



March 30, 2012

## Table of Contents

[Feature Article - Theological Dinosaurs](#)  
[Problems With the Sabbath in Samoa](#)  
[What a Pastor Does](#)  
[Well, Do They or Don't They Believe...?](#)  
[Deacon True Sez](#)  
[Who Said That The Earth Was Flat?](#)  
[Decades of Decadence](#)  
[Quotes From CCM Musicians](#)  
[What's In Your Hope Chest?](#)

[Why Would the Russians Boycott British Goods?](#)  
[Links in the Media Chain](#)  
[Who Reads What?](#)  
[Therapy For The Funny Bone](#)  
[Notable Quotes and Quotable Notes](#)  
[Learning to Pray](#)  
[William Jennings Bryan and the Watermelon](#)  
[Eddy-Torial - What About Revival?](#)

## Theological Dinosaurs -

*By Buddy Smith*

**NEWS FLASH** - Theological dinosaur fossils discovered in Canberra Seminary

"A complete fossil skeleton has been unearthed at Unity Theological Seminary in Canberra,"

The Rev. Dr. Ms. Barbarous Theorem commented to the press this week, 'This is the most exciting discovery in the history of the Seminary. We have cause to believe this is the first complete skeleton of Pulpitosaurus Extinctus ever to be found.' She identified the excavation site as being underneath the Seminary chapel platform. The chapel, sealed up for almost fifty years, was opened only recently for research purposes."



After reading the above article, Mr. Steadfast, reporter for The Pilgrim Way requested an interview with Ms. Theorem, and we print the following:

**PW:** "Ms. Theorem, can you give our readers any details as to the location where Pulpitosaurus Extinctus was discovered?"

**BT:** "Yes. I should fill you in on the background of this discovery first. We have an excellent ancient history professor at the Seminary named Dr. Revision. For a couple of years, he and his post grad students have been asking if they might do some exploration work in the old chapel. When permission was granted recently, they went right to work. He consulted the board of regents, and asked where he would most likely find remains of a theological dinosaur if there were any to be found. We told him that we had read in the Seminary archives that the chapel platform had been their domain, and so it would be a good place them to begin."

**PW:** "What do you mean by 'their domain'?"

**BT:** "Hmmm. I see I'm going to have to tell you about the early days of the Seminary. It was not always as broadminded as it is at present. Many years ago it was a training college for the Baptist ministry. The founders were all Pulpitosaurus Extinctii - real living fossils, theological dinosaurs. Nowadays we call it 'The Dark Ages'. The founders of the seminary were stuck in the swamps of primitive methods, old fashioned doctrines, and hellfire and brimstone preaching. Thank goodness, those days are gone forever. We are much more enlightened now. For instance, take the Feminar (Feminism Seminar) recently held here at the Seminary. We had almost 2000 women ministers, we dedicated the new meditation centre to Sophia, the goddess of wisdom, and had tremendous media coverage. I was privileged to chair the meetings that met to discuss re-imagining God, and to promote the new Politically Correct Bible Version (PCBV). Our Praise and Worship course, led by Dr. Tonedead, has just finished compiling a new hymnal/chorus book for Submergent Churches, and it contains ONLY the most popular Beatles songs! Not only that, but we just received our accreditation as an Emergent Seminary! We are so excited!"

**PW:** "I see. But I still don't understand about the chapel platform being the domain of Pulpitosaurus."

**BT:** "All you men are so dense. Didn't you understand about the incredibly old fashioned beliefs of those relics of a bygone age? They used to stand on the chapel platform and roar at the poor helpless students. They actually thought the Bible was true. They believed in all those hopelessly outdated theories of inspiration, atonement, forgiveness, holiness, heaven and hell, etc. And they didn't just keep it to themselves. They tried to force everyone else to believe it as well! And they used the platform in the chapel to actually shout their beliefs at their hearers. That's why we describe it as being their domain. Is that simple enough for you?"

**PW:** "Yes, I understand it better than you think. Can you describe the Pulpitosaurus to our readers? The artist's sketches don't give much detail."

**BT:** "Gladly. The head of the Evolution of Theology Department, Dr. Darwin Huxley, has authored several books on Pulpitosaurus. He believes this species had the largest backbone of any dinosaur, and that it had only three vertebrae, making it almost impossible for it to bend. It also had an enormous chest cavity. Some of his colleagues think that means it had a very large heart. Others are of the opinion it had four lungs instead. The air passages were such that it had a very efficient voice box and could project its cries for great distances. The cranial capacity of the skull, according to Dr. Huxley, was quite small, leaving hardly any space for a brain. And he said one fossil specimen even had a piece of very thick skin still attached."

**PW:** "Thank you for that interesting description. That old dinosaur must have been quite an impressive sight. Can you tell us about the subspecies uncovered so far?"

**BT:** "We are still sorting through the remains that have been dug up, but I can tell you about three subspecies of Pulpitosaurus we have identified. "The earliest fossil is called Pulpitosaurus Apostolos. It had the longest legs of any theological dinosaur we have discovered, and covered great distances quickly, and was so prolific that it left offspring everywhere, Fossil remains of Apostolos have also been found in the Himalayas, the Indus Valley, the Andes, Siberia, the Aleutian Islands and the Australian deserts."

**PW:** "Very interesting! What is the second subspecies?"

**BT:** "Actually the second and third subspecies seem to have diverged simultaneously as the offspring of Apostolos. The type most common was the Pulpitosaurus Pastorius, He was amazingly prolific. Some nest sites discovered indicate the Pastorius may have hatched and cared for hundreds, even thousands of offspring at times. This species exerted such a great influence on their environment that whole primitive cultures were altered."

**PW:** "Amazing! And what about the third subspecies?"

**BT:** "This is the one that still gives me nightmares! When the reports first began to come in on this old fossil, we didn't know what to call it. We finally decided on Pulpitosaurus Evangelisticus. It had really large and sharp teeth, its voice box was the largest of all and its backbone had no vertebrae at all! Some researchers believe it was capable of breathing fire, and we think it was good at stirring the nests ruled over by the Pastorius. Amazingly, its visits to the nesting sites seem to have resulted in a great increase in the number of eggs that hatched out into more Evangelisticuses and many Pastoruses,"

**PW:** "I wonder if you could tell our readers why the Pulpitosaurus became extinct?"

**BT:** "Most of the faculty at the Seminary hold the view that it was simply unable to evolve. It couldn't keep up with the changes happening all around it. One of our faculty, Dr. Maverick, thinks it died out because it changed its diet from meat to milk. He thinks the later specimens that were discovered show symptoms of malnourishment and vitamin deficiency."

**PW:** "What creatures replaced them?"

**BT:** "Well, we had a real surprise at what we found! Our latest research indicates the next step up the evolutionary ladder was much more sophisticated. Thankfully, it did not have a backbone at all, or teeth, or a thick hide. It didn't breathe fire or produce fear in others' hearts. Rather, it moved with the tide, adapted to its culture easily, and preferred lukewarm conditions.... Our professor of Incremental Surrender, Dr. Twoface, says he thinks they should be described as being theologically conservative and culturally relevant."

**PW:** "Pardon me for interrupting, but what you are describing sounds awfully like a jellyfish...."

**BT:** "You might say that. It has nice ring to it, doesn't it? Evangellyfish ... Hmm, I think that might be the very name. It conveys the thought of softness, conforming with its culture, the tendency to drift with the wind and current. Quite a suitable name that is. I will have to pass that on to Dr. Huxley. Thank you for that suggestion"

**PW:** 'Glad to be of help. I want to ask your opinion about this. From time to time we come across reports of living specimens of Pulpitosaurus Extinctus being found. Do you think it is possible that there may be some of these theological fossils still alive?'

**BT:** "Oh, no! Impossible! Definitely not! Those are just unfounded rumours. Uneducated people, people with small intellectual capacity will believe anything. Admittedly, strictly off the record, some eggs were found recently in quite good condition. (Of course, the Board of Regents had them put in cold storage.)

Pulpitosaurus Extinctus alive?

It's not possible ... at least, I certainly hope not!

Oh, my. that's a horrible thought!

Modern society couldn't stand the shock.

Dear, dear ... surely not! Oh, my ... "

**PW:** "We had some other questions to ask, but the Rev. Dr. Ms. Theorem was so distressed she had to take some Prozac and lie down. We will keep you informed as to any further developments."

Buddy Smith

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)



## Problems With the Sabbath in Samoa -

(Seventh Day Adventists have a serious problem in Samoa. The strictest SDA's believe that God set apart the seventh day of the creation week to be a day of worship and that it has never altered from that day to this. So when the Samoan government decided to move the international date line from one side of the island to the other, the SDA church was thrown into an awful quandry, because it meant they were forced to worship on what they considered to be a Sunday. Many SDA's believe that "Sunday worship" is the mark of the Beast.)

### Samoa and the problem of the Sabbath

The end of the year 2011 has marked a big change for the nation of Samoa. They have decided to move the International Date Line to the East of their nation so that they share the same day with New Zealand. To make the alignment, they decided to skip Friday 30th December and go straight to Saturday.

For the Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) Church, the change is a real problem doctrinally. The SDAs don't follow the Christian Sabbath (sic), they follow the Jewish Sabbath which begins at Sunset on Friday, and ends at Sunset on Saturday. Many SDAs are quite legalistic regarding what they consider to be the correct day on which to have their Sabbath. Some even consider their salvation to be in jeopardy if they worship on the wrong day! Just which is the 'correct day' is rather problematic around the International Dateline. With the sun over the Pacific Ocean, some SDAs worship on a Saturday, while others wait until the next day for Saturday to arrive because their community is East of the Dateline.

Regarding the problem on Samoa, some simply want to count off seven days from the previous Saturday, which means they would be having their morning service on the same day as Christians who honour the Lord by having their Sabbath (sic) on the day He rose from the dead; Sunday. Others however, want to stick with the tradition of the Jewish Sabbath which begins at sunset on Friday, even though there is the legalistic cost of failing to worship on the seventh day from the previous Saturday.

<http://adventist-org-au.adventistconnect.org/assets/338961>

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/WO1112/S00795/samoa-seventh-day-adventists-to-have-two-sabbaths.htm>

<http://ssnet.org/blog/2012/01/the-samoan-sabbath-dilemma/>

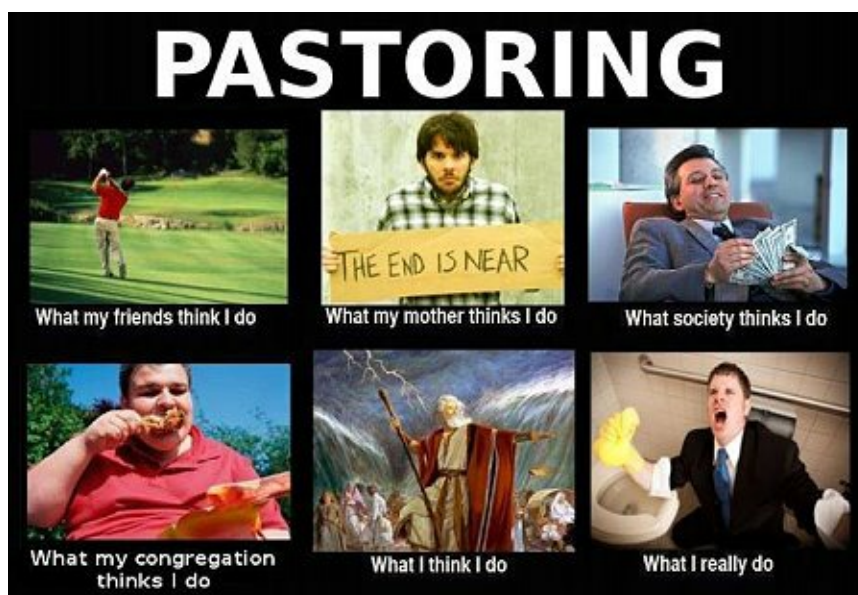
[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

### Psalm 2:1

**"Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?"**



## What a Pastor Does -



[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

## Well, Do They or Don't They Believe That Jehovah God and Allah Are the Same God?

### Loving God and Neighbour Together -

#### "A Christian Response to "A Common Word Between Us and You"

Apostasy Alert [Australia] 19 March 2012



**"I know, Rick, Allah is God!"**

We have received many emails concerning an article we republished on the 29th of February 2012 concerning Rick Warren's seeming endorsement of Islam.

We wrote then; "The Rev. Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church in Florida and one of America's most influential Christian [?] leaders, has embarked on an effort to heal divisions between evangelical Christians and Muslims by partnering with Southern California mosques and proposing a set of theological principles that includes acknowledging that Christians and Muslims worship the same God."

"The effort, informally dubbed King's Way, caps years of outreach between Warren and Muslims. Warren has broken Ramadan fasts at a Mission Viejo mosque, met Muslim leaders abroad and addressed 8,000 Muslims at a national convention in Washington D.C".

"Saddleback worshippers have invited Muslims to Christmas dinner and played interfaith soccer at a picnic in Irvine attended by more than 300 people". (The game pitted pastors and imams against teens from both faiths. The teens won.)".

Since then Warren has denied the claims made in this article that he believes Muslims worship the same 'God' as do Christians and Jews. He has done so on the website [www.pastors.com](http://www.pastors.com) which he founded some years ago.

This has rightly confused some of our readers.

Yet, in October of 2007 138 Muslim clerics issued a proclamation titled "A Common Word Between Us and You" in an effort to gain some common ground with Christianity.

We published this document in an Apostasy Alert at the time along with a response to it titled; "A Christian Response to A Common Word Between Us and You," which originated at the Yale Divinity School's Centre for Faith & Culture which was published in the New York Times on November 17, 2007.

Over 300 Christian leaders of both Reformed, Evangelical, Pentecostal and Roman Catholic persuasion signed this response and we republish the document below and identify the more prominent signatories. Rick Warren was one of them.

We do so to demonstrate just how deeply this ecumenical heresy has advanced, and how denials from Warren ring hollow. We rest our case on the statement below.

**"In the name of the Infinitely Good God whom we should love with all our Being"**



**Signatory; CFR member  
Rick Warren with murderous  
friend Bashar**



**Signatory; John Stott  
All Souls - London - with  
Friend Rick Warren**

"As members of the world-wide Christian community, we were deeply encouraged and challenged by the recent historic open letter signed by 138 leading Muslim scholars, clerics, and intellectuals from around the world.

A Common Word Between Us and You identifies some core common ground between Christianity and Islam which lies at the heart of our respective faiths as well as at the heart of the most ancient Abrahamic faith, Judaism.

Jesus Christ's call to love God and neighbour was rooted in the divine revelation to the people of Israel embodied in the Torah (Deuteronomy 6:5; Leviticus 19:18).

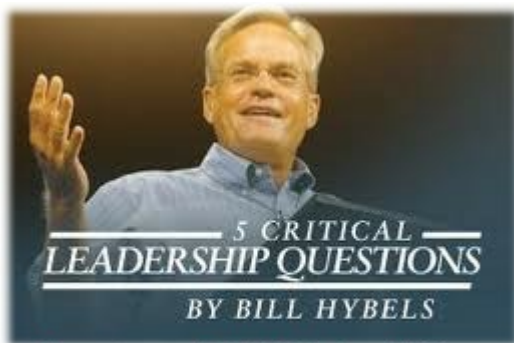
We receive the open letter as a Muslim hand of conviviality and co-operation extended to Christians worldwide. In this response we extend our own Christian hand in return, so that together with all other human beings we may live in peace and justice as we seek to love God and our neighbours.

Muslims and Christians have not always shaken hands in friendship; their relations have sometimes been tense, even characterised by outright hostility.

Since Jesus Christ says, “First take the log out your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbour’s eye” (Matthew 7:5), we want to begin by acknowledging that in the past (e.g. in the Crusades) and in the present (e.g. in excesses of the “war on terror”) many Christians have been guilty of sinning against our Muslim neighbours.

Before we “shake your hand” in responding to your letter, we ask forgiveness of the All-Merciful One and of the Muslim community around the world.

## Religious Peace—World Peace



**Signatory; Bill Hybels - Willow Creek Community Church**



**Signatory; Brian McLaren; Author, Speaker, Activist**

“Muslims and Christians together make up well over half of the world’s population. Without peace and justice between these two religious communities, there can be no meaningful peace in the world.

We share the sentiment of the Muslim signatories expressed in these opening lines of their open letter. Peaceful relations between Muslims and Christians stand as one of the central challenges of this century, and perhaps of the whole present epoch.

Though tensions, conflicts, and even wars in which Christians and Muslims stand against each other are not primarily religious in character, they possess an undeniable religious dimension.

If we can achieve religious peace between these two religious communities, peace in the world will clearly be easier to attain. It is therefore no exaggeration to say, as you have in A Common Word Between Us and You, that “the future of the world depends on peace between Muslims and Christians.”

## Common Ground

What is so extraordinary about A Common Word Between Us and You is not that its signatories recognise the critical character of the present moment in relations between Muslims and Christians. It is rather a deep insight and courage with which they have identified the common ground between the Muslim and Christian religious communities.

What is common between us lies not in something marginal nor in something merely important to each. It lies, rather, in something absolutely central to both: love of God and love of neighbour.

Surprisingly for many Christians, your letter considers the dual command of love to be the foundational principle not just of the Christian faith, but of Islam as well.

That so much common ground exists – common ground in some of the fundamentals of faith – gives hope that undeniable differences and even the very real external pressures that bear down upon us can not overshadow the common ground upon which we stand together.

That this common ground consists in love of God and of neighbour gives hope that deep co-operation between us can be a hallmark of the relations between our two communities.

### Love of God



**Signatory Jim Wallis;  
Sojourners**



**Signatory Richard Mouw;  
Fuller Theo. Seminary**

We applaud that *A Common Word Between Us and You* stresses so insistently the unique devotion to one God, indeed the love of God, as the primary duty of every believer.

God alone rightly commands our ultimate allegiance. When anyone or anything besides God commands our ultimate allegiance – a ruler, a nation, economic progress, or anything else – we end up serving idols and inevitably get mired in deep and deadly conflicts.

We find it equally heartening that the God whom we should love above all things is described as being Love.

In the Muslim tradition, God, “the Lord of the worlds,” is “The Infinitely Good and All-Merciful.” And the New Testament states clearly that “God is love” (1 John 4:8).

Since God’s goodness is infinite and not bound by anything, God “makes his sun rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous,” according to the words of Jesus Christ recorded in the Gospel (Matthew 5:45).

For Christians, humanity’s love of God and God’s love of humanity are intimately linked. As we read in the New Testament: “We love because he [God] first loved us” (1 John 4:19). Our love of God springs from and is nourished by God’s love for us. It cannot be otherwise, since the Creator who has power over all things is infinitely good.

### Love of Neighbour

We find deep affinities with our own Christian faith when “*A Common Word Between Us and You*” insists that love is the pinnacle of our duties toward our neighbours.



“None of you has faith until you love for your neighbour what you love for yourself,” the Prophet Muhammad said.

In the New Testament we similarly read, “whoever does not love [the neighbour] does not know God” (1 John 4:8) and “whoever does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen” (1 John 4:20).

God is love, and our highest calling as human beings is to imitate the "One" whom we worship.

We applaud when you state that “justice and freedom of religion are a crucial part” of the love of neighbour. When justice is lacking, neither love of God nor love of the neighbour can be present. When freedom to worship God according to one’s conscience is curtailed, God is dishonoured, the neighbour oppressed, and neither God nor neighbour is loved.

Since Muslims seek to love their Christian neighbours, [as in Sudan and Ethiopia and Egypt?] they are not against them, the document encouragingly states.

Instead, Muslims are with them.

As Christians we resonate deeply with this sentiment. Our faith teaches that we must be with our neighbours – indeed, that we must act in their favour – even when our neighbours turn out to be our enemies.[As they most certainly do when Islam is in the ascendancy?]

“But I say unto you,” says Jesus Christ, “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good” (Matthew 5:44-45).

Our love, Jesus Christ says, must imitate the love of the infinitely good Creator; our love must be as unconditional as is God’s—extending to brothers, sisters, neighbours, and even enemies. At the end of his life, Jesus Christ himself prayed for his enemies: “Forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing” (Luke 23:34).

The Prophet Muhammad did similarly when he was violently rejected and stoned by the people of Ta’if. He is known to have said, “The most virtuous behaviour is to engage those who sever relations, to give to those who withhold from you, and to forgive those who wrong you.” (It is perhaps significant that after the Prophet Muhammad was driven out of Ta’if, it was the Christian slave ‘Addas who went out to Muhammad, brought him food, kissed him, and embraced him.)



**Signatory; David Yonggi Cho;  
Yoido Full Gospel Church  
South Korea**

### The Task Before Us

“Let this common ground” – the dual common ground of love of God and of neighbour – “be the basis of all future interfaith dialogue between us,” your courageous letter urges.

Indeed, in the generosity with which the letter is written you embody what you call for. We most heartily agree. Abandoning all “hatred and strife,” we must engage in interfaith dialogue as those who seek each other’s good, for the one God unceasingly seeks our good.

Indeed, together with you we believe that we need to move beyond “a polite ecumenical dialogue between selected religious leaders” and work diligently together to reshape relations between our communities and our nations so that they genuinely reflect our common love for God and for one another.

Given the deep fissures in the relations between Christians and Muslims today, the task before us is daunting. And the stakes are great. The future of the world depends on our ability as Christians and Muslims to live together in peace.

If we fail to make every effort to make peace and come together in harmony you correctly remind us that “our eternal souls” are at stake as well.

We are persuaded that our next step should be for our leaders at every level to meet together and begin the earnest work of determining how God would have us fulfil the requirement that we love God and one another.

It is with humility and hope that we receive your generous letter, and we commit ourselves to labour together in heart, soul, mind and strength for the objectives you so appropriately propose.

### Signatories:

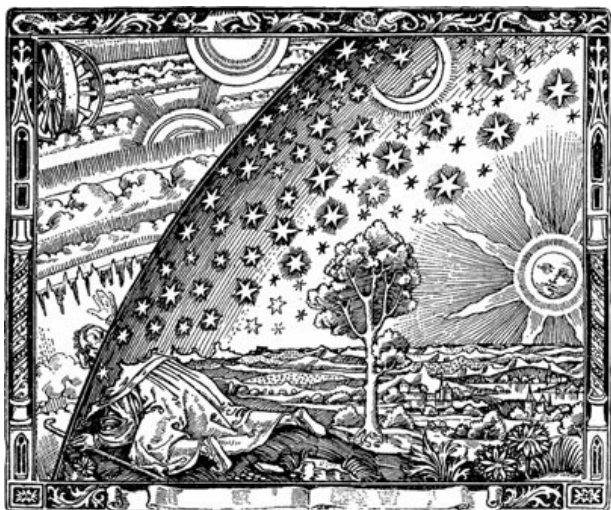
- **David Yonggi Cho**, Founder and Senior Pastor of Yoido Full Gospel Church, Seoul, Korea
- **Rev. Richard Cizik**, Vice President of Governmental Affairs, National Association of Evangelicals
- **Joel B. Green**, Professor of New Testament Interpretation, Fuller Theological Seminary
- **Lynn Green**, International Chairman, Youth With A Mission
- **Bill Hybels**, Founder and Senior Pastor, Willow Creek Community Church, South Barrington, IL
- **Tony Jones**, National Co-ordinator, Emergent Village
- **Brian D. McLaren**, Author, Speaker, Activist
- **Richard Mouw**, President and Professor of Christian Philosophy, Fuller Theological Seminary
- **Arnold Neufeldt-Fast**, Associate Dean, Tyndale Seminary, Toronto
- **Rev. Roy Oksnevad**, Institute of Strategic Evangelism at Wheaton College
- **Dennis Olsen**, Charles T. Haley Professor of Old Testament Theology, Princeton Theological Seminary
- **David A. Reed**, Professor Emeritus of Pastoral Theology and Research, Wycliffe College, University of Toronto, Canada
- **Steve Robbins**, Pastor and Director, Vineyard Leadership Institute
- **Cecil M. Robeck, Jr.**, Professor of Church History and Ecumenics, Fuller Theological Seminary and the Director of the David du Plessis Centre for Christian Spirituality
- **Rev. Dr. John Stott**, Rector Emeritus, All Souls Church, Langham Place, London, UK
- **Iain Torrance**, President, Princeton Theological Seminary
- **Michael W. Treneer**, International President, The Navigators, Colorado Springs, CO
- **Geoff Tunnicliffe**, International Director, World Evangelical Alliance
- **Jim Wallis**, President, Sojourners
- **Rick Warren**, Founder and Senior Pastor, Saddleback Church, and The Purpose Driven Life, Lake Forest, CA

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

## Deacon True Sez -

"Everybody is telling us that most folks are overweight. Do you reckon it has anything to do with them eatin' without workin' for what they eat? It seems to me that folks were a lot skinnier when they only ate what they worked for."

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)



## Who Said That The Earth Was Flat?

Many of us have heard the old legend about why Christopher Columbus was told he could not sail too far west. According to the legend, Columbus was repeatedly told that he could not sail west to India because the Earth was flat. If he sailed too far, he would fall off the edge. That story was a piece of fiction cooked up by Washington Irving in the 1830s.

Only one writer can be found in Western history who believed the Earth was flat – that writer was Lactantius in the third century AD. All the others – for example, Pythagoras, still noted today for his mathematical proofs – simply assumed the Earth was spherical. Two

hundred years later, the Greek mathematician Eratosthenes, also assuming that the Earth was round, calculated that the Earth was 25,000 miles in circumference. He was off by only 200 miles. A century later, using Eratosthenes' figure for the Earth's diameter, Hipparchus calculated that the moon was 240,000 miles away from the Earth. He was off by only 100 miles – less than half a percent!

Nor does the Bible teach that the Earth is flat. Isaiah 40:22 tells us how God looks down on the inhabitants of a round Earth. Job 26:7 talks about the Earth floating in space, hung on nothing.

from Creation Moments

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

### Isaiah 40:21-23

**"Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in: That bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity."**

## Decades of Decadence -

(Each week we are posting a decade of decadence from Bro. Cloud's Timeline of Apostasy. See his book ( The Modern Bible Version Hall of Shame for the timeline of 19th century apostasy) available at wayoflife.org. - Ed)

**1913**--Ferdinand de Saussure's Course in General Linguistics was published posthumously, marking the birth of modern linguistics, denying God and the absolute nature of language. According to Saussure, the meaning of language is not something to be recovered in an absolute sense but something each person creates for himself. Fifty years later, in his book Toward a Science of Translating, Eugene Nida acknowledged Saussure's influence on his own theories of dynamic equivalency.

**1915**--The newly formed Assemblies of God, the largest Pentecostal denomination, was rent asunder during its first two years of existence (1914-1916) by a Unitarian controversy. The "Oneness" Pentecostals separated and formed various Unitarian groups that have remained a prominent and influential part of Pentecostalism. One of these is the United Pentecostal Church. Oneness theology alleges that there are not three Persons of the Godhead, only three manifestations of one Person, Jesus. Thus, it is also called "Jesus Only."

**1916**--Madison Grant, president of the New York Zoological Society, wrote, "Mistaken regard for what are believed to be divine laws and a sentimental belief in the sanctity of human life tend to prevent both the elimination of defective infants and the sterilization of such adults as are themselves of no value to the community. The laws of nature require the obliteration of the unfit, and human life is valuable only when it is of use to the community or race" (The Passing of the Great Race).

**1917**--Francis Pieper, a conservative German Lutheran theologian, wrote: "During one period of the Arian controversy it was said that the world had become Arian. Today it can be said that the so-called Protestant world has become Unitarian" (Francis Pieper, Christian Dogmatics, I, p. 421, translated from the German of 1917). This is an interesting statement in light of the Unitarian influence within modern textual criticism and the wholesale modification of Trinitarian passages such as 1 Timothy 3:16 and 1 John 5:7 in modern texts and versions.

**1918**--Harry Emerson Fosdick (1868-1969), pastor of the influential Riverside Church in New York City, published The Manhood of the Master, denying that Jesus Christ is God.

----- James Frazer published Folk-lore in the Old Testament, presenting the Genesis flood as merely another of the more than 100 mythical accounts of a worldwide flood.

**1919**--Walter Rauschenbusch published A Theology for the Social Gospel, which exchanged the Great Commission of world evangelism for the goal of transforming society and thus building the kingdom of God on earth.

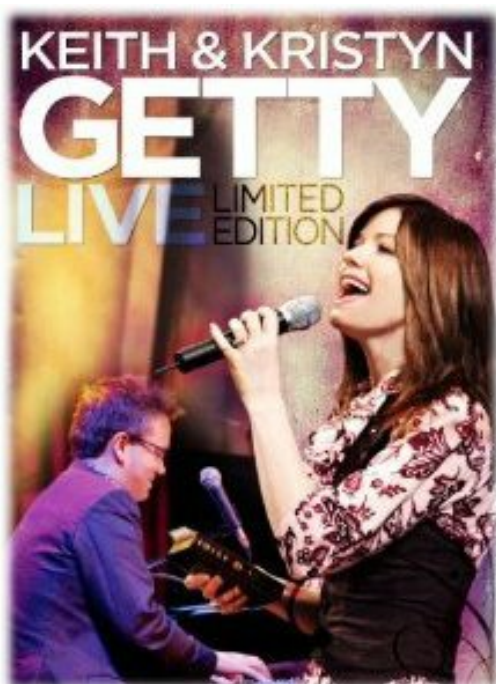
----- Karl Barth (1886-1968) published the first part of his commentary on Romans. Barth, Emil Brunner (1889-1965), and Reinhold Niebuhr (1893-1971) were the fathers of neo-orthodoxy, which hides its unbelief under orthodox theological terms that are given a heretical meaning through obscure language (e.g., speaking of the "bodily resurrection" of Christ or the "second coming" or "the inspiration of Scripture" but not believing these doctrines in a traditional sense). According to neo-orthodoxy, the Bible is not itself the objective and infallible Word of God but merely becomes the word of God as it is experienced existentially.

**1920**--Margaret Sanger, founder of the birth control/abortion rights movement in America, published Woman and the New Race, in which she called large families "immoral" and stated, "The most merciful thing that the large family does to one of its infant members is to kill it." Sanger advocated a mass sterilization program for the "unfit" and the "extermination" of "human weeds" by abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)



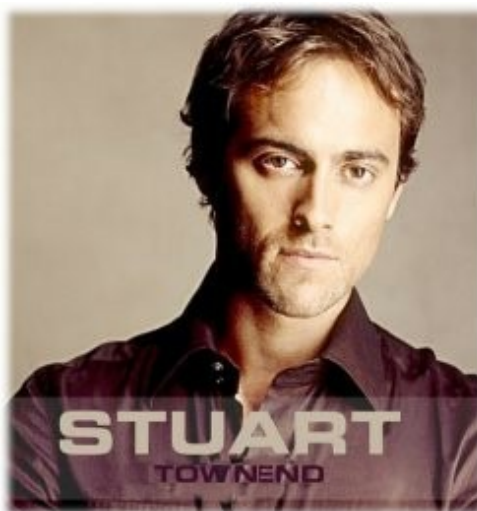
## Quotes From CCM Musicians -



**KEITH AND KRISTYN GETTY** list the Beatles as a major influence for their melodies. Their goal is to “bring everyone together musically” and to “write songs that contemporary, traditional and liturgical churches could use” ([www.keithgetty.com](http://www.keithgetty.com)). Their popular songs include “Don’t Let Me Lose My Wonder,” “In Christ Alone” (penned by Keith and Stuart Townend), “Speak, Oh Lord,” and “The Power of the Cross.” Keith arranged some of the songs on Michael W. Smith’s Healing Rain album.

**STEWART TOWNEND**, author of “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us,” is a member of Church of Christ the King in Brighton, United Kingdom. It is a charismatic church that promotes the radically ecumenical Alpha program. He says that he is excited that “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” is used “by all sorts of churches.” He describes the “extraordinary manifestations of the Spirit” that have occurred during his charismatic worship ([S4W.com](http://S4W.com)). This refers to things such as spirit slaying,

holy laughter, and shaking. “‘How Deep the Father’s Love’ was the first hymn-like song I had written; before that point I had only written modern worship songs in a more contemporary style. ... This melody just kinda popped out of my head one day. ... It had a kind of classic hymn-like element to it. I thought I should just tell the story of Christ on the cross, but tell it perhaps from the point of view of what it cost the Father to give the Son. ... There is lot of talk about the wrath of God and is that right to think that the Father’s wrath was poured out on Christ, and I think that is right to say that. But that is not to say that God is a vengeful God; actually it cost him to give up His son. ... It’s been interesting to see the response. It’s quite useful not only in the more modern contemporary churches, but in traditional churches as well because of the style. And I’m kind of exited about that; I am excited about the fact that you can write something that actually feeds the broader church rather than just particular musical pockets of the church. That’s something that motivates me and probably why I’ve thought more and more about writing hymns, is I would like to try and feed the whole church and not just part of it” What he does not say is that the contemporary churches aren’t very interested in soft CCM hymns. It is only the “traditional” churches that are interested in “soft” CCM, and by using it they are the ones that are in danger of being influenced and changed. When “traditional” churches borrow Townend’s “soft” CCM, the contemporary churches are in no danger of being “traditionalized,” but the traditional churches are most definitely in danger of being contemporarized.

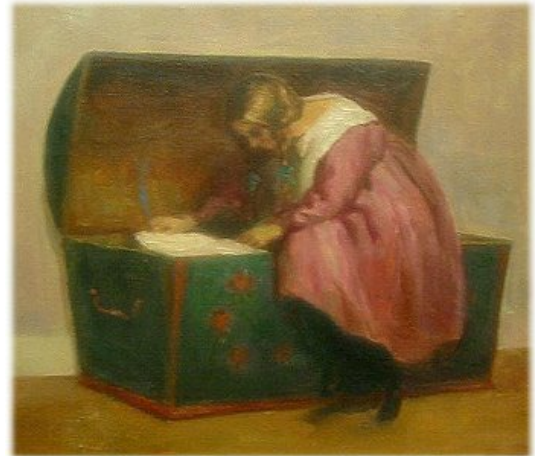


[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

## What's in Your Hope Chest?

*Written by Joye Binstead*

I like the words 'hope chest', don't you? It is almost as if you can actually store some of this precious substance in a chest. It sounds like an extra special box that holds all kinds of amazing and invisible dreams but in reality, the hope is stored in you and not in a chest! The things in the box are physical representations of your hope, which means they will show what you hope for.



I remember collecting things for my hope chest, miscellaneous bits and pieces, cast offs from people who thought I might want some little thing. I worked in the Red Cross op shop in those days, and I remember taking home an old and well-loved doll, a big hard plastic one, with eyes that had long lashes and blinked - she would be perfect for my someday daughter; I named her Lucy; some sweet little baby dresses also caught my eye. I had teacups and saucers in garish designs, given by a friend cleaning out her cupboard; there was a lovely soup tureen; and an iron skillet from my Grandpa. I'm sure there was more but those are the things I can recall.

Most of the time, when a girl gets a job, she starts collecting things that catch her eye, or if she is a more forward thinking girl - things she knows she will need one day. It is natural and exciting to plan ahead to the day that she is married, and to plan ever further - to a future with children of her own, wow! It is good to prepare for our future and good to think ahead but let me tell you about the most important thing to put in your hope chest, it is something that is often forgotten.

The most important thing that you must put in your hope chest is....HOPE! But what is hope exactly? One definition of hope is 'to look with expectation'. Have you ever had a friend coming to visit? One whom you hadn't seen for a really long time? She texts you from the edge of town for directions, she says, "I will be there in about ten minutes!" You are jumping up and down as the minutes tick by, and then when you can't stand it any longer, you go out and stand on the curb and watch down the street. That is hope. You have the knowledge that she is coming and that she won't be much longer. Your hope is based on fact. You will find that true hope is always based on fact.

Can you think of some facts that will always give hope? Fact: God loves us so much, even when we fail again and again, He still loves us, (1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.") Fact: God is in control of all the events and situations in my life, and He is working for my good, (Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.")

Fact: There is no place on earth where God will lose sight of us, there is no need to fear because wherever we are going - He is already there! (Psalm 139:7-10, "Whither shall I go from Thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from Thy presence? If I ascend up into Heaven, Thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, Thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me.") The facts go on and on.

Start searching and you will find many, many truths that will fire and inspire your hope. All of these things are so much more important than any material possession you may have in your hope chest. Earthly possessions will fade and break; remember Lucy, the lovely old doll? I can still see her poor plastic legs sticking straight up in the air as she was operated on by two unskilled surgeons, and without the benefit of anesthetic! Unfortunately for her, I had two sons before I had a daughter. Things will pass away; even,

sometimes, relationships, but the promises of God are as true today as they will be when I am dead and buried. They will outlast anything or anybody!

So, what is my last word on this matter? How about Psalm 42:5, "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why are thou disquieted within me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance." When our hopes are placed firmly in the promises of God, we need never despair. One more and I am done...Psalm 62:5, "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from Him." He will never fail!

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)



## Why Would the Russians Boycott British Goods?

### Russian conglomerate to boycott British goods over crosses at work ban

Workers at a large Russian company are to boycott British goods over the UK Government's support for businesses that ban Christians from openly wearing crosses or crucifixes at work.

Workers at a large Russian company are to boycott British goods over the UK Government's support for businesses that ban Christians from openly wearing crosses or crucifixes at work Photo: ALAMY

Your Financial Guardian, a conglomerate which owns Russian Milk, has more than 6,000 employees and was co-founded by Vasily Boyko-Veliky, a controversial dairy tycoon who is a conservative Orthodox believer.

It announced this week that it would no longer buy British goods for its factories and dairies and refuse to use British Airways or BMI "in connection with the persecution of Christians in Great Britain." "We announce a ban on Land Rovers, Range Rovers, Jaguars, Bentleys and other British cars made after February 2012 entering our premises," it said in a statement, adding that company cars would boycott BP and Shell petrol stations.

It emerged earlier this month that UK ministers will fight a case at the European Court of Human Rights brought by two British women seeking to establish the right to wear a cross openly at work.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/howaboutthat/9158234/Russian-conglomerate-to-boycott-British-goods-over-crosses-at-work-ban.html>

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

## Psalm 1:6

**"For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish."**

## Links In The Media Chain -

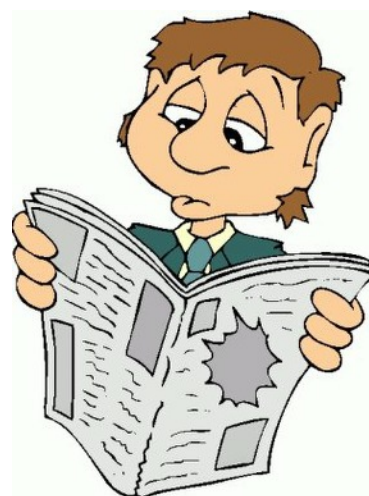
- Why I call global warming alarmists "watermelons" -  
<http://blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/2012/03/17/effective-world-government-will-still-be-needed-to-stave-off-climate-catastrophe/>
- Modern cave dwellers in China -  
[http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-china-caves-20120318,0,2352472.story?track=rss&utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+MostEmailed+%28L.A.+Times+-+Most+E-mailed+Stories%29](http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-china-caves-20120318,0,2352472.story?track=rss&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+MostEmailed+%28L.A.+Times+-+Most+E-mailed+Stories%29)
- Now There's a Paper Airplane! -  
<http://www.couriermail.com.au/entertainment/weird/giant-paper-plane-soars-across-us-desert/story-e6frep26-1226308670641>
- Pravda Wants To Know Why the American Media is Ignoring Sheriff Joe's Investigation of President Obama? -  
<http://www.wnd.com/2012/03/pravda-asks-what-happened-to-american-media/>

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

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## Who Reads What? - Where do you fall on the chart below?

1. The Wall Street Journal is read by the people who run the country.
2. The Washington Post is read by people who think they run the country.
3. The New York Times is read by people who think they should run the country and who are very good at crossword puzzles.
4. USA Today is read by people who think they ought to run the country but don't really understand The New York Times . They do, however, like their statistics shown in pie charts.
5. The Los Angeles Times is read by people who wouldn't mind running the country, if they could find the time -- and if they didn't have to leave Southern California to do it.
6. The Boston Globe is read by people whose parents used to run the country and did a poor job of it, thank you very much.
7. The New York Post is read by people who don't care who is running the country as long as they do something really scandalous, preferably while intoxicated..
8. The Miami Herald is read by people who are running another country, but need the baseball scores.
9. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch is read by people who want only the score of the Cardinals game. They drink Budweiser, Budweiser, and wait a minute -- what was the question?
10. The San Francisco Chronicle is read by people who aren't sure if there is a country or that anyone is running it; but if so, they oppose all that they stand for. There are occasional exceptions if the leaders are handicapped minority feminist atheist dwarfs who also happen to be illegal aliens from any other country or galaxy, provided of course, that they are not Republicans.
11. The National Enquirer is read by people trapped in line at the grocery store.
12. The Seattle Times is read by people who have recently caught a fish and need something to wrap it in.



[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)



## Therapy For The Funny Bone -

An old man and woman were married for many years, even though they did not get along at all. Their fights were a problem to all their neighbours. The old man would shout, "When I die, I will dig my way up and out of the grave and come back and haunt you for the rest of your life." He finally died of a heart attack when he was 98.

His wife asked to have a closed casket at the funeral. After the burial, she went straight out to a nice restarant with her friends and seemed as happy as can be.

Her neighbors, concerned for her safety, asked her, "Aren't you afraid that he may indeed be able to dig his way out of the grave and come back to haunt you for the rest of your life?"

The wife put down her fork and said, "Let him dig. I had him buried face down so he'll be digging the wrong way. And I know for a fact he won't ask for directions."

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An Muslim enters a taxi.....

Once he is seated he tells the cab driver to turn off the radio because in the time of the prophet, there was no music, especially Western music certainly no radios .....

So the cab driver politely switches off the radio, stops the cab and opens the back door.

The Muslim asks him: "What are you doing, you infidel?"

The cabby answers: "In the time of the prophet there were no taxis.

So you can get out and wait for a camel."

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Man breaks most of his bones after slipping on the curb.

Orville Smith, a store manager for Best Buy in Augusta, Ga. told police he observed a customer on surveillance cameras stealing a laptop computer by hiding it inside his jacket. When confronted the man became irate, knocked down an employee, drew a knife and ran for the door.

Outside on the sidewalk were four Marines collecting toys for the Toys for Tots program. Smith said the Marines stopped the man, and he stabbed one of them, Cpt. Phillip Duggan, in the back; the injury did not appear to be severe.

After police and an ambulance arrived at the scene, the subject was transported to the local hospital with two broken arms, a broken ankle, a broken leg, several missing teeth, possible broken ribs, multiple contusions, assorted lacerations, a broken nose and a broken jaw ..... Witnesses said they were the injuries he sustained when he slipped and fell off the curb after stabbing the Marine.

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He was a widower and she a widow.

They had known each other for a number of years being high school classmates and having attended class reunionover the last 20 years without fail.

This 50th anniversary of their graduating class, the widower and the widow made a foursome with two other singles.

They had a wonderful evening, their spirits high.

The widower throwing admiring glances across the table. The widow smiling coyly back at him.

Finally, he picked up courage to ask her, "Will you marry me?"

After about six seconds of careful consideration, she answered, "Yes, yes I will!"

The evening ended on a happy note for the widower. But the next morning he was troubled.

He couldn't remember. Did she say "Yes" or did she say "No?" Try as he would, he just could not recall. He went over the conversation of the previous evening, but his mind was blank.

He remembered asking the question but for the life of him could not recall her response. With fear and trepidation he picked up the phone and called her.

First, he explained that he couldn't remember as well as he used to. Then he reviewed the past evening. As he gained a little more courage he then inquired of her. "When I asked if you would marry me, did you say "Yes" or did you say "No?"

"Why you silly man. I said, 'Yes. Yes I will.' And I meant it with all my heart."

The widower was delighted. He felt his heart skip a beat.

Then she continued. "And I am so glad you called because I couldn't remember who it was that asked me!"

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

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## Notable Quotes and Quotable Notes -

- Charles Woodbridge used to say: 'Tolerance of error leads to compromise with error, and then agreement with error, and finally a personal walk in error.'
- Remember that compromise is just defeat on the installment plan. - unknown
- "Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia" is the fear of long words.

(Someone recently sent me some quotes from people who lived through the Depression. I remember some of the same things in the late 1940's and early 1950's. The present day lies we are being told about the world economy makes me wonder if we will have to go back to these days again. - Ed)

- "Eating was different in those days, too. We didn't come to a table and complain because the food wasn't what we liked. There were not many choices. We ate or went without. Some days bread and gravy tasted very good." - Maxine Bartelt, age 85, Columbus
- "After working in the mill all day my dad came home to a supper of baked beans on toast - one Campbell's regular size can divided among the three of us; two slices of toast for dad, two for mom and

one for me. My mother in later years said she never wanted to see another bean." - [Mildred Redman Dieter, age 81, Youngstown](#)

- "I saw some of the kids (at school) eat banana rinds that other kids had thrown away. Mom would pack my lunch with bread and apple butter and sometimes I had a fried egg sandwich and that was better than a lot of them had. Thank God." - [Charles Warrick, age 81, Barnesville](#)
- "What I remember most is my high school days 1932-1936. We never received new books issued to us. At the end of the school term, we would all get a book, scotch tape and eraser. It was our job to mend the book, erase any marks and make the book presentable so that the next class could use them without trouble." - [Pauline Bandzk, age 91, Hubbard](#)
- "School was very hard. We lacked clothing, school supplies, we used dip pens to do our school work and it was hard to be neat... For theme paper, I sometimes had to take paper out of a wastebasket and erase to use... Once I had to stay home because we did not have 25 cents for a workbook. I had to try out for the basketball team in stocking feet as I had no tennis shoes... An Uncle's old suit coat and my turtleneck shirt from an Aunt made up my basic wardrobe, making me look like Ichabod Crane. It was demoralizing and created a severe inferiority complex for me." - [Bernard L. Kasten, age 90, Lucas](#)
- "In the thirties, Mom and Dad had their hands full financially raising us five children. Dad only worked two days a week at Goodyear - these days they call it rotating. Mom was an excellent seamstress, but was short on funds for buying sewing material. A friend of Dad's worked at an auto wrecking yard. He volunteered to cut the headliner out of quality cars, so Mom had all the material she could use, thanks to Packards and Cadillacs." - [Robert Schwalbach, age 82, Akron](#)
- "We made our own lye soap, which we shaved to wash clothes in a wringer washer. We also used feed sacks to make clothes, sheets, pillowslips and even underwear. We would happily share hand-me-downs with other relatives. I accused my mother of purposely making my underwear three sizes too big just so they would last a long time. When I was in the third grade, I needed glasses. To pay for them, my father worked in a local grocery store and also worked for a 'threshing ring,' which was a small group of local farmers who would pay my father to help with his steam-powered thresher." - [Evelyn Brewer Neff Mittrione, age 86, Pickerington](#)
- "During the winter months we would often wake up with snow on our beds from cracks in the windows. We could not afford to buy new windows so we covered them with oil cloth. To keep our feet warm at night we would heat a brick on our coal stove, cover it with a small blanket, and take it to bed with us." - [Violet Hardin, age 89, Wapakoneta](#)
- "We were a family of eight and my father was a carpenter. During the Depression there was almost no building going on. Because of this, my father had very little work. When he did work, the owner of the company was often unable to pay him. and my mother would go to him and have to beg for a couple dollars to buy necessities, like flour, to help her feed the family. My sister and I peddled papers in Zoar. We also had to clean the two-room school every day after school. My oldest brother had to go to school early every day and build a fire in the downstairs and upstairs stoves so the school was warm when it started. In the summer, we would sell bouquets of wild violets for a nickel to people visiting Zoar. Around 1930, the Zoar Dance Hall was built. At 15 and 16 years old, my sister and I got jobs working there selling tickets and making sandwiches. We would walk home alone at 2 or 3 in the morning. As with all our jobs, the money went to our parents. If we found a penny, we thought we really had something." - [Irene Class Haueter, age 94, Bolivar](#)
- "Dad was on the school board and when there wasn't enough money to pay the teachers, they were offered a small stipend plus room and board. The room and board was provided by the board

members. I can remember being very proud about having a teacher stay at 'our house.'" - [Martha McMahon, age 85, Medina](#)

- "Over the hill about a half mile through the woods, was a row of coal company houses where people lived who had worked in the mines before they closed. Some had found jobs but most were unemployed. These houses were a faded red and we called the street 'Red Row,' and the kids who came up through the woods to go to school with us, we called 'Red Rowers.' They had strange names: Peter Galice and Peter Valinski are two I remember. They were poor and a little different. One day after lunch, Peter Galice smelled so strong, it made me gag. He must have eaten a raw garlic sandwich for lunch. We never cooked with garlic at my house, and the smell was strange and repugnant to me. I remember complaining to the teacher. My brother recalls eating an orange on the way to school. Oranges were a treat we received on Christmas or special occasions. One of the Red Rowers was walking to school behind us and asked if he could pick up the orange peels and eat them. That was as close to an orange as he would have for a few years. It was 1940 and times were rough for most people." - [Julia K. Swan, age 76, Cambridge](#)
- "After a few days there, my father was very concerned about our survival. One cold winter morning, he got up very early, dressed as warmly as he could and left walking. He said: 'I will not be back until I find a job.' My mother was very worried about him; she thought he may not make it back. He stopped at a farm house four miles away. A man (there) had a trucking business. My Dad told the man: 'We have just moved in. I have no job. I have a wife and nine children. I need work. We have no coal for heat and very little food.' The man said: 'Go with me today and help me, we will get coal and groceries on the way home.' There was no phone; we did not know where he was. At 10 p.m., we saw a vehicle coming up the lane. It was the man with the trucking business. I will never forget the tears in my Mother's eyes, as she hugged my Dad. My Dad worked for the man for \$1 a day, until spring. He then got a job working on the road, pounding up rocks. He got \$1 a day." - [Neva Rees, age 87, Marietta](#)

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

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## Learning to Pray -

*by Kevin Milson*

I was born in a rural district near Armidale, NSW, not long after the depression of the early thirties. Things were tough for us as Dad and Mum only had a small farm. Not enough income to keep a family, even with us growing as much food as we could. Dad would get work on some of the larger properties nearby to help out. We ate a lot of "underground mutton" (rabbit) for meat. At the age of fourteen I came to trust in the shed blood of Christ for my salvation.

Not long after I was saved my pastor encouraged me to attend the church prayer meetings, which I did for several months. We had a prayer time before a time of Bible study, and there was always a good gospel message. I don't think I ever prayed in public for the first six months. One night after the prayer meeting, my pastor said, "Kevin, why don't you pray with us?"

My reply was, "I wouldn't know what to pray for."





He said, "I want you to think about every thing you have, your home, your parents, your friends, your church, the food you eat, the air you breathe, just every thing God has blest you with as a young man. Then next week when we meet together I want you to start thanking God out loud for these things individually. If you will do that, then the rest of us may not get a chance to pray for there will be so many things you will want to say.

Friends, I took that advice and learned how to pray by thanking God for all I had. (And yes, the others DID get a chance to pray.) But what a blessing it was to learn to pray, beginning with thanking God!

That is now over sixty years ago, and I still cannot stop and pray without thanking God first for my salvation, and for the many blessings He has poured out to me over my lifetime. Perhaps I can challenge you to think about doing this. Would you consider taking pen and paper and writing out a list of all the things you have been blest with and remember that it is God who has given them to you. Perhaps it would be helpful to read I Timothy 6:8, "And having food and raiment, let us be therewith content." When we stop to think about all we have in addition to food and raiment, our minds just explode. Can I challenge you to begin writing a list that will never end? God never promised us houses to live in, much less mansions, or motorcars, or even beds to lie down in, but we have all these and so much more. The list goes on and on and on.

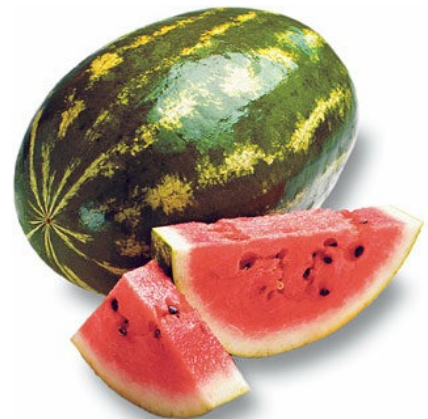
God is so good, that we can do nothing else but thank Him again and again.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

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## William Jennings Bryan and the Watermelon -

I was eating a piece of watermelon some years ago and was struck with how good it was. I asked the waiter for some of the seeds and dried them and weighed them. I found that it would require some five thousand seeds to weigh a pound. And then I applied mathematics to that forty- pound melon.



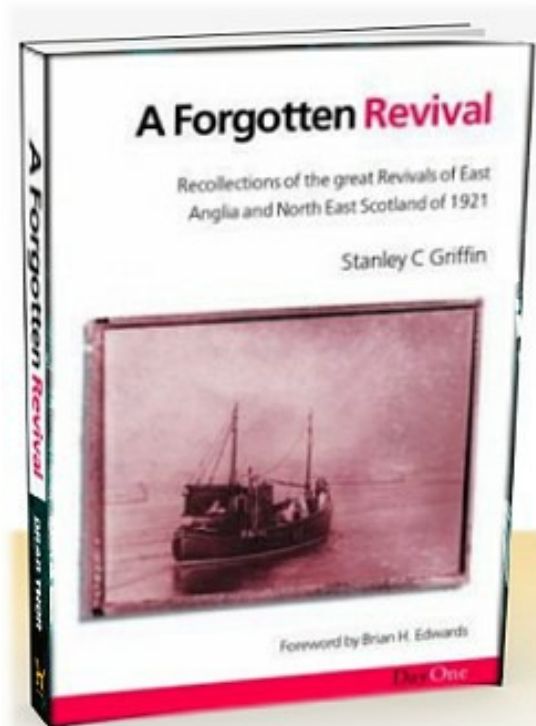
One of these seeds put into the ground, when warmed by the sun and moistened by the rain, takes off its coat and goes to work. It gathers from somewhere two hundred thousand times its own weight and, forcing this raw material through its tiny stem, constructs a watermelon. It ornaments the outside with a covering of green. Inside the green it puts a layer of white, and within the white, a red core; and through the red it scatters seeds, in some varieties black, in others dark brown, each one capable of repeating the work of reproduction.

What architect drew this plan? Where does the little seed gets its tremendous strength? Where does it find its coloring matter? How does it collect its flavoring extract? How does it build a watermelon?

Until you can explain a watermelon, do not be too sure that you can limit the ability of the Almighty to say just what He would do or how He could do it. Everything that lives, in like manner, mocks by its mystery, beauty and power, the proud intelligence of presumptuous men.

*William Jennings Bryan*

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)



## Eddy-Torial - What About Revival?

Every believer who hungers and thirsts after righteousness should have an overwhelming longing for revival.

"Revival"! What a word! For centuries it has been a cargo ship of Solomon's fleet, loaded to the gunwales with "gold, and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks." What strange religious oddities are found in its hold! In it are piled the excesses of the Word Faith heresy, the fleshy extravagances of Benny Hinn, the Pelagian views of Finney, the consumerism of Billy Graham, and the hype of Promise Keepers. All these have sailed under the flag of "Revival".

Anyone who takes his Bible seriously is inclined to turn away in disgust. Surely none of these are "Revival"! Parodies, mockeries, and counterfeits they are of the genuine article, but true revival? Never!

We are faced with monumental questions. If all these are false, if counterfeits abound on every side, does it mean

there is no "coin of the realm"? Is there no such thing as real revival? Have the "apes and peacocks" thrown all the gold, silver, and ivory overboard? (Or more likely, did they fritter it all away on earthly mansions, bizjets, and the building of their empires?)

These are questions that come to mind when we think of the so called "Revivals" of our day.

There is good news for the Christian who longs for revival. This good news comes in two formats. First, there are the promises of God. For example, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." II Chron. 7:14. And second, there are the historical records of revival. Some of these, as in II Chron. 29-32, are found in the inspired Scriptures. Others were written down by godly historians for us to read.

I want to tell you about two books and a set of videos that kindle a desire for revival in my own life.

One of my favourites is *A Forgotten Revival* by Stanley C. Griffin. He recounts a revival that began on the East coast of England just after The Great War. One of the most exciting events in this revival occurred when Jock Troup preached in the market place in Yarmouth. The catch of herring from the week's fishing had been salted down and packed in barrels on Saturday morning. The Scottish fishermen would not put out to sea until Monday, so the market was crowded with shoppers. When the stalls closed about 9 PM, Jock decided to preach to the crowds, standing on one of the tables. He spoke from Isa. 63:1, "Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? This that is glorious in his apparel? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save." The author writes, "Suddenly the power of God came down, as it had done in revivals before, and strong fishermen were thrown to the ground and cried to God for mercy... Day after day the people were brought under deep conviction of sin, irresistibly drawn to Christ and completely transformed."

Dr. Ken Connolly comments further on the results of this little known revival in a two volume video set titled "Heal Our Land". He says, "the amazing fact is that, when the Scottish fishermen sailed northward

back to Scotland, they carried the revival with them, and every port they called at saw the fires of revival break out. And so it was called by some "The Fishermen's Revival".

Another book on revival that ought to be on every preacher's shelf is *Revival and Revivalism / The Making and Marring of American Evangelicalism 1750-1858* by Iain H. Murray. Murray's books give excellent insights into the history of sound, bold, clearcut gospel preaching on both sides of the Atlantic and in Australia. The strength of this book on revival is its truthfulness. I need to emphasise this fact. Many of the books written today are aimed at spiritual weaklings who are unable to receive the undiluted truth. The authors appear to practice some form of Christian revisionism, so that the characters and events they portray bear very little likeness to reality. Not so with Iain Murray. If you love truth supremely and have a taste for strong medicine, and you want the facts on revival in the days of Finney, Nettleton, Moody, and the preachers of that era, you need to read this book.

Nothing written by a reviewer will get him into hot water quicker, I expect, than criticism of Charles Finney. He is the patron saint of pragmatists. Have you ever wondered why? Iain Murray objectively documents his theology and methods, and correctly points out that most of the unscriptural practices of modern "revivalists" started with Finney. Benny Hinn, Kenneth Copeland, Kenneth Hagin, Billy Graham, Luis Palau, Jimmy Swaggart, Jim Bakker, and a hundred more all learned how to apply the same unbiblical emotional pressures to get "converts" (without conversions!) and they learned much of it from Charles Finney.

In contrast with Finney, Murray describes the evangelistic ministry of Asahel Nettleton. Nettleton's life and ministry were coming to a close as Finney's was beginning. The differences between them, between their doctrines, and between their methods was so striking that one wonders how the New Measures of Charles Finney ever caught on. But they did, and we suffer for it two hundred years later! If you are not acquainted with Asahel Nettleton you need to get to know him. I suspect you will love him.

So, is there any gold, any silver, and ivory, anything of value, any substance, anything which endures among all the gaudy trinkets of the revivalists? Oh, yes! But the reader has to search diligently for it. Some books contain treasure maps for revival. These two books are full of them.

*Buddy Smith*

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

Welcome to the Website of Grace Baptist Church - Malanda, North Queensland, Australia



On the Atherton Tablelands in Tropical North Queensland - Australia

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