

“[The Bereans] . . . searched the scriptures daily,

[to see] whether those things were so.” —Acts 17:11

## God’s Nonnegotiable Gospel – Part One

Dave Hunt

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*Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel...for IT is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth [IT].*

—MARK 16:15; ROMANS 1:16

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL and from what does it save us? We must begin in the Garden. Persuaded by Satan that God had lied to her, and seduced by the appealing promise of godhood, Eve rebelled against her Creator. Not wanting to be separated from his wife, whom he loved more than God, Adam, who was not deceived (1 Timothy 2:14), deliberately joined in her disobedience. Thus “by one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men [and women], for that all have sinned” (Romans 5:12). Death not only ends this short earthly life, but it separates the sinner from God forever.

In His infinite foreknowledge, wisdom and love, God had already planned what He would do to reunite mankind with Himself. Without ceasing to be God (an impossibility), He would become a man through a virgin birth. Only God could be the Savior (Isaiah 43:11; 45:21, etc.), thus the Messiah had to be God (Isaiah 9:6; Isaiah 45:15; Titus 1:3-4, etc.). He would die for our sins to pay the penalty demanded by His justice: “’Tis mystery all, the *immortal* dies!” (Charles Wesley). Then He would rise from the dead to live in those who would believe in and receive Him as their Lord and Savior, giving them forgiveness of sins and eternal life as a *free gift of His grace*.

Centuries before His incarnation, God inspired the Old Testament prophets to declare His eternal and unchangeable plan of salvation. Definitive criteria were provided by which the coming Savior would be identified. Jesus and His apostles did not invent a “new religion.” Christianity fulfills scores of specific prophecies and is thus provable from Scripture! (See *How Close Are We?* —<https://bit.ly/3yJ3ctN>)

So it was not a new gospel which Paul preached, but “the gospel of God, (which He had *promised afore by his prophets* in the holy scriptures,) concerning his Son Jesus Christ...” (Romans 1:1-3). Thus the Bereans could check Paul’s message against the Old Testament (Acts 17:11); and he could use the Hebrew prophets, which were read in the synagogue each sabbath, to show that Jesus was the promised Messiah (vv 2-3). Not Buddha, not Muhammad, not anyone else—only Christ has the required credentials! The fulfillment of scores of specific prophecies in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth is absolute proof that He is the true and only Savior.

In Hebrews 2:3 the vital question is asked, “How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?” There is no escape. The Bible makes that solemn fact abundantly clear. To reject or add to or take from or otherwise pervert or embrace a substitute for “the gospel of God” is to perpetuate the rebellion begun by Adam and Eve and to leave one eternally separated from God and under His wrath. No wonder Paul wrote, “Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men...” (2 Corinthians 5:11). So must we persuade through the gospel!

The “gospel of your salvation” (Ephesians 1:13) “wherein ye stand; by which also ye are saved” (1 Corinthians 15:1-2) is simple and precise, leaving no room for misunderstanding or negotiation: “that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day...” (vv 3-4). This “everlasting gospel” (Revelation 14:6) was promised “before the world began” (2 Timothy 1:9; Titus 1:2) and cannot change with time or culture. There is no other hope for mankind, no other way to be forgiven and brought back to God except through this “strait gate and narrow way” (Matthew 7:14). Any broader road leads to destruction (v 13).

The one true “gospel of God’s grace,” which God offers as our *only* salvation has three basic elements: 1) who Christ is—fully God and perfect, sinless man in one person (were He less, He could not be our Savior); 2) who we are—hopeless sinners already condemned to eternal death (or we wouldn’t need to be saved); and 3) what Christ’s death accomplished—the payment of the full penalty for our sins (any attempt by us to pay *in any way* rejects the Cross).

Christ has commanded us to “preach the gospel [good news!] to every creature [person]” (Mark 16:15). What response is required? Both the desperate question and uncomplicated answer are given to us: “What must I do to be saved? *Believe* on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved” (Acts 16:30-31). Neither religion, ritual, nor good works will avail—simply *believe*. “For by grace are ye saved through *faith*” (Ephesians 2:8)—whosoever *believes* in him will not perish, but has eternal life (John 3:16).

It is the *gospel* alone that saves those who *believe it*. Nothing else will save. Therefore we *must* preach the *gospel*. Paul said, “Woe is unto me, if I preach not the *gospel*” (1 Corinthians 9:16). Yet how often sentimental appeals are made to “come to Jesus” or “make a decision for Christ” without clearly explaining the *gospel*! Many are attracted to Christ because of His admirable character, “noble martyrdom,” or because “He changes lives.” Such “converts” have not believed the *gospel* and thus are not saved but remain under God’s wrath (John 3:36). This is the solemn teaching of Scripture.

There are peripheral issues on which Christians may differ, such as diet, dress, mode of baptism, honoring certain days, how and how often to keep the Lord’s supper, etc. Salvation, however, is the central issue on which all must agree. Paul cursed those who taught that one must believe the gospel *and keep the law* in order to be saved (Galatians 1:6-12). Such a slight addition destroyed the gospel. No one believing that message could be saved! Nor is anyone a Christian who believes one of today’s popular diluted gospels.

Oswald Chambers warned lest, in our zeal to get people to accept the gospel, we manufacture a gospel acceptable to people and produce “converts” who are not saved. Today’s most popular perversion is the “positive” gospel which is designed to offend no one with truth. Robert Schuller, for example, has said that it is demeaning to call anyone a sinner and that Christ died to restore human dignity and self-esteem. He “wins many to Christ” with that seductive message—but such a gospel does not *save sinners*.

Evangelistic appeals are often made to “come to Christ” for the wrong reasons: in order to be healthy, happy, successful, to restore a marriage, or to handle stress. Some of today’s most popular televangelists are so intent upon “slaying in the Spirit” and physical healing that they fail to deliver from sin. Their gospel is often so

diluted or perverted that it deceives many into thinking they are saved when they are not. No fraud could be worse, for the consequences are eternal!

Religion, not atheism, is Satan's main weapon. "The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ...should shine unto them" (2 Corinthians 4:4). To combat "the gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24), the great deceiver has many false gospels, but they all have two subtle rejections of grace in common: ritual and/or self-effort.

Ritual makes redemption an ongoing process performed by a special priesthood; and self-effort gives man a part to play in earning his salvation. The one denies the finality of the Cross. The other denies its sufficiency. Consider, for example, the rituals and self-effort in all non-Christian religions. Their denial of the cross of Christ and opposition to the gospel are blatant. Yet pagan/New Age beliefs are proliferating in the church in the name of ecumenism and broad-mindedness.

Pagan worship (Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, witchcraft, etc.) is common at New York's Cathedral of St. John the Divine, America's largest Episcopal cathedral, which has even featured a female "Christa" on a crucifix. Evangelical leaders firmly denounce such blasphemy among Protestants, but many remain strangely silent when it involves the Roman Catholic Church. Evangelical leaders even laud Pope John Paul II as he travels the world to honor and to express respect and sympathy for the enemies of the gospel.

At Assisi the pope encouraged the Dalai Lama and his monks to worship at the Church of St. Peter altar, on which they placed a statue of Buddha for their anti-Christian ceremony. Around the world the pope has held masses in which various pagan rituals (in which he participated) were incorporated. The "Vicar of Christ" has prayed with animists and even entered their sanctuary, consecrated to demons, to participate in pagan rituals which began with a sorcerer invoking ancestral spirits. Imagine the Apostle Paul worshipping at the Temple of Diana in Ephesus!

In opposition to the errors of Mormonism, Christian Science, Jehovah's Witnesses, etc., evangelicals are united. Not so when it comes to errors just as great in Roman Catholicism. Even anticult ministries such as Christian Research Institute espouse Catholic-evangelical ecumenism. CRI refers to Roman Catholics as "born-again," "evangelical" and "Bible-believing"—terms which repudiate the Reformation. Remember, the issue then *and now* is God's *nonnegotiable gospel*, which Rome literally curses. (See below.)

When he began his ministry, Billy Graham, like the Reformers, called Catholicism the greatest enemy of the gospel. Today he says his beliefs "are essentially the same as those of Orthodox Roman Catholics..." A similar astonishing about-face has occurred in the last few years among other evangelical leaders due to the widely held belief that Vatican II (1962-65) transformed Catholicism. In fact, apart from a few cosmetic changes (Mass no longer only in Latin, etc.), Rome's *gospel* remains the same as in Luther's day.

Consider the facts. *To oppose the Reformation*, Rome's leading theologians met in the Council of Trent (1545-63). Its *Canons and Decrees*, which define official Roman Catholic dogma, contain more than 100 anathemas denouncing the gospel of grace affirmed by the Reformers. Every evangelical doctrine is cursed! And Vatican II? It declares: "This sacred council...proposes again the decrees... of the Council of Trent [*including its 100-plus anathemas!*]." As *The Catholic Answer* (March/April 1993) states, "Whatever was 'officially' taught by the Church in one age is 'officially' taught by the Church in every age...Council of Trent [doctrines] are completely consonant with the eucharistic faith of the Church today."

Evangelical leaders who accept Catholics as Christians and join with Rome in "evangelism" are greatly deceived and deceiving others. Chuck Colson is, sadly, one of them. In his book *The Body*, which in many ways is commendable [see this month's Q&A], he appeals strongly for unity with Rome, but upon the basis of gross misinformation provided to his readers. For example, after

explaining that a major catalyst for the Reformation was Luther's revulsion for the practice of selling indulgences, Colson writes,

The Reformers, for example, assailed the corrupt practice of indulgences; today they are gone.... (p 271)

Indulgences "*are gone*"? Absolutely not! Vatican II's *Indulgentiarum Doctrina* by Pope Paul VI devotes 17 pages to indulgences. While admitting some "improper uses" in the past, this document declares that the Roman Catholic Church "*commands* that the usage of indulgences... be kept in the Church; and it *condemns with anathema* those who say that indulgences are useless...." Vatican II explains that the "merits" of the death of Christ, together with Mary's "good works" and the surplus "good works of all the saints" beyond what they needed in order to "attain their own salvation," have been deposited in a "treasury."

Out of this "treasury," the Church dispenses indulgences in order to reduce suffering in purgatory, "distributing it [the treasury] to the faithful *for their salvation*.... This holy Council...teaches that the Church...is *necessary for salvation*.... [T]he Gospel...[enables] all men [to] *attain to salvation* through faith, baptism and the *observance of the commandments*.... [Through] prayers and good works... [the saints] *attained their own salvation* and...cooperated in *saving their brothers*.... From the most ancient times...*good works* were also offered to God *for the salvation of sinners* [emphasis added]." Roman Catholicism proclaims a false gospel of ritual and works!

In Catholicism, Christ's death for sins does not save those who believe, but makes it possible for them to merit their salvation through an elaborate religion of ritual and self-effort. Vatican II explains: "The Church...formulated and devised various ways [the seven sacraments] of applying [*in installments*] the fruits of Christ's redemption to the individual faithful.... For it is the liturgy through which, especially in the divine *sacrifice* of the Eucharist, '*the work of our redemption is accomplished*....'" Yet Hebrews 9:12 says that Christ *has already accomplished* "eternal redemption for us"! Such is the promise of the true gospel to *those who believe*.

In Roman Catholicism the "graces won by Christ and the saints" are "applied to the faithful" in installments so that they must come back again and again to receive more "graces and merits" to help them on their way to heaven. There is no assurance that this goal will ever be attained, nor is there any indication of the number of Masses, rosaries, indulgences, etc. it will take to reach heaven. The Catholic's only hope of salvation is in the ongoing ritual of the Church. Yet the Bible offers forgiveness of sins and eternal life as the free gift of God's grace to all who believe the gospel. What a contrast!

The Mass denies that Christ paid fully for our sins at Calvary. It is itself a *sacrifice that saves*. As the *Pocket Catholic Dictionary* declares (pp 248-49), "The Mass is a truly *propitiatory sacrifice*... by [which] 'the Lord is appeased, He grants grace and...pardons wrongdoings and sins'.... [T]he Mass is the divinely ordained means of *applying the merits of Calvary... gradually and continually*.... The priest is indispensable, since he alone by his powers can change the elements of bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ." Rather than confess this false gospel, hundreds of thousands suffered martyrdom at the stake!

Biblically and logically, one cannot believe both the true gospel of God's grace and Rome's false gospel of ritual and works. Of the thousands of former Roman Catholics with whom I've had contact, *not one* ever heard the true gospel from the Roman Catholic Church. *All* had to turn from Roman Catholicism to receive assurance of salvation through simple faith in the finished work of Christ. The issue is *God's nonnegotiable gospel* and the *eternal destiny of souls!* I beg of you, contend for the true gospel, proclaim it in the power of the Holy Spirit, and pray earnestly (and do whatever else the Lord directs) that evangelical leaders will vigorously oppose every false gospel, including Rome's.

TBC

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Submit your own questions to: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708

or e-mail: [editorial@thebereanall.org](mailto:editorial@thebereanall.org)

**QUESTION: I am reading Chuck Colson's book *The Body*, and am greatly disappointed in Chuck for including the Roman Catholic Church as a part of the body of Christ that we are to embrace in his call for unity.... I appreciate Chuck Colson, but I'm a bit confused about his term "evangelical Catholics." What also greatly disappoints me are the endorsements by a host of religious leaders on the jacket. Would you comment on this book in *The Berean Call*?**

**RESPONSE:** I respect Chuck as a Christian who loves the Lord and has sacrificed a great deal to bring the gospel into prisons. Therefore it grieves me to say that his book is a sad mixture of warnings against error and at the same time embracing that which is false and even covering up or ignoring that which, if admitted, would undermine his thesis of unity with Rome. He finds fault (often correctly) with various segments of the evangelical church, but not with the Catholic Church. And the praise he gives Rome is often so blind as to be embarrassing, such as his statement that "the Catholic Church, to its great credit, does call heretics to account" (p 132). Indeed she does, having burned more than a million at the stake! And to this day both Trent and Vatican II condemn evangelicals as heretics for holding beliefs to which Colson subscribes. Surely he must know this!

As an example of Rome's censure of heretics, Chuck commends Pope Urban VIII for declaring "that anyone in the New World who kept Indian slaves would be excommunicated" (p 133). But he fails to mention that this same pope condemned polygamists to the most horrible slavery of all—the galleys for life! Nor does he tell us that it was Urban VIII who threatened an elderly and very ill Galileo with torture for saying that the earth revolved around the sun, and had him on his knees in front of the inquisition recanting of this "heresy" in fear of his life! Calling heretics to account, indeed!

It is not "politically correct" these days to say anything the least bit derogatory about homosexuals. Nor is it, among Christians, good church politics (if one wants to be supported by evangelical leaders) to admit any validity to the Reformation or to cast any doubt upon the alleged evangelical soundness of Roman Catholicism. Colson goes right along with this farce.

Rightly warning that we do not "accept everyone who says he or she is a Christian" (p 105), Colson explains that those "who deny the fundamentals, such as the bodily resurrection of Christ, cannot be part of the confessing body." True, but he fails to recognize that one can believe in the bodily resurrection, as do Mormons, and still hold so much other error as to be eternally lost. Such is the case with Catholics. Catholicism does affirm much orthodox doctrine, but adds to it so much that is false that it becomes a complete denial of the gospel of God's grace. The Roman Catholic gospel and the biblical gospel are diametrically opposed.

Colson seems blind to the obvious. While he admits serious differences between the Protestant and Catholic view of the sacraments, he waves them aside as unimportant because "all would agree that the sacraments are centered on Christ who took on flesh and died and was raised." Yes, but there is more. For the Catholic, through baptism (the first of seven sacraments), even as an infant with no knowledge of Christ, one is born again, made a child of God, forgiven of sin and placed in the Church. And in the Mass the literal body and blood of Christ is again offered as a propitiatory *sacrifice*. Vatican II declares, "It is the liturgy through which, especially in the divine *sacrifice* of the Eucharist, 'the work of our redemption is accomplished...'" (p 1). Thus is denied the gospel truth that by His sacrifice on the cross

Christ "obtained [a finished work] eternal redemption for us" (Heb 9:12) and that "we have [present possession] redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins" (Eph 1:7; Col 1:14).

I have corresponded with Chuck on this subject and have given him photocopies of enough out of Trent and Vatican II to thoroughly establish that Roman Catholicism is a false gospel. Therefore, I am at a loss to explain this new book.

**QUESTION: Why does Revelation 17:8 (and maybe Revelation 13:8, depending on the translation used) refer to those "whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world..."? Could that, coupled with Psalm 69:28, Revelation 3:5, and Revelation 22:19 mean that the names of all mankind are in the Book of Life, then later blotted out one by one as each Christ-rejecter crosses the line of final renunciation? I always thought that only after we believed the gospel were our names written in the Book of Life. If this were not the case, wouldn't Calvinists say, "See! He has already chosen those whom He will save; their names are already written down before the foundation of the earth!"?**

**RESPONSE:** Several verses speak of God blotting or not blotting names out of the book of life: "I will not blot out his name out of the book of life" (Rv 3:5); "God shall take away his part out of the book of life" (Rv 22:19); "...if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written.... Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book" (Ex 32:32-33).

These references to blotting out of the book of life allow only two possibilities: 1) everyone's name is written in the book of life from eternity past, indicating God's desire for all to be saved, until they have irrevocably rejected Christ, when their name is blotted out; or 2) when a person gets saved, his name is placed in the book of life for the first time, and when He later turns against Christ, his name is blotted out. Neither of these fits Calvinism. The first denies that God only intends to save a select elect, and the second denies the eternal security of the redeemed.

References to those "whose names *are* in the book of life" (Phil 4:3; Rv 21:27) and those "whose names *are not* written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Rv 13:8; 17:8; 20:15) offer no clue as to how or why names are written or are not written there. They only tell us that at the end of history, some names will be found, and some names will not be found written therein. But the fact that names can be and in fact are blotted out of the book of life is clear.

Of the two alternatives above, since the second one, which allows for some of the redeemed to lose their salvation, contradicts Christ's clear promise ("shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life"—Jn 5:24), we must opt for the first. Comparing all of the verses, we can only conclude that, in keeping with God's desire that all be saved, from eternity past every person's name is written in the book of life of the Lamb, slain from before the foundation of the world. Whose names are blotted out? The names of those who refuse to yield to the wooing of the Holy Spirit. For this sin, there is no forgiveness (Mk 3:28-29; Lk 12:10).

Thus there is nothing in what Scripture says about the "book of life" to give any comfort to Calvinists, but only discomfort.

**NOTE:** Our Q&A section is primarily pulled from the Dave Hunt archives. Although some references may be dated, we believe that there is timeless value within the messages.

# LETTERS

To connect with TBC, write: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708  
or e-mail: [editorial@theberean.org](mailto:editorial@theberean.org)

**Dear TBC,**

Having recently left a charismatic church, almost all of the resources to help those coming out of these false teachings are reformed pastors/churches or reformed [Facebook] groups. They will not permit certain ideas or bible teachers outside of their theology. We are at a church now that has reformed theology but they hid it. So we will pray now for what to do next as we cannot follow Luther or Calvin, but only the Lord Jesus. Thankful for what you are doing! Keep going! K (email)

**Dear TBC,**

I firmly believe that it is long past due in dealing with those who profess to be believers. Enthusiasm for our God in Christ sadly is nearly non-existent and surely breaks His heart. Why in the world should we attempt to foolishly compromise our victorious stance with Christ in this world. We must be “woke up” and embrace the Scriptures. Let me remind us as well in 1 Corinthians 1:13-31.

God bless you all and keep up the blessed work. Salvation is nearer than when we first believed. MT (prisoner, CA)

## TBC NOTES

### What Has the Church (for the Most Part) Failed to Learn from Jesus?

In one word, “Selflessness!”

Being “other-directed” is what biblical Christianity is all about... according to the Word of God.

Where it is lacking, it is antichrist—which is spelled out clearly in 2 Timothy 3:1 and following.

Yet during the decades of the '70s, '80s, and '90s, through the false science of psychotherapy and its religious substitute “Christian Psychology,” biblical truth was turned upside down. The most influential church leaders of that time period were not men of the Word, but men of pseudoscience such as psychologist Dr. James Dobson. His (along with a host of others) widely influential teachings regarding self-love and self-esteem are the exact opposite of what Jesus taught.

Nevertheless, THE LIE continues. The latest promotion of this heresy is the doctrine of Narcissism, which fits perfectly with Satan’s goal: “For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; *I will be like the most High*” (Isa 14:13-14).

On the contrary, Scripture warns us:

*This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves.... (2 Tim 3:1-2)*

*Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. (Isa 14:15)*

T. A. McMAHON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Dear TBC,**

[Concerning your video *Israel and the Church*, see—<https://bit.ly/3wLA4lf>] Amen. I love & appreciate [Dave Hunt’s] sermons. With the Holy Spirit, they tend to guide your present & online parishioners. There are Baptist, & many other denominations in Christianity. I believe when Genesis 1:26 teaches “...Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...” reveals that possibly multiple persons created humankind. Matthew 3:17: “...and a voice from heaven, said, ‘This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’” John 3:35: “The Father loves the Son, and has given everything into his hands.” I believe God the Father & God the Son have one entity but have two separate beings. That’s what I believe. NG (email)

**Dear TBC,**

An interesting point is that in Israel, there is a minority there who believe in the God of Abraham and, although they reject Jesus as Messiah, they do follow the Torah as opposed to the modern day pharisees who elevate the Talmud (tradition/words of men) over the Torah or even replace the Torah with the Talmud entirely. This sect of Jews who strictly follow the Torah hold the position that the Jew’s return to Israel is premature because the Jews are still not upholding their end of the covenants. You can still find video clips of them being beaten in the streets of Israel by the military. So, while we have that going on, there are the heretics like Hagee on the extreme end of the political Zionist/dispensationalists who state that all Jews will be saved regardless of whether they EVER come to faith in Jesus as Lord and that we should refrain from sharing the Gospel with them. That’s right up there with the pope saying that Jesus isn’t the only path to salvation. DK (email)

**Dear TBC,**

I am feeling overwhelmed and outnumbered by the Israel haters so have been searching your website and discovered these readings of the newsletters on Israel. I’ve been posting the link to all the Israel info at the top of your website in hopes SOMEONE will look it up and get informed. I have received the TBC newsletter for many years, but I am looking forward to listening while I work—a new option for me since I now have unlimited data. These are as appropriate today as they were 20 years ago. DS (email)

**NOTE:** Our purpose in this section is to simply show what kind of feedback we receive. We may respond to some of them in private whether or not we agree with their views.

## QUOTABLE.....

There is always the utmost danger when a man or his work becomes remarkable. He may be sure Satan is gaining his objective when attention is shown to anything or anyone but the Lord Jesus Himself. A work may be commenced in the greatest possible simplicity, but through lack of holy watchfulness and spirituality on the part of the workman, he himself or the results of his work may attract general attention, and he may fall into the snare of the devil. Satan’s grand and ceaseless object is to dishonor the Lord Jesus. If he can do this by what seems to be Christian service, he has achieved all the greater victory for the time. [As one said,] “No man can at one and the same time prove that he is great and that Christ is wonderful.”

—C. H. MACKINTOSH  
(CITED BY WILLIAM MACDONALD IN *ONE DAY AT A TIME*  
FOR JANUARY 23)

# NEWSWATCH

News stories are selected for reader awareness and as an exercise  
in discerning the times from a biblical perspective.

## NPR REPORTER WANTS FREED HOSTAGE TO FEEL GUILTY

**JIHADWATCH.ORG, 4/1/24, "NPR REPORTER WANTS TO MAKE HOSTAGE FREED BY IDF ON FEB. 12 FEEL GUILTY ABOUT GAZAN DEATHS THAT DAY" [EXCERPTS]:** In February, IDF special forces managed to raid a site in Gaza and free two hostages being held by Hamas—Luis Har and Fernando Marman. When NPR's Daniel Estrin interviewed Har, a 71-year-old accountant, instead of sympathetically sharing in Har's relief, he seemed peeved that Har did not criticize the IDF's use of airstrikes as a diversion, while the special forces staged their raid, because of the casualties that resulted from those airstrikes.

Yes, an NPR journalist is asking a former hostage whether he thinks it is fair that he is free now because of the supposed death toll. Essentially, Estrin berated a senior citizen to make him feel guilty that his freedom is at the expense of women and children.

In providing its always exaggerated reports on casualties to the Ministry of Health (a Hamas mouthpiece), Hamas does not distinguish between civilians and combatants. It wants the world to believe that those killed and wounded are mostly "women and children." Even if we were to accept those Hamas-generated figures—currently 32,000 people in Gaza are said to have been killed in the war, we would have to subtract from that number the 15,000 Hamas combatants that the IDF knows it has killed, which gives us a figure of 17,000 civilians killed.

(<https://bit.ly/3WyLcMF>)

## MYSTERY OF MOTHS' WARNING SOUND

**ICR.ORG, 3/4/24, "MYSTERY OF MOTHS' WARNING SOUND" [EXCERPTS]:** Insects of all types continue to amaze entomologists with their design and physiology. Cleveland Hickman, Jr., et al. stated, "insect ears are beautifully designed to detect the sound of a potential mate, a rival male, or a predator." Agreed. The Master Designer has perfectly equipped insects with the ability to sense their predators through hearing or other methods so they know to escape.

This is certainly true of the moth, which has a remarkable ability to sense and evade its nemesis, the hungry bat. The moth detects ultrasonic frequencies emitted from the bat via specially designed cells so the

moth knows to begin evasive maneuvers.

Researchers at the University of Bristol in England have discovered that moths of the genus *Yponomeuta* are designed with a unique acoustic defense against the bat. The mystery of how the moth produces its warning sound has finally been solved. *Yponomeuta* "produce[s] ultrasonic clicking sounds twice per wingbeat cycle using a minute corrugated membrane in their hindwing." This is all the more amazing because the moths do not have hearing organs, and they are not able to control this defense mechanism.

A *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* article describes their efforts in researching *Yponomeuta* moths' amazing ability: "The resulting bursts of clicks serve as an ultrasound protection mechanism against bats. Using detailed biological and mechanical characterization, we map the intricate morphology of aeroelastic tymbals and use simple models from structural engineering to describe the mechanics and acoustics of sequential, buckling-driven sound production."

Although the researchers should be commended with their investigation and discovery of *Yponomeuta*'s exceptional acoustic defense, evolutionists are no closer to determining the origin of moths from a non-moth ancestor or how this specific clicking protection evolved.

(<https://bit.ly/4b98IKa>)

## "ALAHU AKBAR"

**FRONTPAGEMAG.COM, 5/7/24, "ALLAHU AKBAR': MUSLIM ATTACKS SCOTTISH COP WITH CHAINSAW" [EXCERPTS]:** A pair of police officers have been injured, and a man has been arrested, after authorities flocked to a street in Scotland to reports of a chainsaw-wielding man apparently chasing officers down a road in broad daylight.

Footage had circulated online of a police officer sprinting away down a street in Paisley, apparently being pursued by a man running with a chainsaw in his hands.

Later footage shows the individual apparently being arrested, with officers seen piling on to restrain an individual on the pavement by the side of the road as more police and members of the public rush to help.

*Great Britain News* understands Police in Scotland are not treating the incident as terror-related.

(<https://bit.ly/3WSSjzE>)

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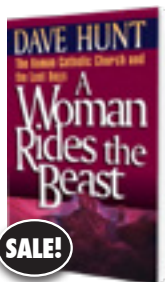
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