



August 31, 2012

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Feature Article - Serving God Creatively - Part 4

God is the Editor of Scripture

A dear old preacher once told me that I must always remember that God is not only the Author of Holy Scripture, but also the Editor. He explained that God, in all His wisdom, determined what to include and what to exclude from His holy Word.

We find references in the Old Testament to the book of Jasher, but God did not include it in the Bible (Josh. 10:13 and II Sam. 1:18). We read Paul's reference to a missing epistle to the Corinthians (I Cor. 5:9), but for God's own purposes He did not include it when he moved men to set the canon of Scripture.



Why is this fact important? Because of the contents of the book of Exodus. He made a point of including chapters 32 to 34. That is a vital fact. He could have pulled the curtain over those embarrassing chapters and concealed the Episode of the Golden Calf, but He didn't.

- The first twenty chapters tell of the deliverance of Israel from Egypt, their journey to Sinai, and God giving them the ten commandments from the mount.
- Chapters 21 to 23 reveal God's judgments or counsel to Israel regarding the application of the Law.

- Chapters 24 to 30 describe the first forty days Moses spent on Mt. Sinai, when God revealed to him the pattern for the tabernacle and all its details.
- In chapter 31 God reveals to Moses the names of the men He has chosen to creatively serve Him in the making of the tabernacle, the priests' garments, and all that pertained to the worship of God.
- In chapters 32 to 34 there is a terrible interruption to God's plans for Israel. The Episode of the Golden Calf is one of the blackest pages in Israel's history.
- In chapters 35 to 40 we read of all that Bezaleel, Aholiab and their helpers made, and the first use of the tabernacle.

The Inclusion of Chapters 32 to 34

Why are these chapters so significant? Why did God choose to include them in the canon of Scripture?

Because of the lessons they contain on creativity, perverted, idolatrous creativity.

Man is innately creative. God made us that way, But sin has perverted our creativity. Hear His Words,

- **Psalms 99:8** *"Thou answeredst them, O LORD our God: thou wast a God that forgavest them, though thou tookest vengeance of their inventions."*
- **Psalms 106:29** *"Thus they provoked him to anger with their inventions: and the plague brake in upon them."*
- **Psalms 106:39** *"Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions."*
- **Ecclesiastes 7:29** *"Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions."*

Consider the vital lessons of Exodus 32

- Though there is a godly creative ability given to the redeemed (as in Ex. 31 and 35 to 40) there is also among God's children a perverted and carnal creativity. The people of Israel desired a new form of worship. They did not like the voice of God speaking to them. They longed for an image to set their affections on. So they invented something "new." "Up, make us gods which shall go before us." Ex. 32:1
- We note that the essence of their creativity, and Aaron's, was religious. They did not ask for something new in the way of transport or commerce. So it is with the perverted creativity of every society. Man's creativity is basically religious in nature. Darwin's theory, the Star Wars movies, Marxism, or the Mona Lisa are all religious in nature. So it was with Israel's request of Aaron. (32:1)
- Creativity is inevitably idolatrous, if left to its own ends. Unlike Bezaleel, who followed the word of God given to Moses, and was filled with the Spirit of God, Aaron became a carnal men pleaser and consented to make them an idol. How much better it would have been if he had refused and had rebuked them for their idolatry! If he had reminded them of the second commandment and exhorted them to wait on the Lord, lives would have been saved. (32:2-4)
- All creativity is directional. Godly creativity will lead us nearer to God, and perverted, idolatrous creativity will lead us far from Him. And it will shut off from us the blessings of God. How long would the manna have continued to fall, or the water flow, or the cloud give shade and light? We know not, but God does withdraw His hand of blessing if we persist in idolatry. (32:7-11, 33-35)
- Idolatrous creativity is divisive. It divided the party goes from the faithful. It sowed discord between Aaron and Moses. It resulted in the Levites slaying 23,000 of their brethren in one day. And worst of all, it grieved God, so much so that He would have disowned them if Moses had not interceded for them. (32:19 - 35)

- Perverted creativity compromises biblical values. In order to keep the peace, Aaron had to blend truth with error. The deliverance of Israel from Egypt was ascribed to the Egyptian god Ra, instead of to Jehovah. (32:4)
- So that their theology became syncretized, mixing the errors of the bull god of Egypt with the revealed truths of Jehovah. Ecumenism is at least as old as the tower of Babel, and here it raises its ugly head yet again. (32:4-6)
- Their corrupted and perverted creativity mixed worship with entertainment, praying with playing. We find them building an altar, offering sacrifices, eating and drinking, and stripping off their clothes, playing and singing the sensual music of Egyptian idol worship as they danced and engaged in illicit fertility rites, and all at the same time! (32:6,7,19,25)

Why Is This Chapter So Relevant To 21st Century Christians?

Exodus 32 is a most solemn warning to this generation in regard to the many wicked inventions that are creeping into our lives, into our homes and churches. And they all wear the earmarks of the golden calf. They are all branded with the same Egyptian brand. If we look back over the lessons we learn from the perverted creativity of Aaron in Ex. 32, and gather them all up in one hand, we see the following:

1. Perverted creativity turns away from the simple word of God to impressive sights and sounds.
2. Though the new teachings and practices being introduced into our churches may appear to be neutral and secular, they are still religious in nature, and dangerously so.
3. Without exception, every non biblical invention is idolatrous. It becomes a false god.
4. And it is directional. It will lead us away from God.
5. It is also divisive. It will sow discord among the brethren, and drive away the faithful saints of God.
6. Perverted creativity destroys godliness and holiness. Deception and pride become the norm so that the church turns into a nightclub and finally a brothel.
7. It loses sight of sound doctrine and soon accepts errors like annihilation, universalism, and unitarianism. It becomes ecumenical in time.
8. And last, it sees no problem in mixing worship with wantonness, praying with playing, and evangelism with entertainment.



The Examples We See On All Sides

New Evangelicalism unlocked the door for the golden calf to creep into our churches more than sixty years ago. Within a decade, Robert Schuller opened the unlocked door and smilingly invited the calf to dwell in his Crystal Cathedral. In the 70's the hippies in California showed evangelicals how to draw the crowds with pop/soft rock music and the golden calf loved it. Bill Hybels and Rick Warren sat at Schuller's feet and soaked up his New Age teachings, and soon gathered their own following. Warren loved surfing the latest cultural waves so he plugged into the Saddle Back church the principles he learned from Peter Drucker. Drucker had planned since the 1950's to establish a new religious movement built upon the teachings of Soren Kierkegaard, and found a willing disciple in Rick Warren. Together they laid the groundwork for what became the Emergent/Emerging church.

So what does that have to do with fundamental churches? A great deal since Paul Chappell sent staff members to Rick

Warren's training seminars to learn from him. Since churches like his now feel no shame using secular pop music in a worship service (You Raise Me Up). And why not, since Rick Warren is happy to sing Purple Haze with a rock band at their thirtieth anniversary? Since Oprah's book is offered in some churches' bookshops. Since the gospel of Christ has been displaced by twelve step programs. Since the pretence of drama has now become acceptable, and the NIV is the Bible of choice. Since Westcott and Hort became evangelicals?. Since conservative evangelicals pushed fundamentalists out the door. Since Schaap's morality has become commonplace, and since Clarence Sexton's IBFI mixes water with sump oil.

It's not just the camel's nose coming in the tent door that is the problem. It's the new, innovative, inventive, "creative", forms of worship that have already crept in.

It might be a good idea for every pastor and church member to check the brand on the bottoms of all these new songs and gimmicks.

The Golden Calf brand is becoming very popular.

Buddy Smith

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Biography - AGNES SANFORD - A Poisonous Root of Charismatic Errors



July 22, 2008 (David Cloud, Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org; for instructions about subscribing and unsubscribing or changing addresses, see the information paragraph at the end of the article)

Agnes White Sanford (1897-1982) was an Episcopalian faith healer who has had a great influence within the charismatic movement, the contemplative prayer movement, and the recovered memory movement. For example, Richard Foster recommends Sanford, saying, "I have discovered her to be an extremely wise and skillful counselor in these matters. Her book *The Healing Gifts of the Spirit* is an excellent resource" (*Celebration of Discipline*, 1978, footnote 1, p. 136). Foster includes an entire chapter by Sanford in his book *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*.

Her widely read books were published in the following order: *The Healing Light* (1947), *Behold Your God* (1959), *Healing Gifts of the Spirit* (1966), *Lost Shepherd* (1971), *Sealed Orders* (1972), *Healing Power of the Bible* (1976), *The Healing Touch of God* (1983).

In her autobiography she claimed that God had given her "sealed orders" to be "an explorer and a way-shower along the paths of healing and miracles."

SANFORD'S DOWNWARD SPIRAL BEGINNING IN CHILDHOOD

She grew up in China, the daughter of fundamentalist Presbyterian missionaries, and as a child she had several experiences that prepared her for the reception of very radical and unscriptural doctrines and practices. The first experience was at age 11 when she decided that her parents were wrong to teach that the age of apostolic miracles was past. She thought that Christians today should do the same miracles that Jesus did (Sealed Orders, pp. 13, 26). She was dissatisfied with simply living by faith and accepting what God gives us in answer to prayer on the basis of His sovereign will. She refused to understand that though the apostolic miracles have ceased because their purpose has ceased (2 Cor. 12:12), this is not to say that God no longer does miracles or that we don't believe in God's miracle-working power. While the gift of healing is not operative today as it was in the days of the apostles, God still heals in accordance with James 5. But He has not promised always to heal and He did not always heal even in the days of the apostles (e.g., 2 Cor. 12:7-10; 1 Tim. 5:23; 2 Tim. 4:20).

The next experience involved the rejection of biblical discernment and reproof. This occurred when the modernist Harry Emerson Fosdick visited China and her family heard him speak. Afterwards her parents criticized Fosdick's theology at the dinner table, and she brazenly rejected what they were doing. "Dr. Fosdick preached on Christian love, but he was not sound because he did not mention the Blood of the Lamb in about every third sentence. This went on and on until finally, I burst into tears and left the table, to the utter consternation of my parents, for such a thing I never did" (pp. 30, 31). She grossly mischaracterized this situation. Her parents were not criticizing some very minor error in a preacher. In reality, Fosdick denied practically every doctrine of the Christian faith, including Christ's deity, virgin birth, substitutionary atonement, and bodily resurrection. As for the Blood Christ, Fosdick NEVER mentioned it except to ridicule it! In 1945 Fosdick wrote the following to an individual who inquired about his beliefs: "Of course I do not believe in the virgin birth or in that old-fashioned substitutionary doctrine of the atonement, and I know of no intelligent person who does" (quoted in Chester Tulga, *The Ethics of Modernism*, 1981, p. 40).

Sanford was rebelling against her parents and the clear teaching of the Bible. She was rejecting the very thing that protects us from falling into error, and that is testing everything carefully by God's Word. She said that though her parents "were completely Christ-centered and Bible-centered, believing every word of Holy Writ from cover to cover," something was wrong with their kind of Christianity (p. 31). In fact, the problem was with Sanford and not with her parents.

Another important event was when she determined that she would not worry about "snakes" and would pursue whatever path she chose. "I made a decision in those early days from which I have never wavered. I would not go all of my life in the bondage of treading only a known path lest I step upon a snake. I would go through untrodden country toward the goal of my choice, whether or not I trod upon a snake" (Sealed Orders, p. 32).

This was a very significant decision that was contrary to the Bible. It is fine to be willing to go in new paths if it is God's will and it is not contrary to Scripture, but we are warned repeatedly to beware of false teachers, to try the spirits, to be sober and vigilant against demonic deception. There is plenty to be afraid of and to beware of in the Christian life, and we are not free to go where we please and presume that God will protect us.

Another significant experience involved praying to Buddha. The rebellious little girl actually snuck off and prayed to an idol. "One day I entered the temple alone. No monks were there, droning their 'O-me-to-fu' with half-shut eyes and vacant faces. ... And a thought came to me--What if these idols had some power after all? How could I know whether my parents knew the truth about them? What would happen if I myself were to worship the great Buddha? ... I folded my hands together, bowed before the serene gilded idol, who apparently paid me no attention whatsoever, and murmured O-me-to-fu' as the monks did.

"Nothing happened. Or did it? For gradually there came to be within me another voice, sneering, despising, scorning me" "... there gradually developed in my mind a certain cynicism concerning piety, a cynicism which lasts to this day" (pp. 15, 26).

This is a frightful thing. She claims that she was a believer in Jesus Christ from her earliest memories, but a true believer does not pray to idols. She was communing with devils, and doubtless this experience tainted her mind and spirit. Later she admitted that she might have been demonized at that point, and as an adult she thought that perhaps demons were cast out of her through prayer (Sealed Orders, p. 110). But she did not renounce the views that she developed while under demonic influence, views that eventually led her to the most radical fringe of charismatic heresy and beyond.

The next significant experience was a series of mystical insights during her teens whereby she saw and felt herself to be one with the universe.

This is a common experience of Catholic contemplatives, but it is unscriptural and doubtless occultic. In the first of these she "entered into a state of indescribable dreamy bliss wherein I was one with the tall crisp grass, and with the tiny creatures that lived within it, and with the high blue sky..." (Sealed Orders, p. 33). In the second experience she "entered into a state of high ecstasy" and sensed God "flowing into me from bamboo and from rock, from ferns and moss and tiny orchids hiding in the grass" (p. 33). The third experience occurred while she was lying on a ship's deck at night. "I was one with the stars--I was one with the universe. I felt in me the life of the strange creatures within the sea and beneath the waves and flying above the waves" (p. 40).

The Bible says that "in him we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28) and "by him all things consist" (Col. 1:17), but it nowhere says that God is in all things. He created all things; He is aware of all things; He is in ultimate control of all things; He cares and provides for all things; there is nowhere we can flee from His Spirit (Psa. 139:7); but He is not IN all things. The believer sees the glory of God in the creation (Rom. 1:20), but God does not flow into us from the creation nor is God in the creation itself. That is the heresy of panentheism.

Sanford was learning to trust her mystical experiences regardless of whether they lined up with Scripture.

Another important event was a course she took in psychology. "In the very practical course in psychology, I learned the basis of those methods of study which to this day I use" (Sealed Orders, p. 42). She is not even talking about "Christian" psychology; she is referring to secular psychology, and there is nothing godly about it. It is permeated with false theories from top to bottom. It does not begin with the correct understanding of man as a creation of God that has sinned against the Creator and become estranged, a sinner whose heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked (Jeremiah 17:9), a sinner destined either to heaven or hell depending on what he does with Jesus Christ. How, then, can psychology form the basis for any legitimate Christian ministry?

The fact is the Sanford's doctrine was heavily influenced by Jungian psychology, which is deeply occultic. Her son, Jack (d. 2005), was an influential Jungian psychologist. Jung explored Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, I Ching, astrology, Spiritualism, Gnosticism, alchemy, dream interpretation, mandala symbolism, Theosophy, Greek Mythology, and more. He communicated with spirits all his life. As a child he felt that he had two personalities, one was himself the schoolboy and the other was a man from the 18th century. This other personality, named Philemon, had a life of its own and talked with Jung. Obviously it was a familiar spirit. When Jung had a breakdown following his separation from Sigmund Freud and was nearly suicidal he renewed communication with this spirit and Philemon became his guide. Jung said, "Philemon represented a force which was not myself. ... It was he who taught me psychic objectivity" (James Sundquist, A Review of the Purpose Driven Life).

Jung openly rejected Christ. He said: "Lord Jesus never became quite real for me, never quite acceptable, never quite lovable, for again and again I would think of his underground counterpart [referring to a reoccurring immoral dream he had]. ... Lord Jesus seemed to me in some ways a god of death. ... Secretly, his love and kindness, which I always heard praised, appeared doubtful to me" (Jung, Memories, Dreams, Reflections, p. 13). There are other things that Jung said in relation to Christ that are even more abominable but I do not want to quote them. It is enough to say that he was a demonically-deceived blasphemer and Christ rejecter of the highest order.

Agnes Sanford borrowed dream analysis from Jung. This is a part of "depth psychology" which seeks to understand the hidden or deeper parts of human experience. Jung believed that dreams reflect both the personal and "collective" unconscious and that they contain revelations as well as fantasies. (For more about Jung see The New Age Tower of Babel, available from Way of Life Literature.)

The next significant event in Sanford's downward spiral was the healing of her child's infected ears by an Episcopal priest named Hollis Colwell. He laid his hands on the child's ears and asked Jesus to heal him. Then he said, "Thank You, Lord, for I believe that You are doing this, and I see these ears well as You made them to be" (Sealed Orders, p. 108).

We believe in healing according to James 5 and we have experienced such healing, but the healing described by Sanford was by means of charismatic positive confession, and it is not Scriptural. Further, the child continued to have problems with its ears, so it was a strange kind of "healing"!

This experience eventually broke down Sanford's barriers to the ministry of Episcopalian charismaticism, which is deeply heretical. She says that at first she was hesitant and perplexed. "I did not know what queer business I might be getting into." She should have listened to those mental warnings.

The next event in Sanford's life that related to her journey away from Scripture was an emotional healing that she experienced through the same Episcopal priest. Through the laying on of hands, visualization, and positive confession he "healed" her of depression (though she struggled with depression for a long time thereafter!). He then taught her to practice this on others. She was to picture in her mind what she wanted and thank God that it was going to happen.

The next step on the downward path was delving into New Thought and the occult. She attended séances and studied Christian Science. She said that she couldn't understand the latter very well, but she does not "scorn Christian Scientists" and "am grateful to them" for recovering the doctrine of healing (Sealed Orders, p. 113).

She was deeply impressed with Emmet Fox's The Sermon on the Mount, saying that "it thrilled my soul" (p. 113). It teaches the heresy that there is a "spiritual body" within the physical body, and that the physical body can be healed by addressing the spiritual body. "Therefore when I prayed for healing, I could accept the healing as already accomplished in the spiritual body, and so could know that it would be transferred to the physical body. ... One time, for instance, I went forth from the dining room to the cloister in an agitated frame of mind, and banged the heavy door shut on my finger. ... I said, 'I have a spiritual body, and in the spiritual body this finger is perfect.' Immediately there appeared a tiny hold in the base of the fingernail and all the black blood oozed out, and from that time forth the finger did not hurt at all" (Sealed Orders, p. 115).

There is not a hint of such a doctrine in the Bible.

Emmet Fox was a New Thought teacher who believed that God is all and man is God. He taught about a "mystic mind power" that "can teach you all things that you need to know." He promised: "It is your right and your privilege to make your contact with this Power, and to allow it to work through your body, mind,

and estate, so that you need no longer grovel upon the ground amid limitations and difficulties, but can soar up on wings like an eagle to the realm of dominion and joy" (Find and Use Your Inner Power).

The next step in Sanford's journey toward heresy was meeting a female healer who instructed her that she had to "visualize her patients well or they would not be healed. "... unless you can learn to see them well, you only fasten the sickness upon them" (Sealed Orders, p. 164). This she learned how to do.

From there she went deeper and deeper into error, including charismatic tongues, radical ecumenism with Roman Catholics, Orthodox, and you-name-it, and sacramentalism.

SANFORD'S MISUSE OF SCRIPTURE

Sanford claims that God gave her a great illumination of the Scripture, but in fact she misused it on every hand. I did not find one instance in her book *The Healing Light* in which she used Scripture properly. In every case she twisted it out of context and forced a strange meaning on it. For example, she quoted Ephesians 5:8, "walk as children of light," but she interpreted this to mean that believers are "to live as if they were made of a living, moving energy like light" (*The Healing Light*, p. 17). Elsewhere she said that "we learn to cure our diseased bodies by seeing, in our own flesh, God" (p. 61). As evidence for this statement she quoted Job 19:26, "in my flesh shall I see God," but Job was not talking about this present life; he was talking about the resurrection! There is not a hint in the Bible that Job cured himself through visualizing prayer and positive confession.

SANFORD'S CONFUSION ABOUT SALVATION

Sanford was confused about salvation. At times she used biblical terminology about salvation, but other times she described salvation in heretical terms. On one hand she claimed that she was saved when she put her faith in Christ as a nine-year-old girl. "I, too, knew Jesus. I had been converted while on furlough at the age of nine. Though remembering nothing of the public school to which I had presumably been subjected, I did remember very well the gentle Presbyterian minister who had made sure of my salvation and who had given me the right hand of fellowship and received one into the Southern Presbyterian church" (*Sealed Orders*, p. 12).

But she also claimed that she came to know God through a mystical experience by a lake. "There beside the dancing waters of the lake I prayed that God's life would enter into me through the sunlight. ... I was filled with such unbearable bliss that I thought, 'If this doesn't stop, I'll die. But I don't want it to stop, I don't want it to stop.' ... It passed. I was myself again, yet never again quiet the same. From this time forth I knew God" (*Sealed Orders*, p. 147). Further, she claimed that she received Jesus through sacraments and mysticism. "My own most effective way of receiving Christ is at the communion service, for I have learned to receive Him through the sacraments of the church as well as through my own meditation. In other words, I have learned to combine the sacramental with the meditative approach" (*The Healing Light*, p. 167).

SANFORD'S HERESIES

1. She believed that healing is guaranteed if performed properly, just as a light bulb will come on when a lamp is in working order and connected to electricity. If healing doesn't come, it is because there is something wrong with the technique. "How long should we continue praying for healing? Until the healing is accomplished" (*The Healing Light*, p. 14). "Let us understand then that if our experiment [of prayer] fails, it is not due to a lack in God, but to a natural and understandable lack in ourselves. ... the lack of success in healing is not due to God's will for us but to our failure to live near enough to God so that He can accomplish perfection in our spirits and bodies" (*The Healing Light*, pp. 8, 10).

Sanford even claimed that believers could "live above death and above the illness and pain that lead to death" (The Healing Light, p. 72).

As for the case of Paul's thorn in the flesh in 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Sanford, though a very convoluted pattern of thought, claimed that this doesn't actually mean that God didn't want to heal Paul. Instead, it means that God would heal him a little at a time and that since he was old by then, he wasn't completely healed before death took him (The Healing Light, pp. 35-38). In reply to this we would say, first of all, that the idea that Paul was old when the event described in 2 Corinthians 12 occurred is presumptuous, because the Bible doesn't say how old he was. Second, Paul plainly testifies that God told him that it was NOT HIS WILL to remove the thorn in the flesh, so Paul concluded that it was good for him to glory in and take pleasure in "infirmities." The same Greek word translated "infirmities" in 2 Corinthians 12: 9-10 is elsewhere translated "sickness" (John 11:4) and disease (Acts 28:9). No amount of scripture twisting can do away with the effect of this passage. It refutes the doctrine that healing is always God's will.

2. She rejected the idea that it is ever God's will for us to be sick, mischaracterizing "that" God as a bully. "If we think of God as a heavenly stage manager, jerking us about like puppets upon strings, this is a natural and indeed an inevitable conclusion. God can do whatever He likes. We have asked him to make us well. He has not done so. Well, then, He must like us to be sick" (p. 10). She claims that it is always the will of Christ to heal children that are brought to Him by their parents (p. 11).

3. She promoted visualization and positive confession as the key to healing success. She claimed that negative thoughts produce a negative reality, whereas positive thoughts produce a positive reality. "We must re-educate the subconscious mind, replacing every thought of fear with a thought of faith, every thought of illness with a thought of health, every thought of death with a thought of life. ... Therefore it we find ourselves thinking, 'One of my headaches is coming on,' we correct that thought. 'Whose headaches?' we say, 'God's light shines within me and God doesn't have headaches'" (pp. 33, 34). Her technique for healing required visualizing the desired result in one's mind and then affirming it by thanking God that it is going to happen. This is positive confession. "From that time forth I set myself to learn to 'see them well.' This required mental training. I would exercise my visual faculty, that part of the creative imagination that is most like God. I would create in my mind a definite and detailed picture of each person for whom I prayed, seeing the whole body radiant and free and well, with light in the eyes and color in the cheeks and a swinging rhythm in the walk. I would raise him in my mind from a hospital bed and see him walking, running, leaping. By an act of will I would hold this picture in my mind until it outshone the picture last suggested to me by my eyes or by a letter" (pp. 142, 143). "... we must never question it, let we stop the work that He is doing through us. ... we must keep on giving thanks that this is so" (pp. 52, 53). "And we remember that 'Amen' means 'So be it,' and is therefore a command sent forth in the name of Christ" (p. 52). If she spilled hot oil on her hand in the kitchen, she confessed: "I'm boss inside of me. And what I say goes. I say that my skin shall not be affected by that boiling fat, and that's all there is to it. I see my skin well, perfect and whole, and I say it's to be so" (The Healing Light, p. 65).

When her children misbehaved she would say "in my mind the picture of the child as he was at his best" and "make in my mind the image of a child at peace and project it into reality by the word of faith" (pp. 54, 55).

She described an occasion when she was on an elevator and a woman entered who was tired and discouraged. She said that she thought in her mind: "I bless you in the name of the Lord. I see you as a child of God, strong and refreshed and joyful, for through my prayers His strength is entering into you" (p. 57). When she found a neighbor near death because of heart failure she did the following: "As soon as my hands were firmly upon his heart, I felt quiet, serene, in control. ... I talked informally to the heart, assuring it quietly that the power of God was at this moment re-creating it and that it need labor no longer. Finally, I pictured the heart perfect, blessing it continually in the name of the Lord and giving thanks that it was being re-created in perfection" (The Healing Light, p. 87).

She recommends the same thing for the healing of nations: "First we make in our minds a picture of the nation as we would have her be, so that she may best further the establishment of peace. We see an aggressor nation, for example, shrinking back in her borders and sending out into the world little golden arrows of trade and commerce and financial cooperation. We do this in the same way that we see a sick body well, making the picture clear, concrete, vivid and simple. It is a child-like method, the method of happy visioning" (p. 164).

She called this "the prayer of faith" and "love-power." If this were a true biblical practice, believers could bring in the kingdom of God through the power of visualization, but it is not a true practice and all of the power visualizing they want to do will not change the foundational character of this world one iota. The world system will only be changed when Christ returns in glory and not a moment before. We are not God. We don't have the power to create reality with our minds!

4. She taught that God's "energy" can be channeled by the laying on of hands. She said that the universe is made up of "the creative energy of God" and that the individual can connect with this energy and channel it to others by the laying on of hands. "The same principle is true of the creative energy of God. The whole universe is full of it, but only the amount of it that flows through our own beings will work for us" (The Healing Light, p. 1).

"Oh, take your hands away!" cried the little girl. "It's hot." "That's God's power working in your knee, Sally," I replied. "It's like electricity working in your lamp. I guess it has to be hot, so as to make the knee come back to life. So you just stand it now for a few minutes, while I tell you about Peter Rabbit." By the time the erring Peter had returned home without his shoes and his new red jacket and had been put to bed with castor oil, the pulsation of energy in my hands had died away. ... "How do you turn on God's electricity in your hands?" she asked me at my next visit. Once I was called to see a baby girl ill with pneumonia. I knelt beside her crib in silence, laid one hand upon the small, congested chest and slipped the other one beneath her back, and asked God to come into her. Soon the waxy frame of the baby was filled with a visible inrushing of new life. Even the hands and feet vibrated, as if an electric current were entering into her (The Healing Light, pp. 19, 20). There is nothing like the flow of electricity and heat and pulsations through the laying of hands in Scripture, but it is common to the world of the occult. It lies at the heart of Chinese chi and Hindu prana.

5. She taught that unbelievers can exercise these powers as effectively as believers. The occultic nature of Sanford's practice is evident in that unbelievers can exercise them effectively. "One does not need to be a saint or a scientist in order to do this" (The Healing Light p. 21). She describes a wounded soldier she met in a hospital. Though he admitted that he didn't know God, she got him to admit that he believed in "something" and then taught him to do the following: "Ask that Something to come into you. Just say, 'Whoever you are or whatever you are, come into me now and help nature in my body to mend this bone, and do it quick. Thanks, I believe you're doing it.' Then make a picture in your mind of the leg well. Shut your eyes and see it that way. See the bone all built in and the flesh strong and perfect around it. And play like you see a kind of light shining in it--a sort of a blue light, like one of these neon signs, shining and burning and flowing all up and down the leg. ...that's the way you make it happen. No matter what you want to make, you first have to see it in your mind ... Then after you see the leg well, give a pep talk to all the healing forces of your body. Say, 'Look here, I'm boss inside of me and what I say goes. Now get busy and mend that leg'" (The Healing Light, pp. 22, 23).

She instructed an unbelieving mother who had a problem child: "Make the picture of the child as you want her to be, and say, 'My love brought this child into the world, and through my own mother-love I re-create her after this image!'" (p. 56).

This is not biblical Christianity; it is pagan occultism.

6. She taught that silent meditation is an essential part of the prayer for healing. "The first step in seeking to produce results by any power is to contact that power. The first step then in seeking help from God is to contact God. 'Be still and know that I am God.' Let us then lay aside our worries and cares, quiet our minds and concentrate upon the reality of God. ... quiet the mind and concentrate the spiritual energies on God. Let us sit comfortably with the head at rest and the hands folded in the lap. ... He will notice as he relaxes that even his breathing is altered, becoming slow, thin and light as if to leave room for the Spirit of God within. ... So we speak gently and soothingly to the nerves all the way up the body and in the head. And in the same quiet way we bid our conscious minds be still" (pp. 7, 24, 25). This is similar to the quieting meditation methods that Yogis and Zen Buddhists use to enter into transcendental states, bodily relaxation, controlled breathing, visualizing the quieting of the body. She quotes Psalm 46:10, but the psalmist is not describing silent meditation; he is simply exhorting us to trust in God.

She taught that in this meditative state God would enter one's being. This sounds very much like a demonic visitation "We may be conscious of an intruding current of energy, like electricity. ... But before we have learned to perceive these physical sensations, we will be conscious of His entering into us upon the footsteps of peace. We will know by the stirrings of hope within our minds that He is there" (pp. 27).

The Bible nowhere teaches the believer to expect God to enter him in this (or any other) fashion through prayer.

7. She was a female preacher. After she began her healing ministry she started preaching to mixed congregations of men and women, and after the publication of *The Healing Light* she traveled widely on preaching engagements. She admits that her husband didn't like it at first. "My husband, being a good man and a faithful priest, let me go on these occasional missions or trips, feeling no doubt that it was his duty and mine. But he did not like it. ... But the larger call drove me on, prodded me on, forced me on. For Christian people must know that Jesus lives and heals today--they must!" (*Sealed Orders*, p. 156). She felt compelled to preach in spite of her husband's resistance, but it was a compulsion that was contrary to God's Word. First, the Bible forbids the woman to teach or to usurp authority over the man (1 Timothy 2:12). Further, the Bible commands the wife to submit to her husband (Eph. 5:22). The only exception is if the husband is commanding her to do something clearly contrary to God's Word, and in that case God's Word is the higher law. But in Sanford's case, her action was not supported by Scripture and she should have submitted to her husband's will. But Sanford had long before learned to disregard the Bible and anything else for her inner compulsions and mystical experiences.

8. She seemed to be a universalist, believing that all men are children of God. When she met a Jewish soldier in a hospital she said: "I imagined Jesus there beside me and talked to Him. 'Here you are and HERE'S YOUR CHILD,' I said inwardly. 'Please lay your own hands on him and do whatever you want to do through me'" (p. 135). Not once in her book *The Healing Light*, which is her guide to performing miracles and transforming the world, does she say that those without personal faith in Christ are lost and hell bound or give any instructions about trying to lead them to salvation.

9. She was a founder of the dangerous field of healing of memories. Sanford's work *The Healing Gifts of the Spirit* (1966) was foundational to this movement. She taught that the recovery of hidden memories of past events hold the key to emotional suffering and psychological problems in the present. "Something is troubling the deep mind. There is no question about it. Some old unpleasant memory is knocking on the doors of the consciousness. Some need of the soul is arising as a dark shadow that will overwhelm us if we do not let it out into the light of understanding" (*The Healing Gifts*, p. 108). Sanford taught that the individual should ask Jesus to go back through all of the stages of his or her life and heal everything, even to birth and beyond. "Follow the soul of this Your child all the way back to the hour of birth and heal the soul even of pain and the fear of being born into this darksome world. ... And if even before birth the soul was shadowed by this human life and was darkened by the fears or sorrows of the human parents, then I pray that even those memories or impressions may be healed, so that this one may be restored to Your original

pattern, the soul as free and as clean as though nothing had ever dimmed its shining" (The Healing Gifts, pp. 122, 123).

Of course there is not a hint of such a thing in Scripture. It has no biblical authority whatsoever. "The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law" (Deut. 29:29). Through the practice of recovered memories countless lives have been ruined, families torn apart, fathers and mothers and grandparents and other family members wrongly condemned. Some have been gone to prison on the basis of "recovered memories" that have turned out to be completely bogus. Some victims of "recovered memory" delusions have committed suicide.

For more on this see the PsychoHeresy Awareness Ministries --
<http://www.psychoheresy-aware.org/inner82.html>.

10. She didn't care about doctrine, believing that all professing Christians should get along regardless of what they believe. She mentions Roman Catholic nuns and the Mass in a positive manner (The Healing Light, pp. 127, 137). She describes a Catholic soldier she met in an army hospital. When she learned that he was Catholic, she didn't explain the true gospel to him. Instead, she told him: "I'll ask my friends the Sisters to pray for you every morning at the Mass. And that Life will go from the Mass right through their prayers into your spine. You'll see!" (p. 127). The Mass is an unscriptural ritual whereby the Catholic priest supposedly turns a wafer into the very body of Jesus Christ. The typical Roman Catholic is trusting his baptism and works and the sacraments of the church for his salvation. It is criminal not to warn them of Rome's false gospel and to point them to the truth.

11. She was a sacramentalist. She joined the Episcopal Church and learned to confess her sins to a priest and participate in the Eucharist. She believed that she was thereby receiving Christ. "My own most effective way of receiving Christ is at the communion service, for I have learned to receive Him through the sacraments of the church as well as through my own meditation. In other words, I have learned to combine the sacramental with the meditative approach" (The Healing Light, p. 167). "So I made a first confession, very uncomfortably, with the shades of my Scotch Presbyterian ancestors peering around the corners. ... Whereupon the priest made one statement and only one. He said, 'Although so few people know it, the church through Jesus Christ really does have the power and authority to forgive sins. Therefore I am sure that these your sins will be forgiven.' ... I had hardly gone out of the place before I was flooded from head to foot with the most overwhelming vibrations. I felt a high ecstasy of spirit such as I had felt before when very spiritual people had prayed for me. I felt a deep inner burning which I had felt when receiving a 'healing treatment' from someone who had the faith to set free the healing power of God in prayer. I knew by the inner warmth and tingling that my nerves and glands were being healed of their overstrain and weakness" (pp. 119, 120).

Observe how that she was convinced that this was a legitimate practice by the mystical experience. This is what she followed from her childhood. Though she thought of herself as a Bible believer, in reality she was a mystic who pursued truth beyond the pages of Scripture through experience. How many souls have been led astray by a mere fleeting feeling!

12. She taught that a new age is being born through the power of visualization and positive confession. "A certain engineer was once surveying in a field when a bull charged his party with lowered head and thundering hoofs. There was no tree to climb. There was no fence to jump. So the engineer stood his ground, filled his mind with the love of God and projected it to the bull. 'I am God's man and you are God's bull,' he thought in silence. 'God made both of us, and in the name of Jesus Christ I say that there is nothing but loving-kindness between us.' The bull stopped abruptly. ... "If an armed burglar broke into your house with intent to kill,' the old question goes, 'what would you do? Fight him, or lie still and let him kill your

wife or child?' Silly old question. One would do neither. One would project into the burglar's mind the love of God, by seeing him as a child of God and asking God to bless him. And if one were strong enough in faith and love, the burglar's mind would change. He would leave the family unharmed and go away. ... A new age is being born. The day has come when love-power, at the command of ministers and surveyors and children and everyone, is sufficient to change hearts here and there in the world about them. This is the beginning of a new order. ... as more and more of us see God, live in harmony with Him and show forth His perfection in our bodies, minds and spirits, the 'normal' processes of growth, maturity, old age and death will be altered" (pp. 49, 72).

Agnes Sanford is dead, but her influence lives on in the charismatic movement, the contemplative movement, and the recovered memory movement.

http://www.wayoflife.org/index_files/316792f23d7a7101cb047f0ae4a95b02-148.html

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Archaeology - The Mystery Deepens

Recently I received from a friend several photos of excavations on Easter Island. The mysterious heads there have been found to have bodies underneath. Who carved them and why is a puzzle. I also received a phone call from two local young men (from Laos) asking if I could do a woodcarving for them. In conversation with them I discovered that they believe that their people originated from the kingdom of Mo (pronounced "moo") and that Easter Island is all that is left of it. When I showed them the photos of the excavations and the bodies under the heads, they were amazed.



While I was working on the carving I had opportunity to speak with one of the men about his soul. He told me they believe in Jesus, too. His little sister attends the Christian school nearby. Ancient idols? Long buried bodies? Lost kingdoms? A mixture of religions? The mystery deepens. I often wonder if these are the precursors to the one world apostate religion of the Antichrist? *Ed.*

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Cartoons for the Wise -



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Sermon Fodder - Too Late!!!!!! -

The following account entitled *"Too late for Restaurant Waiter"* was told by [Dr. R.A Torrey](#), the great American Evangelist.

"One evening when Mr. Alexander and I were in Brighton, England, one of the workers went from the afternoon meeting to a restaurant for his evening meal. His attention was drawn toward the man who waited upon him, and there came to his heart a strong impression that he should speak to that waiter about his soul, but that seemed to him such an unusual thing to do that he kept putting it off.

When the meal was ended and the bill paid, he stepped out of the restaurant, but had such a feeling that he should speak to that waiter that he decided to wait outside until the waiter came out. In a little while the proprietor (owner) came out and asked him why he was waiting. He replied that he was waiting to speak with the man who had waited upon him at the table.

The proprietor (owner) replied, "You will never speak to that man again. After waiting upon you he went to his room and shot himself."

Oh, men and women, there are opportunities open to every one of us tonight that will be gone, and gone forever, before another day dawns. The time is short!"

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Blinded Minds -

Former Crystal Cathedral May Become 'Most Significant' Roman Catholic Centre After the Vatican

Stoyan Zaimov - Christian Post
09 August 2012

Ex Crystal Cathedral; chance to "create the most significant Catholic centre in the world outside of the Vatican" Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove, California, formerly known as Crystal Cathedral, was visited on Wednesday by a group

of international Roman Catholic leaders who took a tour of the massive building and shared their excitement over its future potential once the current Crystal Cathedral congregation leaves campus.

Hank Evers, director of development and communications for the Orange Catholic Foundation, said he believes the church has "world-wide implications" and the Diocese of Orange has the chance to "create here the most significant Catholic cultural centre in the world outside of the Vatican," as reported by The Orange County Register.

The cathedral, which in the past few years has been embroiled in debt and leadership struggles, is currently being renovated after being sold to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange in February.

On Wednesday, bishops, archbishops and cardinals from around the world toured the massive structure before a scheduled meeting with the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic service organisation, The OC Register reported. The visitors were given a tour of the 34-plus acre campus.

The visiting church leaders were all impressed by the buildings, and shared very positive thoughts about the future of Christ Cathedral.

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Galatians 1:6-9

"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."



Critter Sermons -

The Butterfly

The Bible tells us of many wonderful things. One of the many is in the book of Romans, Chapter 1, verse 20.

"For the invisible things of Him from the creation are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."

(Left- The Beautiful Ulysses Butterfly in our Garden)

Here we see the statement "invisible things," and "clearly seen". No, it's not a contradiction because some of the things that happen in God's creation are not visible to the naked eye, but are clearly understood to have happened.

For many years my wife and I have observed God's creatures and the butterfly is one of them. Over the next several editions of Heads Up, I want to share our observations on the Metamorphosis of a Butterfly. Metamorphosis means CHANGE, and the butterfly changes from EGG to

CATERPILLAR, CHRYSALIS, PUPA and BUTTERFLY

Butterflies have a comparatively short life span, from three days to perhaps several months. During that time they lay many, many eggs. And this is where I want to begin this part. The eggs are laid normally on the under side of the host plant.

I refer to the egg as the time of complete innocence, in the life cycle of our butterfly. This egg is at the mercy of all predators, is totally defenseless, and is completely ignorant of all its surroundings. To begin the story of Metamorphosis we must start with this time in the butterfly's life.

Most butterflies have their own special host plant. Some trees, some vines, found even in our vegetable gardens and our flower gardens. Some butterflies here in Australia even use a very poisonous vine. This means that any predator wanting to make a meal of the larvae will die, as what the larvae has been eating is toxic to its predator. Isn't it interesting that butterflies should know which plant suits their kind of larvae? The butterfly that lays her eggs on just the right host plant, has never known her mother, for her mother died maybe before she was hatched, or at least while she was a tiny larvae or caterpillar.

We would be very naive to pass this by and say, "It just happens." This will be one of the most invisible things in our story that we will come across, but we can't pass by without asking ourselves the question, "Could there be a Creator behind all of this?" If the butterfly has learnt this, or if mental telepathy from her mother taught her, then they are far above human beings.

Genesis, 2-8, tells us, *"And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man that He had formed."*



(Above - Egg Darkening Ready To Hatch)

Our Critter, (it seems a little harsh to call our beautiful butterfly a Critter.) teaches us that there is a time of innocence for our butterfly egg. A time when there was no knowledge of the future, and there did not need to be, as the Butterfly instinctively relies on its maker.

Gen 2-15; And the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden, to dress it and to keep it. Sin, was not known to the man at this time. All was provided for him. All he needed to do was dress it and keep the garden! God was asking the man, (same as the Butterfly) to rely on the Creator.

But what will happen to our butterfly egg? And what will happen to our man?

Do you have a microscope? Look at the dust particles (scales) from off the butterfly's wing, we will cover this later. Pat & I so much enjoy seeing God's creation through His eyes. Be watching for the next issue of "Heads Up".

Pat & Kevin Milson

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Deacon True Sez -

I heard a preacher say t'other day that young ladies usually marry somebody like their Paw, and that explains why their Maw always cries at the weddin'.

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Therapy For The Funny Bone -

Brian goes to an outdoor show and wins a tiny dinghy. He brings it home and his wife looks at him and says, "What are you going to do with that? There's no water deep enough to float a boat within 160 Kms of here."

He says, "I won it and I'm gonna keep it."

His brother comes over to visit several days later. He sees the wife and asks where his brother is. She says, "He's out there in his fishing boat", pointing to the paddock behind the house. The brother heads out behind the house and sees Brian out in the middle of the paddock sitting in the dinghy with a fishing rod in his hand .

He yells out to him, "What do you think you are doing?"

His brother replies, "I'm fishing. What does it look like I'm a doing?"

His brother yells, "It's people like you that give people from Queensland a bad name, making everybody think we're stupid. If I could swim, I'd come out there and tip you out of the boat."



New Sign for the Front Door -

DUE TO THE PRICE INCREASE
OF AMMUNITION...
DO NOT EXPECT A
WARNING SHOT !

Thank you for your understanding

A man was shipwrecked on a desert island and survived there for many years. One day he saw a cruiseship sailing by fairly close so he piled up a bunch of palm fronds and started a bonfire in hopes they would see smoke and rescue him.

The captain sent a boat ashore and had him brought aboard. "Are you the only person on the island?" He asked.

"Yes, and thank you for rescuing me," replied the man.

"Then why are there three huts I see on the island?" the captain asked.

"Well, that one on the left is my house. And the one on the right is my church. And the one in the middle is the church I used to go to."

What's Democracy?

The son of an illegal immigrant asks his dad, "Hey, Dad, what's democracy?"

"Well, son, that's when Aussies work hard and pay lots of taxes and the government gives us free housing, food, clothes, a new car, and money to spend."

"Wow, dad, that's great! But aren't the Aussies going to be unhappy about that?"

"Sure they are son, but that's what we call 'racism'"

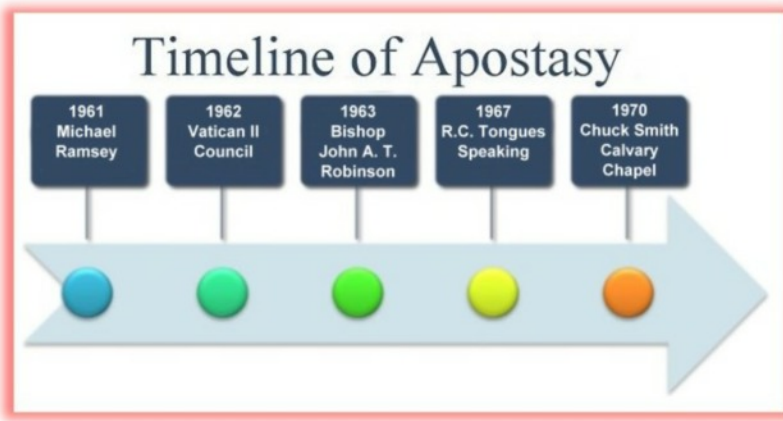
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Available at:

www.gracebaptistmalanda.net.au/resources.html



Decades of Decadence - A Timeline of Apostasy

Updated ----- September 30, 2009
 (David Cloud, Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143,
fbns@wayoflife.org;
www.wayoflife.org)

1961--Michael Ramsey, Archbishop of Canterbury, said, "Heaven is not a place for Christians only ... I expect to see some present-day atheists there" (The Daily Mail, Oct. 2, 1961).

----- The Unitarians in America merged with the Universalists to become the Unitarian Universalism Association, uniting in one conglomerate of unbelief and atheism, rejecting the Bible and the God of the Bible while accepting practically any religious philosophy or deity apart from the Bible.

----- Carl Rogers, a member of the American Humanist Association and later recipient of its Humanist of the Year Award, described the heart of humanistic psychology in his book *Becoming a Person*: "... the only question which matters is: 'Am I living in a way that is deeply satisfying to me, and which truly expresses me?'"

1962--In October the Vatican II Council, opened by Pope John XXIII, began its three-year process, which would bring sweeping changes into the Roman Catholic Church and launch it into the forefront of the ecumenical movement.

----- David du Plessis was the only Pentecostal invited to attend the Vatican II Council as an official observer; du Plessis, who spoke personally with the Pope, would become the prime mover and shaker to break down walls between Roman Catholicism and Pentecostalism. Dubbed "Mr. Pentecost," he believed that the way to unity was in shared experiences rather than shared doctrine.

----- Kenneth Taylor published *The Living Bible*, which has the prophet Elijah saying to the prophets of Baal in 1 Kings 18:27, "Perhaps he is talking to someone or else is out sitting on the toilet." *The Living Bible* was launched into popularity when it was promoted by Billy Graham.

----- "In or about 1962 it became apparent that there were some at Fuller Theological Seminary who no longer believed in the inerrancy of the Bible, among both the faculty and the board members" (Harold Lindsell, *The Battle for the Bible*, p. 106). David Hubbard, who became president of the seminary in 1963, mockingly referred to the doctrine of the inerrancy of Scripture as "the gas-balloon theory of theology; one leak and the whole Bible comes down."

1963--Anglican Bishop John A. T. Robinson wrote in his popular book *Honest to God* that "the whole schema of a supernatural being coming down from Heaven to 'save' mankind from sin ... is frankly incredible to man 'come of age'" (p. 78). Robinson expressed an atheistic point of view, saying, "Perhaps after all the Freudians are right, that such a God--the God of traditional popular theology--is a projection, and perhaps we are being called to live without that projection in any form" (pp. 17, 18). Upon publication of this book, Hugh Montefiore, Bishop of Birmingham, said to Robert Runcie, who would become Archbishop of Canterbury in 1980, "John Robinson's written a book which is going to cause mayhem--he's going to tell the world the sort of things we really believe" (Humphrey Carpenter, Robert Runcie: The

Reluctant Archbishop, p. 159). Of course the mayhem never resulted, for the simple reason that the average Anglican no longer cared anything about doctrine.

----- Upon the death of Pope John XXIII Billy Graham said: "I admire Pope John tremendously. I felt he brought a new era to the world. It is my hope that the Cardinals elect a new Pope who will follow the same line as John. It would be a great tragedy if they chose a man who reacted against John, who reerected the walls" (Michigan City News-Dispatch, June 2, 1963).

1964--A religious survey extrapolated that perhaps 60,000 church members in three mainline denominations in America (United Church of Christ, United Methodist, and Episcopal) were atheists or agnostics (Christianity Today, Nov. 20, 1964). The same survey found that 43% of Protestants did not believe in the Virgin Birth.

----- When asked, "Do Congregational Christians believe in the Virgin Birth?" a spokesman for the United Church of Christ (a merger of Congregationalists with the Evangelical and Reformed Church) answered, "Probably the majority do not" (Douglas Horton, "What Is A Congregationalist?" St. Louis Globe Democrat, Aug. 5, 1964).

----- S.S. Chawla wrote in the September/October edition of The Humanist magazine, "Darwin's discovery of the principle of evolution sounded the death knell of religious and moral values."

1965--Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras I formally lifted the excommunications of 1054 that had separated the Roman Catholic and the Greek Orthodox churches.

----- Harvey Cox, an American Baptist professor at Harvard Divinity School, published Secular City, "celebrating the advent of secular urban civilization and the retreat of traditional Christianity." Cox jumped on the "God is Dead" bandwagon, saying, "It is too early to say for sure, but it may well be that our English word God will have to die, corroborating in the same measure Nietzsche's apocalyptic judgment that 'God is Dead.'"

----- 1960s rock & roll took its licentious, law-breaking philosophy to new heights. In 1965 the Rolling Stones sang, "I'm free to do what I want any old time"; the Animals sang, "It's my life and I'll do what I want"; and the Mamas and Papas sang, "You got to go where you want to go/ do what you want to do."

1966--Time magazine ran a cover story on April 8 entitled "Is God Dead?" to review William Hamilton's book Radical Theology and the Death of God. Hamilton reasoned that the existence of suffering in the world proves that a God of almighty power and compassion does not exist.

----- Michael Ramsey, Archbishop of Canterbury, visited the Pope and left wearing his "episcopal ring with its emeralds and diamonds." Ramsey said the Pope "has a primacy among all the bishops of Christendom; so that without communion with him, there is no prospect of a reunited Christendom" (Ramsey, The Gospel and the Catholic Church, p. 228) and testified he was willing to "recognize the Pope as chief of a united Church" (Owen Chadwick, Michael Ramsey: A Life, p. 325).

----- Langdon Gilkey of the University of Chicago Divinity School reported, "The younger men don't even raise the issue of the Virgin Birth or Original Sin. They're discussing the existence of God. And if there's no God, you don't have to argue about any of the other doctrines" ("Theology," Time magazine, Nov. 11, 1966, p. 57).

1967--For the first time, Roman Catholics began speaking in "tongues" in the United States and joined the charismatic movement. In March, some Catholics associated with Notre Dame University approached Ray Bullard, president of a local chapter of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International and a member of an Assemblies of God congregation, desiring that he and his Pentecostal friends lay hands on them. Though they did not renounce their false doctrines and practices, including the heresy of baptismal

regeneration, they had “Pentecostal-type” experiences. Two of them, Steve Clark and Ralph Martin, were staff members in the national Cursillo movement, and others had attended Cursillo retreats. The charismatic movement grew rapidly within the Roman Catholic Church, and by 1974 the “renewal’s” annual conference at Notre Dame attracted 30,000 participants.

----- [The National Evangelical Anglican Congress of England](#) invited rank modernist and ultra-ecumenist Michael Ramsey to deliver the opening address. Referring to past separatist practices by evangelicals John R.W. Stott said, “We need to repent and change.”

----- [In response to Bishop James Pike’s public denial of the Trinity](#) and other cardinal doctrines of the Christian faith, the Episcopal Church U.S.A. adopted a resolution declaring that all heresy is an anachronism. Pike had “abandoned ship on the doctrine of the Trinity” and called the virgin birth “a primitive myth.”

1968--[A religious survey by Jeffrey Hadden](#) showed that about 60% of the Methodist clergy in America did not believe in the virgin birth of Jesus Christ and at least 50% did not believe in Christ’s bodily resurrection.

----- [In his book Identification, E.W. Kenyon](#) helped paved the way for the Pentecostal Word-Faith and “Manifest Sons of God” movements when he stated: “When these truths really gain the ascendancy in us, they will make us spiritual supermen, masters of demons and disease. ... It will be the end of weakness and failure. ... We go out and live as supermen indwelt by God” (Kenyon, Identification, Seattle: Kenyon’s Gospel Publishing Society, 1968, p. 68).

----- [Troy Perry founded the Metropolitan Community Church in Los Angeles](#), which became the mother church of the first predominantly homosexual Christian denomination. By 1988 it claimed 38,000 members in 200 congregations worldwide.

----- [The World Council of Churches’ Uppsala Report](#) sanctioned violence as a necessary part of the pursuit of social justice. “Radical change in power structures as the bearer of social justice and not violence, is the essence of the revolution. Yet violence is always potentially present and where established order dictates the decision regarding strategy, violence may appear the only way.”

----- [In his spiritual autobiography, Song of Accounts, Methodist missionary E. Stanley Jones](#) said, “We do not believe that the New Testament is the revelation of God--that would be the Word become printer’s ink” (p. 377).

1969--[James H. Cone published Black Theology and Black Power](#), preaching a liberation theology for Blacks that focuses more on freedom from oppression than salvation from sin.

----- [Before putting his weight behind the Anglican-Methodist reunion plan, Michael Ramsey](#), Archbishop of Canterbury, held secret talks with the Vatican “to ensure that the form of the reunion plan was not contrary to ‘apostolic succession’ and would not therefore prevent a future reunion with the Papacy” (Iain Murray, Evangelicalism Divided, p. 92).

1970--[The contemporary worship music phenomenon exploded on the scene](#) with Christian folk rock groups associated with Chuck Smith and Calvary Chapel. One of the first popular contemporary worship songs was “For Those Tears I Died (Come to the Water)” recorded by Children of the Day. Written by Marsha Stevens, the song describes a vision she allegedly had of Jesus standing beside calm water, which is the “water” the song refers. Stevens claimed that she was converted through this vision, but there is no clear gospel content either in the vision or in the song, nothing about sin, Christ’s cross-work, repentant faith.

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Notable Quotes and Quotable Notes -

- The world will never believe in a religion in which there is no power. A rationalized faith, a socialized church, and a moralized gospel may gain applause, but they awaken no conviction and win no converts.
- *Samuel Chadwick*
- “My people’s greatest need is my personal holiness.” - *Robert Murray M’Cheyne*
- “Preaching that costs nothing accomplishes nothing.” - *J. H. Jowett*.

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Just in Case The Government Where You Live Introduces a Carbon Tax -

Q: What is carbon?

A: Carbon is a solid non-metallic chemical element. It has nothing at all to do with the carbon tax, carbon pollution or carbon emissions, all of which refer to carbon dioxide.

Q: What is carbon dioxide?

A: Carbon dioxide is a naturally occurring gas emitted in human breath, among other sources. Plants feed on it. In solid form it is known as dry ice.

Q: When will the carbon tax be introduced?

A: Never, according to Prime Minister Julia Gillard, who in August 2010 told Australians: “There will be no carbon tax under the government I lead.” On the other hand, the carbon tax comes into effect on July 1.

Q: Were we ever given a chance to vote for the carbon tax, as we were given a chance to vote for the GST?

A: No. The carbon tax became law in October 2011 during a parliamentary Labor cuddling ceremony, which overrides any electoral considerations.

Q: Really? The carbon tax caused Labor politicians to actually hug each other?

A: Yes. In fact, the carbon tax is the only known force powerful enough to make Julia Gillard and Kevin Rudd kiss. It’s like giving Bacardi Breezers to north shore teenagers.

Q: What is the point of the carbon tax?

A: Because, according to Prime Minister Julia Gillard: “It’s time to deliver the action on climate change we need. To do what is best for Australian families, what is best for future generations, what is best for this country.”

Q: If the carbon tax is such a great thing now, what did Labor say about it before the last election?

A: Treasurer Wayne Swan: “Certainly what we rejected is this hysterical allegation that somehow we are moving towards a carbon tax ... We reject that.”

Q: Will the carbon tax make any difference at all to global climate trends?

A: It is scientifically impossible for a reduction in Australia's carbon emissions to make any significant difference to the planet's climate.

Q: How much carbon does Australia produce?

A: Only around 1.4 per cent of the planet's human-created carbon dioxide emissions come from Australia. We're about equal to Indonesia, and just one eighteenth the contribution of China.

Q: But I keep hearing that Australia has an enormous carbon output.

A: That's because carbon tax enthusiasts like to express Australia's carbon output in per capita terms, which is a trick designed to make a very small number appear very large.

Q: If per capita measurement is a serious method of charting carbon output, which nation is the world's greatest carbon criminal?

A: According to Britain's Guardian newspaper, it's Gibraltar. Terrifying, planet-ruining Gibraltar.

Q: Who will pay the carbon tax?

A: Directly, a group of entities described by the Prime Minister as "big polludahs". Indirectly, you.

Q: Is the carbon tax meant to change my buying habits?

A: Yes. As Prime Minister Gillard said in 2011: "There will be price impacts. The whole point of pricing carbon is to say that goods that have got a lot of carbon pollution in them get relatively more expensive."

Q: Let's try that again. Is the carbon tax meant to change my buying habits?

A: No. The government has put in place a wide-ranging compensation scheme that is intended to cover cost of living increases for many Australians, so you can just keep on spending like you always did.

Q: So what's the use of it then?

A: Good question.

Q: Who will profit from the carbon tax?

A: Carbon tax bureaucrats, who now have high-paying jobs in a sector of the government that didn't exist a few years ago.

Q: What kind of indirect costs might a carbon tax involve?

A: NSW government analysis claims that average Sydney hospitals will face increased expenses of about \$120,000 per year. Schools in Sydney could be paying around \$9000 each per year.

Q: How will they pay?

A: With your taxes.

Q: Can the carbon tax ever be removed?

A: According to climate change minister Greg Combet, Labor will never support any measures to repeal a tax that they pledged not to introduce in the first place. This means that a coalition government would require control of the Senate in order to remove the carbon tax.

Q: When is the next election due?

A: By November 30 2013.

From *Tim Blair's* blogsite - Daily Telegraph newspaper. http://blogs.news.com.au/dailytelegraph/timblair/index.php/dailytelegraph/comments/an_end_to_carbon_confusion/

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You Didn't Kill That Business On Your Own

Posted by *Joe Carter* on Friday, August 24, 2012

After relating how city regulations in Chattanooga, Tenn., helped kill a small business, economist Mark J. Perry offers a sympathetic sentiment for failed entrepreneurs:

To paraphrase President Obama:

Look, if you've been unsuccessful, you didn't get there on your own. If you were unsuccessful at opening or operating a small business, some government official along the line probably contributed to your failure. There was an overzealous civil servant somewhere who might have stood in your way with unreasonable regulations that are part of our American system of anti-business red tape that allowed you to not thrive. Taxpayers invested in roads and bridges, but you might have faced city council members who wouldn't allow you to use them. If you've been forced to close a business – it's often the case that you didn't do that on your own. Somebody else made that business closing happen or prevented it from opening in the first place. You can thank the bureaucratic tyrants of the nanny state.



<http://blog.acton.org/archives/36035-you-didnt-kill-that-business-on-your-own.html>

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MADE IN



CHINA

- ☠ POISONED PET FOOD
- ☠ TOXIC TOOTH PASTE
- ☠ DANGEROUS CARS
- ☠ TOXIC TOYS (AQUA DOTS)
- ☠ EXPLODING GAS GRILLS
- ☠ CONTAMINATED HEPARIN

Food Made in China ? --

Why I avoid foods made or packaged in China

Friday, August 17, 2012

Miss D. has sometimes wondered why I check packages of frozen fish and shellfish to see whether or not they were farm-raised and/or packed in China or the Far East. If they were, I won't buy them, due to the well-known hazards of deliberate chemical pollution. This isn't the only example of lax legal standards and a general collapse of morality among food producers in that part of the world. (For example, consider the Chinese milk scandal of 2008.)

The New York Times has just published an excellent overview of the problem.

Toxic preserved fruit is the latest item on China's expanding list of unsafe food products. Baby formula adulterated with melamine is the best known, but there is also meat containing the banned steroid clenbuterol, rice contaminated with cadmium, noodles flavored with ink and paraffin, mushrooms treated with fluorescent bleach

and cooking oil recycled from street gutters. A 2011 study published in the Chinese Journal of Food Hygiene estimated that more than 94 million people in China become ill each year from bacterial food-borne diseases, leading to about 8,500 deaths annually.

China's food-safety problems highlight both the collapse of the country's business ethics and the failure of government regulators to keep pace with the expanding market economy. Yet an excessive focus on poor government oversight often means that the much graver problem of disintegrating civic morality is neglected.

The destruction of Confucianism during the Cultural Revolution and the hollowing out of communism during the recent reform era left behind a vacuum of belief. This was quickly filled in by materialism.

[The] single-minded pursuit of material interests is now threatening China's moral baseline. In a nationwide, online survey of nearly 23,000 adults last October, about 82 percent of respondents agreed that China has experienced a significant moral decline over the past decade ... more than half of the respondents also said they did not think that complying with ethical standards was a necessary condition for success.

There's more at the link. I highly recommend reading the whole thing. Follow the links I embedded in the first quoted paragraph to read more about the problems involved. This is why, if I can help it, I won't buy foods made, processed or packaged in China. You simply don't know whether or not it's safe. I strongly advise my readers to do likewise. (Put it this way - after reading the article cited above, and those I linked within it, if you still think it's safe to buy Chinese food exports, there's a bridge in Brooklyn, NYC I'd like to sell you. Cash only, please, and in small bills.)

Peter

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My Father's Fingerprints -

Snowflakes are another of God's beautiful handiworks. I recently came across these photos taken through a microscope. We marvel at the beautiful detail and delicate precision of each snowflake. Whether we consider the enormity of the universe or the intricacy of a snowflake, they are all the work of the God who saves us and keeps us. Ed.



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Is The Muslim Brotherhood Crucifying Those Who Oppose Them?

Recent news reports from the World Net Daily reveal that the new government of Egypt, controlled by the Muslim Brotherhood, is turning a blind eye to their crucifixion of Copts. World Net Daily is not a reliable news source, sadly. Joseph Farah, the WND editor, prints stories that are often inaccurate and lean toward religious error. So when the WND reported the crucifixions of Copts by MB

followers, we had some doubts about the accuracy of the reports. I wrote to Clay Nuttall, who works among Arabic churches and pastors, and here is his reply. - Ed.

World Shock Report: Muslim Brotherhood ‘Crucifies’ Opponents on Trees in Front of Presidential Palace

Posted on August 17, 2012 at 9:59pm

by Jason Howerton

As the Muslim Brotherhood continues to solidify its ever-expanding power in Egypt, several Arabic news agencies — including Arab News, Al Khabar News, Dostor Watany and Egypt Now — are reporting that opponents of the Muslim Brotherhood were “crucified” in Egypt last week, the Algemeiner reports.

While we can’t independently verify the accuracy of the various reports, crucifixion would signal a significant shift in tactics in the way the Muslim Brotherhood deals with opponents.

The Algemeiner provides a translation of an excerpt of one relevant report:

A Sky News Arabic correspondent in Cairo confirmed that protestors belonging to the Muslim Brotherhood crucified those opposing Egyptian President Muhammad Morsi naked on trees in front of the presidential palace while abusing others. Likewise, Muslim Brotherhood supporters locked the doors of the media production facilities of 6-October [a major media region in Cairo], where they proceeded to attack several popular journalists.

Raymond Ibrahim, a fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center and an associate fellow at the Middle East Forum, says the escalation is the product of what the media in the Middle East call “partisans.”

“Arabic media call them ‘supporters,’ ‘followers,’ and ‘partisans’ of the Muslim Brotherhood,” Ibrahim said, adding that the “partisans” will not discriminate and both Egyptians and Christians may be targeted.

“It’s anyone who is resisting the new government,” Ibrahim added. “In this particular case, the people attacked and crucified were secular protesters upset because of Morsi’s hostile campaign against the media, especially of Tawfik Okasha, who was constantly exposing him on his station, until Morsi shut him down.

The Algemeiner Has More Details

Last Wednesday, August 8, “thousands of the Muslim Brotherhood’s supporters” attacked 6-October’s media facilities, beat Khaled Salah—chief editor of the privately-owned and secular Youm 7 newspaper—

prevented Yusif al-Hassani, an On TV broadcaster, from entering the building, and generally “terrorized the employees.”

El Balad adds that the supporters of Tawfik Okasha, another vocal critic of President Morsi—the one who widely disseminated the graphic video of a Muslim apostate being slaughtered to cries of “Allahu Akbar”—gathered around the presidential palace, only to be surrounded by Brotherhood supporters, who “attacked them with sticks, knives, and Molotov cocktails, crucifying some of them on trees, leading to the deaths of two and the wounding of dozens.”

Far from condemning these terrorists, Al Azhar, Egypt’s most authoritative Islamic institution, has just issued a fatwa calling for more violence and oppression, saying that “fighting participants in anti-Muslim Brotherhood demonstrations planned for 24 August is a religious obligation.”

Most of the aforementioned Arabic sites point out that these attacks are part of the Muslim Brotherhood’s campaign to intimidate and thus censor Egypt’s secular media from exposing the group’s Islamist agenda, which Youm 7, On TV, and Okasha do daily. [Note: the latter’s channel was recently shut down, despite Morsi’s previous reassurances that “no station or media will be shut down in my era.”]

These threats are not new; back in April, an organization called the “Jihad Group to Cleanse the Country” threatened these media with “painful and severe punishments.” Apparently now that Morsi has become master of Egypt, threats are becoming reality, just as promises are being broken.

And the threats are taking their toll. Sky News, which was first to report about the crucifixions, has taken down its original article (though the URL still appears in the address box with the Arabic words “protesters-crucified-in front of-egypt’s-presidential-palace”).

While one may argue that Sky News removed the article because it was found false, one can equally argue that it censored itself for fear that it would be next in the terror campaign against the media.

Additionally, “Militant Muslims crucifying their opponents is a regular feature of the Islamic world—recent cases coming from the Ivory Coast, where two Christian brothers were crucified, similarly by supporters of a Muslim president who ousted a Christian; Indonesia, where Islamic separatists crucified a fellow Muslim for being a military informant; and in Iraq, where Muslim militants crucified Christian children.”

According to Koran, crucifixion is proper punishment for anyone who “makes mischief in the land.”

“The punishment of those who wage war against Allah and His messenger and strive to make mischief in the land is only this: that they should be murdered or crucified or their hands and their feet should be cut off...” (Koran 5:33).

It may also be important to note that an Egyptian MP recently proposed to institutionalize Sharia’s most brutal punishments— including crucifixion.

“In short, under the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, the bottle has been uncorked and the Islamic Genie set loose. Expect much worse to come,” Ibrahim concludes.

<http://www.theblaze.com/stories/report-muslim-brotherhood-crucifies-opponents-clamps-down-on-secular-media/#>

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Eddy-Torial - How Long Until the Clapping Stops?



People are fickle. Many of the same people who cheered for the Lord Jesus at His triumphal entry then jeered Him at Pilate's hall and at the cross.

Men are fickle.

And the more carnal they are the more fickle they are. At present here in Australia we are seeing the news media swing wildly back and forth between praising and mocking the Prime Minister or the leader of the Opposition. In our fundamental churches we are observing a ground swell of men praising men for performing. Most times the praise is given when they put on a "good" performance of a musical item. Once in a while we hear people clapping when a sermon tickles their funny bone just right. But the day always comes when the clapping stops.

Bro. Ron Boersma is pastor of Christchurch Independent Baptist Church in Christchurch, NZ. He recently attended the Pastors Refresher School at Lighthouse Baptist Church in Rockhampton, Queensland. He wrote yesterday with these insights,

"Clapping in Church - We do not clap after a musical item in church because these folk are not performers. These items are played/sung unto the Lord for His glory and for His pleasure (Psalms 98:4 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise. See also Ps 66:1; Ps 81:1; Ps 95:1-2; Ps 98:4,6; Ps 100:1).

Clearly music and songs must be directed to the Lord during worship time and not to us. It is for the Lord's pleasure (a sweet smelling savour compare 2 Cor 2:15) and we are not to please the flesh as much of liberal/CCM music does.

Does this mean that we cannot enjoy the musical items? The answer to that question is simple in that as we seek to please Him from whom all blessings flow we will also as a consequence enjoy the music but this enjoyment is only secondary. We can compare that with works. We do not work to obtain or even maintain salvation but our works are because of salvation.

Similarly we enjoy the music as a consequence to worshipping our Lord, but we are not "worshipping" the flesh. All glory that would come to the musician must be deflected and given to our Lord and Saviour.

This also goes for the preaching of His word.

We don't clap the preacher after he has given his message on a Wednesday or Sunday do we? After all who gave the preacher the message in the first place? Similarly who gave the musician the talent to sing or play that musical instrument? I believe it is perfectly acceptable to say Amen or Hallelujah as these words give praise to God who gives to each man his talents and abilities. Amen has the meaning of "let it be so" or "I

agree” and Hallelujah (or Alleluiah) means “praise ye the Lord (Jehovah).” Clapping on the other hand praises the “performer” like the world would.

How can you deflect the glory back to God after singing or playing a musical item to the Lord when you are the one being applauded? The praise should not be given by the worshippers to the musician but must belong to God.

In Christ,

Bro Ron Boersma"

Experience teaches us that people are prone to mood swings. There are a thousand variables that affect the fickleness of men.

So I wonder how long it will be until the clapping stops in our churches?

And how long it will be until we hear the same people boo-ing and hissing when the entertainers on the platform no longer please them?

Remember, the basic tenet of pragmatism (BIG is good!) is that churches must please men in order to draw them in large crowds (That's the name of the game). And remember that pleasing men is simply another face of the fear of men. And remember that the fear of man brings a snare. And the snare always includes fickle men turning on those who please them no longer.

That's when the clapping stops and the jeering begins.

Bro. Buddy

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



On the Atherton Tablelands in Tropical North Queensland - Australia

Heads Up! is a fortnightly publication produced by Pastor Buddy Smith,
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