually immoral behavior. These two things frequently are found together, and they always invite the judgment of Yahweh. To

the church of Thyatira, Yahshua spoke the following:

Revelation 2:20-23

"I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray, so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. And I gave her time to repent; and she does not want to repent of her immorality. Behold, I will cast her upon a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. And I will kill her children with pestilence; and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds."

God will not be mocked. It matters not how many prophecies a man or woman gives, or how much they speak in tongues. Signs and miracles will avail nothing for a man or woman if they are not living a self-controlled life, putting to death the passions and desires of the flesh.

Galatians 5:24

Now those who belong to Christ Yahshua have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

In the hall of shame that has been set forth in this writing, I seriously wonder whether there is a single individual named who will stand before the Lord and escape the experience declared by Yahshua in the Gospels.

Luke 13:27-29

"I tell you, I do not know where you are from; depart from Me, all you evildoers. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth there when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but yourselves being cast out."

Brothers and sisters, test all men and all teachings carefully. Do not abandon the exercise of spiritual discernment. Study the word of God. Surrender your will to Christ and take up YOUR CROSS daily to follow Him. I will close this series with the following words of Scripture.

II Peter 2:17-22

These people are as useless as dried-up springs or as mist blown away by the wind. They are doomed to blackest darkness. They brag about themselves with empty, foolish boasting. With an appeal to twisted sexual desires, they lure back into sin those who have barely escaped from a lifestyle of deception. They promise freedom, but they themselves are slaves of sin and corruption. For you are a slave to whatever controls you. And when people escape from the wickedness of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and then get tangled up and enslaved by sin again, they are worse off than before. It would be better if they had never known the way to righteousness than to know it and then reject the command they were given to live a holy life.

[New Living Translation]

May you be blessed with peace and understanding in these days.