

**FOR I AM
NOT
ASHAMED
OF THE
GOSPEL
OF CHRIST**

ROMANS 1:16A

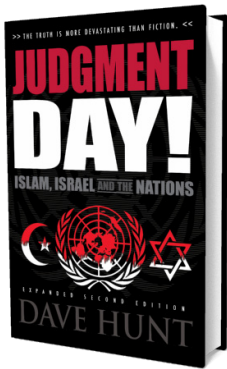
The
Berean
Call

MAY 2014

THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

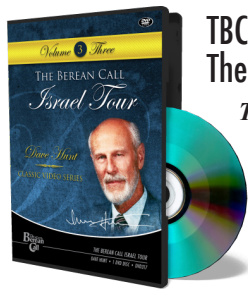
by Dave Hunt

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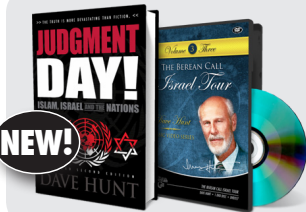
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Seven years after publication of the controversial ground-breaking bestseller *The Seduction of Christianity* in 1985, its authors, Dave Hunt and T. A. McMahon, joined forces on another front. TBC was formed under the direction of Dave Hunt for the purpose of encouraging spiritual discernment among those who regarded themselves not just as “evangelicals” but as *biblical* Christians. The primary vehicle for this endeavor was through the publication of the newsletter *The Berean Call*. The ministry and newsletter name is taken from Acts 17:11, in which the writer of Acts commended those in the synagogue of the Greek city of Berea for being more fair minded than those in Thessalonica—because not only were they eager to receive the Word, but the Bereans also checked it against what the Apostle Paul taught them in order to see if his teaching was according to the Scriptures. Through the publishing and multimedia efforts of The Berean Call (TBC) believers are exhorted to get back into the Word of God instead of being “carried about by every wind of doctrine,” and are equipped with materials to help them walk in the truth. TBC’s stated mission is to:

- ALERT** believers in Christ to unbiblical teachings and practices impacting the church
- EXHORT** believers to give greater heed to biblical discernment and truth regarding teachings and practices being currently promoted in the church
- SUPPLY** believers with teaching, information, and materials that will encourage the love of God’s truth, and assist in the development of biblical discernment
- MOBILIZE** believers in Christ to action in obedience to the scriptural command to “earnestly contend for the faith” (Jude 3)
- IMPACT** the church of Jesus Christ with the necessity for trusting the Scriptures as the only rule for faith, practice, and a life pleasing to God

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THE BEREAN CALL

“[The Bereans] . . . searched the scriptures daily, [to see] whether those things were so.”—Acts 17:11

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The Power of the Gospel

Dave Hunt

First published in December 1993

God’s holiness and justice require that sinners be eternally separated from Him. To be cut off completely and eternally from that Love for which one was created will be to burn with a thirst that will only grow ever more unbearable. God, however, graciously and freely offers salvation from that most dreadful condemnation. “The gospel of God’s grace” declares that God became a man through virgin birth, that this sinless God-man died for our sins, satisfying His own justice by suffering the eternal punishment we deserve, resurrected the third day, and that all who believe in Him are forgiven and receive eternal life as a free gift. Salvation is that simple—and wonderful—and must be preached in that simplicity.

It is not the academic credentials, brilliant oratory, or persuasiveness of the preacher, but the pure gospel that convinces hearers. We must not attempt in human wisdom and zeal to embellish, improve, or in any way make the gospel more appealing to the unsaved. The gospel, presented in its unchanging purity, is the message that the Holy Spirit honors by convincing and convicting those who hear it (Jn 16:8-11). This truth must grip evangelicals once again!

Contrary to popular belief, expertise in preaching (the “homiletics” taught in seminary) cannot help but hinders communication of the gospel. Proficiency in public speaking or in the latest salesmanship techniques may be helpful in a secular profession but not in “the foolishness of preaching.” Unless such methodologies and capabilities are laid aside to proclaim God’s truth, they obscure the gospel.

Though the above may sound like an extreme and anti-intellectual view, such was the teaching and practice of the Apostle Paul. A learned rabbi, Paul was no doubt an eloquent orator who could sway any audience. In preaching the gospel, however, he deliberately laid aside “excellency of speech” (1 Cor 2:1) and carefully avoided “the words which man’s wisdom teacheth” (v 13). Knowing that his own ideas, embellishments, and persuasive abilities were hindrances rather than helps, the great apostle stood before his audience “in weak-

ness, and in fear, and in much trembling” (v 3). So must we.

Paul declared that the “wisdom of words” made Christ’s cross “of none effect” (1 Cor 1:17). Therefore, he determined that his preaching would not be “with enticing words of man’s wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power” so that his converts’ faith “should not stand in the wisdom of men but in the power of God” (1 Cor 2:4-5). Many well-meaning Christians, however, do exactly what Paul avoided, convinced that the gospel and the Holy Spirit need the help of scholarship, psychological persuasion, and modern promotional packaging. Consequently, the faith of many believers today stands upon the wisdom of men instead of in the power of God—and can thus be undermined by human argument as well.

FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE
GOSPEL OF CHRIST: FOR IT IS THE
POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION TO
EVERY ONE THAT BELIEVETH...

—Romans 1:16

The gospel is being compromised and even denied by many professing Christians. President Clinton, who claimed to be a Christian, said when his number two legal aide, Vincent Foster, Jr., committed suicide, “My deepest hope is that...[his] soul will receive the grace and salvation that *his good life and good works earned*” (emphasis added). At a prayer breakfast in which Clinton participated, Senator Kerry read John 3:1-21 (*skipping verse 16*), said Christ was speaking of “spiritual renewal,” and that “in the spirit of Christ...Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, Jew, Christian” were meeting and “there is renewal...with a new President and Vice President...” Billy Graham added, “I do not know a time when we had a more spiritual time than we’ve had today.”

The terms “spiritual” or “spirituality” legitimized much error. “Spirituality” is now evidenced by ecumenism and enhanced by New Age techniques. *Christianity Today* (CT) (11/8/93) favorably reports upon an apparent widespread movement toward spiritual maturity. Unfortunately, in its

promotion of modern “spirituality,” CT touts Richard Foster and his “contemplative prayer” techniques, which involve passivity and visualization taught by such occultists as Ignatius of Loyola (founder of the Jesuits) and Agnes Sanford. (See *The Seduction of Christianity* and *Beyond Seduction*.) Several articles uphold Roman Catholicism as sound Christianity. Introducing a major article, CT’s executive editor praises Roman Catholic mystic Thomas Merton as having led the way into a deeper relationship with God, even though Merton, a New Ager, rejected the gospel, without the acceptance of which one cannot know God.

It is not methodologies or techniques but truth and love that establish and mature spiritual life in the believer. Nor can genuine love of God and others spring from anything but acceptance and appreciation of the gospel (1 Jn 4:19). That “old, old story” reveals God’s love. Those who preach it in truth must be motivated and empowered by that same love.

Well, you might say, I’m not a pastor or preacher, so advice about preaching the gospel doesn’t apply to me. “The foolishness of preaching” includes sharing Christ with a neighbor over a fence or with a friend on the phone. Christ’s command to “preach the gospel” and to “make disciples”—the so-called Great Commission of Mark 16:15 and Matthew 28:18-20—applies equally to every Christian, past, present, and future. That fact is clear from Christ’s words, “teaching [converts] to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you” (Mt 28:20). Christ’s original disciples were to teach their converts to obey every command He had given them—including preaching the gospel and teaching their converts as well to obey Christ’s every command. And so down to us today. We also must obey all He commanded the original twelve.

These words of Christ correct a number of popular errors, such as the idea that His teachings in the four Gospels are only for Israel, or only to be obeyed in the Millennium, and thus are not for the church today. Also eliminated is the idea that “the gospel of the kingdom” that Christ and the disciples preached prior to the Cross is somehow different from the gospel we are to preach today. And a major source of Roman Catholic error—that the pope is Peter’s successor and that only the hierarchy of priests, bishops, cardinals, et al., are the successors of the other apostles—is also proved false.

Every convert to Christ is both commanded and empowered by the Holy Spirit to obey everything Christ commanded the original twelve and thus to act in every capacity for which He trained and commissioned them.

The gospel is the only solution to sin's destructive effect in daily life. Yet even many evangelicals have lost their faith in the power of the gospel and imagine that something else is needed, be it enticing programs, psychological counseling, or new revelations from modern prophets. Paul referred to "the foolishness of preaching" because the simple gospel he preached was despised. So it is in our day.

In contrast to the simplicity and purity of the gospel presented in Scripture, new methods and innovations are being employed today. The gospel is no longer thought to be sufficient in itself. It is now taught that believing the gospel may leave a host of demons hiding within, left over from past sins or even prior generations. The Bible calls the one who believes the gospel "a new creature" in Christ for whom "old things are passed away [and] all things are become new" (2 Cor 5:17; Gal 6:15). In denial of this clear truth, "deliverance" ministries have sprung up to cast demons out of Christians.

The simple gospel was all the apostles needed and used. Yet today so much else is added. Take, for example, the new belief that many Christians (especially returning missionaries) through "stress" or "burnout" develop multiple personalities—another heresy from psychology. "Deliverance" allegedly comes by leading each "personality" to saving faith in Christ! Closely related is "Spiritual Mapping," another new fad, which *Christianity Today* (11/8/93) calls "a complicated and controversial technique developed by missiologist C. Peter Wagner, that claims to identify satanic strongholds in a city...."

Last July saw the first ever "North American Spiritual Mapping Consultation," offering "a methodology for discovering specific barriers to soul-winning in North American locales." According to *National & International Religion Report* (NIRR),

The consultation was sponsored by the Sentinel Group (SG) of Lynnwood, Wash., and drew 130 invited pastors, lay leaders, and missionaries from 30 states and provinces.... The 'growing influence of new and powerful spiritual forces on the continent' necessitates such research, said SG President George Otis, Jr., who is also co-coordinator for the United Prayer Track of the AD 2000 and Beyond Movement.... A Spiritual Mapping Field Guide distributed at the conference outlined ways participants could prayerfully research the social bondages, allegiances,

and spiritual barriers of their respective communities. It included 200 discovery questions, methodological cautions, and networking recommendations. SG's Lisa Otis told NIRR that the research methods include interviews, observation, library backgrounding, and prayer logs. The group has planned seven regional meetings in hopes that results will help develop effective prayer and evangelism strategies.

Questions immediately arise. *New* spiritual forces? Is there a new breed of demons more clever or powerful than those faced by the early church? If the gospel needs such help, why doesn't the Bible say so? Why weren't these methods taught and practiced by Christ and the apostles? How could Paul have "turned the world upside down" (Acts 17:6) through evangelism of the pagan Roman Empire without employing these techniques? Would Paul have been even more effective had he used "spiritual mapping" and employed the new "methodology for discovering specific barriers to soul-winning"?

Surely Corinth, Greece's most splendid and prosperous city, the mecca of trade between East and West, was as enslaved by Satan as any city today. The cult of Aphrodite, goddess of love and beauty, whose mythic example encouraged sexual promiscuity and perversion, had long flourished there. When Paul arrived in Corinth about A.D. 50, the massive, columned Temple of Apollo had for 600 years dominated the commercial center of the city (where much of the meat sold for consumption was first offered to idols). Yet we find no hint that Paul engaged in "spiritual mapping" of Corinth's demonic powers. He relied solely and entirely upon the gospel to rescue pagans from Satan's clutches: "I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified" (1 Cor 2:2).

Or take the city of Ephesus, whose wealth came in large part from the sale of images of the goddess Diana. Her temple was the center of Ephesian life and, as was always the case with idolatry, involved prostitution, sexual orgies, and every depravity. If ever a people were bound by Satan and his minions it was the Ephesians. Yet without "spiritual mapping" or other "deliverance" techniques touted today, multitudes came to Christ, and the church formed there was among the strongest and truest. Yes, Paul reminded them that their battle was not against flesh and blood but with principalities and powers and spiritual wickedness in high places (Eph 6:10-12). He gave no hint, however, that these demonic powers should be mapped or tracked or that psychological techniques for dealing with multiple personalities should

be employed. The believers were to stand fast in the faith, clothed in the armor of God, their sole weapon "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (v 17).

The "old, old story of Jesus and His love," as the classic hymn says, "is ever new" and best loved by "those who know it best." We will never advance, even in eternity, to a higher spiritual experience or understanding than that produced by faith in the simple gospel that saves us. That God loved us so much as to become a man and, though hated, rejected, despised, and crucified, died in our place to reconcile sinners to Himself will ever be, for ransomed souls, the wellspring of love, joy, and worship in heaven. In all eternity we will never have a newer or better song than the "old, old story," which is ever new.

"Thou art worthy...for Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood" is the highest praise possible for the redeemed in God's presence (Rv 5:9). Herein lies the secret of joy for those who inhabit heaven! Why are some Christians depressed, insecure, selfish, earthly minded, and lacking love, joy, peace, and victory in Christ? The "old, old story of Jesus and His love" has become old indeed to them, neglected and forgotten. They don't need psychological counseling but a return to their "first love" (Rv 2:4). We need to meditate unceasingly upon this most wonderful truth, the simple gospel, which alone ignites the genuine love and sincere gratitude that we ought to continually express to our Lord.

It is commendable if someone, concerned to know God better, studies Greek. However, if proficiency in that language were essential for knowing God's Word and living a more fruitful Christian life, then one would expect the Greeks to be the most Christlike and fruitful of all people, and God would have had us all speak Greek. Surely the Greeks in Christ's and Paul's day knew their native tongue much better than today's Greek scholars, yet they had as much difficulty living for Christ as anyone else. The love relationship God desires needs only a sincere, believing heart in which to grow.

"Oh, the wonder of it all" said the hymn-writer, "that God loves me!" It is so simple that a child can believe it, yet so profound that it will take eternity to begin to fathom the depths of that love! God's love is revealed in Christ's dying in our place. Surely those who have tasted that love must be impelled by that love to tell others of the salvation available by God's grace. Only that appreciation of God's love and grace aroused by the gospel transforms sinners into joyful, victorious saints—and continues to keep the saints in joy and victory now, and eternally. **TBC**

Quotable

So often the way in which we repent to God or apologize to someone shows that we have not truly judged ourselves. We betray the fact that we feel the wrong is only an unfortunate slip, and that we have on this occasion acted out of character with our true selves. What deception! The truth is we have not acted out of character at all, but in accordance with our true form, as declared to us by that Figure hanging on the cross for us! It might do us well to add, when we are putting something right with another, "So you see what I really am." The head must be bowed low to the dust to admit that we are no better than what Jesus had to become for us. Then we find Him a door indeed.

—Roy and Revel Hession,
We Would See Jesus

Q&A

QUESTION: I am concerned that debates are not profitable regarding Scripture. Could you please address the matter of debates?

RESPONSE: Much depends upon the spirit in which the debate is engaged. A debate can degenerate into a bitter argument where neither party is listening to the other, each merely reiterating his entrenched and opposing views. One's opponent is rarely convinced, but a clear-cut presentation of both sides helps the listener to be better prepared when faced with challenges to biblical truth. In order to contend for the faith, one needs to be knowledgeable. Jesus entered into some very frank exchanges with the rabbis in His day. Paul debated publicly everywhere he went: "Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him: (Acts 17:17).

QUESTION: If Christ took upon Himself the grave and the Lake of Fire, then there is no need of repentance and trusting Him for our salvation. Wouldn't both penalties be paid in full?

RESPONSE: We could not be saved unless Christ paid in full the penalty demanded by God's judgment against our sin. The penalty of sin is death. Death has already passed upon man and will culminate in his separation from his body and from this planet and from God forever unless he can be justly forgiven. God cannot merely make a bookkeeping entry in heaven. The debt demanded by His justice must be paid in full for man to be pardoned. Calvinism says that He paid the full penalty for only the elect, but the Bible repeatedly says it was for the whole world (Jn 3:16; 1 Jn 2:2, etc).

Why do we need to repent and believe in Christ if the penalty has been paid in full for everyone? The good news of the gospel is that salvation is *offered* to all. That offer requires acceptance on man's part. God does not force His love and grace upon anyone. Even the Calvinist, though denying any volition on man's part, acknowledges that the offer must be accepted through the work of God's grace.

There is no hint that sin's penalty for individuals can be isolated from the whole or that Christ paid for each one's sins individually. Just as to break one commandment is to be guilty of breaking the entire law (Jas 2:10), so payment for one sin is necessarily payment for all.

QUESTION: Roman Catholic apologists such as Gerry Matatics, Scott Hahn, and Karl Keating claim that the apostles' oral teaching was as authoritative as Scripture, that it was passed down through history as "tradition," that the Catholic Church has been its careful guardian and that evangelicals lack a full understanding of God's truth because they reject tradition. How do you respond?

RESPONSE: Not every word the apostles spoke was inspired of God. Catholics don't even claim that for the popes, alleged successors of Peter. Moreover, without a written record, no one could be certain even 100 years later, let alone today, that orally transmitted teaching had been passed down accurately. Obviously, we must have an infallible written record, which is why the Holy Spirit inspired the apostles to write the New Testament. We are assured that all *Scripture* is inspired of God. No such assurance is given for *tradition*. In fact, the opposite is implied.

Certainly while the canon of the New Testament was in the process of composition much of the apostles' teaching had only been given orally. That's why Paul reminded the Thessalonians of "the tradition...received of us" (2 Thes 3:6) and admonished them to "stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle" (2:15). It is equally clear, however, both logically and biblically, that whatever applied to and was to be observed by the church down through the ages was included in the permanent New Testament record. The apostles' teaching certainly has been preserved nowhere else.

Do we have examples of apostolic teaching first given orally then written into the New Testament scriptures? Yes. Paul repeats to the Corinthians in writing what he had previously taught them orally ("delivered unto you") concerning the Lord's supper (1 Cor 11:23). Likewise he

puts in writing in the Second Epistle to the Thessalonians what he had previously taught them orally concerning the Antichrist: "when I was yet with you, I told you these things" (2 Thes 2:5). There are other examples.

Far from promoting extrabiblical tradition, the Bible condemns it. Except for 2 Thessalonians 2:15 and 3:6 quoted above, every other mention of tradition in the New Testament is disapproving. Both Peter (1 Pt 1:18) and Paul (Gal 1:13-16; Col 2:8) reveal its errors and the need to be delivered from human tradition. Far from supplementing and being equal to God's Word, as Rome insists, tradition is always contrasted with and declared to be contradictory thereto. It is Rome's traditions (like those of the rabbis) which have led her so far astray. Christ rebuked the Pharisees for voiding the Word of God by their tradition (Mt 15:2,3,6; Mk 7:3,5,8,9,13). Surely He wouldn't then have His church guided by extrabiblical tradition! In fact, none were passed down from the apostles.

Absolutely no tradition held by Roman Catholics today can be traced back to the apostles. Catholic traditions and dogmas such as the Mass, rosary, prayers to Mary and the "saints," etc., developed gradually over the centuries, directly contradict Scripture, and therefore must be rejected. Matatics, Hahn, Keating, et al., are clever but wrong—not only on this point but in all their defense of Rome's heresies.

Endnotes

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IN DEFENSE *of the* FAITH

BIBLICAL ANSWERS *to* CHALLENGING QUESTIONS

What Does Archaeology Say About the Bible?

QUESTION: I have been told that there is a great deal of archaeological evidence proving that the Bible is not reliable. I don't remember the details, and perhaps none were given, but the impression I've gotten from several professors at the university is that the archaeological evidence against the Bible is pretty solid.

RESPONSE: There have been many claims that the Bible is not true, but none of them has been able to stand up under careful scrutiny. The Bible claims to be the Word of God, which He inspired prophets and apostles to put in writing for the benefit of all mankind. As such, it must be infallible and without any error. Therefore, it would not take "a great deal" of archaeological or any other kind of evidence to disprove the Bible. One piece of evidence would be enough.

Paul wrote, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God" (2 Timothy 3:16), and Peter declared that "holy men of God spoke [or wrote] as they were moved [inspired] by the Holy Ghost [Spirit of God]" (2 Peter 1:21). Even one error in the *substance* of the Bible (not a copyist's or printer's error) would prove it was not what it claims to be, the holy Word of God. You have given me no specific examples, so I can only reply in general.

The Bible is without doubt the most remarkable as well as the most controversial book in the world. Its claim to be inspired of God has caused those who don't believe in God and those who follow rival religions to attack its credibility. In fact, it has been attacked by determined skeptics and professional critics for centuries as no other book in history. In every instance, however, when the facts have been established through archaeological findings, the Bible has been proven correct and its critics wrong. This has been the case 100 percent of the time—as it would have to be if the Bible is indeed God's Word.

As just one example, the early chapters of the Bible have a great deal to say about the Hittites. According to the biblical account, they were a numerous and powerful people in the days of Abraham and continuing at least into the time of King David. We are told that one of David's army captains was a Hittite named Uriah. David arranged for Uriah's murder in order to cover the sin of having made his wife pregnant. Yet decades of digging had failed to uncover any archaeological evidence for the Hittites. Consequently, the skeptics claimed that the Bible was a book of myths because

it presented fictitious details concerning a people who had never existed.

Then the discoveries began to pour in. Today we have abundant archaeological evidence that what the Bible said concerning the Hittites is absolutely true. One entire museum in Ankara, Turkey, is devoted to Hittite relics.

A more recent development comes through the finding in 1993 at Tel Dan of the "now-famous Aramaic [stone] inscription fragment referring to the House of David. Some scholars . . . [had] denied that David was a historical figure or that a united kingdom preceded Judah and Israel." Once again the Bible was vindicated. In 1994, two more fragments of the same stone inscription were discovered, again mentioning the House of David. Many other similar examples could be given.

Today no one doubts the existence of King David and the history of his reign as recorded in the Bible. In September 1995, all of Israel began a 15-month-long celebration of the three-thousandth anniversary of the founding of Jerusalem by David.

As a result of its continual verification by archaeological findings, the Bible is used by many of today's archaeologists as a guide in locating ancient cities. In fact, Israeli public schools teach students the history of their land and ancestors from the Old Testament, knowing that it is unfailingly accurate.

The truth is that rather than archaeological evidence pointing *against* the Bible, the archaeological evidence is all in its *favor*. Anyone who says the contrary is either ignorant of the current evidence or is heavily biased and unwilling to face it.

THE SECRET GNOSTIC KEY TO ARONOFSKY'S "NOAH"

ALETIA.ORG, 4/5/14, "THE SECRET GNOSTIC KEY TO ARONOFSKY'S "NOAH" THAT EVERYONE MISSED" [EXCERPTS]: In Darren Aronofsky's new star-gilt silver screen epic, *Noah*, Adam and Eve are luminous and fleshless, right up until the moment they eat the forbidden fruit.

Such a notion isn't found in the Bible, of course. This, among the multitude of Aronofsky's other imaginative details like giant Lava Monsters, has caused many a reviewer's head to be scratched. Conservative-minded evangelicals write off the film because of the "liberties" taken with the text of Genesis, while a more liberal-minded group stands in favor of cutting the director some slack. After all, we shouldn't expect a professed atheist to have the same ideas of "respecting" sacred texts the way a Bible-believer would.

Both groups have missed the mark entirely. Aronofsky hasn't "taken liberties" with anything. *The Bible is not his text*.

In his defense, I suppose, the film wasn't advertised as such. Nowhere is it said that this movie is an adaptation of Genesis. It was never advertised as "*The Bible's Noah*," or "*The Biblical Story of Noah*."...That isn't what Aronofsky had in mind at all. I'm sure he was only too happy to let his studio go right on assuming that, since if they knew what he was really up to they never would have allowed him to make the movie.

I discovered what Darren Aronofsky's first feature film was: *Pi*. Want to know its subject matter? Do you? Are you sure? *Kabbalah*.

The world of Aronofsky's *Noah* is a thoroughly Gnostic one: a graded universe of "higher" and "lower." The "spiritual" is good, and way, way, way "up there" where the ineffable, *unspeaking* god dwells, and the "material" is bad, and way, way down here where our spirits are encased in material flesh. This is not only true of the fallen sons and daughters of Adam and Eve, but of fallen angels, who are explicitly depicted as being spirits trapped inside a material "body" of cooled molten lava.

Admittedly, they make pretty nifty movie characters, but they're also notorious in Gnostic speculation. Gnostics call them Archons, lesser divine beings or angels who aid "The Creator" in forming the visible universe. And *Kabbalah* has a pantheon of angelic beings of its own all up and down the ladder of "divine being." And fallen angels are never totally fallen in this brand of mysticism. To quote the

Zohar again, a central *Kabbalah* text: "All things of which this world consists, the spirit as well as the body, will return to the principle and the root from which they came." Funny. That's exactly what happens to Aronofsky's Lava Monsters. They redeem themselves, shed their outer material skin, and fly back to the heavens. Incidentally, I noticed that in the film, as the family is traveling through a desolate wasteland, Shem asks his father: "Is this a *Zohar* mine?" Yep. That's the name of *Kabbalah's* sacred text.

The entire movie is, figuratively, a "Zohar" mine.

(goo.gl/Wzt9kz)

IMAGINARY FEATHERS FOUND ON DINOSAUR

CREV.INFO, 3/13/14, "Imaginary Feathers Found on American Dinosaur" [EXCERPTS]: Once again, imaginary feathers have been discovered on a "bird-like" dinosaur, this time from the Dakotas.

The fossil was discovered about a decade ago, but is only now being described. Artwork shows feathered arms and fuzz on the body and legs of the ten-foot "chicken from hell," [Lat.] *Anzu wylieli*. Science reporters describe the imaginary feathers in detail: *It boasted a flashy head crest and probably wore feathers (Live Science). It was a giant raptor, but with a chicken-like head and presumably feathers (PhysOrg). The size of a small car, the dinosaur also had claws and feathers on its upper arms (BBC News).*

The original paper...like the popular media, calls it a "presumably feathered dinosaur" but otherwise includes no evidence of feathers....*Nature* published an analysis of melanosomes from scales and feathers from creatures as diverse as mammals, birds, dinosaurs, pterosaurs, lizards and turtles. The researchers, mostly from China, noted a distinct break between the melanosomes of reptiles and those of birds. Considering that "When this relationship evolved relative to the origin of feathers and other novel integumentary structures, such as hair and filamentous body covering in extinct archosaurs, has not been evaluated."...True pinnate feathers (as on birds), it should be noted, are not mere "novel integumentary structures," but distinct systems involving follicles, stem cells, and regulatory proteins. It must have taken a "significant physiological shift" to evolve them, indeed.

(goo.gl/V7DEiY)

TAQIYYA AND BLASPHEMY LAW IN THE UK

FRONTPAGEMAG.COM, 3/6/14, "TAQIYYA AND BLASPHEMY LAW IN THE UK" [EXCERPTS]: In British law, race and religion are increasingly becoming deliberately confused for the purpose of accusing critics of Islam of racism.

A soccer fan was recently arrested on suspicion of inciting racial hatred after allegedly ripping up pages of the Qur'an and throwing them at a match. While on bail, he was also banned from attending any football games, visiting St Andrew's—the stadium of the incident—and going to any city where his team Middlesbrough was playing.

Insults against Islam are taken very seriously in Britain....After the incident, Middlesbrough Football Club suspended six more people, and vowed to ban anyone convicted of the "crime" from the Riverside Stadium, its home ground, for life.

Nobody could answer the question of what race Islam is. Muslims belong to all races, including white. But we know that the word "racism" has lost its original sense, and indeed any sense. Originally the concept of racism had a place and an important role in both ethical and political discourses.

Now it's best avoided because it's lost its positive characteristics, its usefulness, and has instead become a tool for intolerance, intimidation, restriction of freedom of speech and other freedoms, in short a means of oppression.

Since the word "racism" has started being used to refer to many attitudes, behaviors and ideas that had little or nothing to do with racism in the strict sense, its meaning has become progressively larger and larger, correspondingly decreasing its sense.

When today I hear about someone or something being called "racist," I hardly ever believe that it's true. The likeliest explanation, I think to myself, is either an umpteenth case of excessive political correctness, or a personal attack. The descriptive capability of the term has got lost or at least dramatically eroded.

There is at the moment a worrying trend: what has for a long time been a common Leftist ploy, the shouting of "racist" to shut down any criticism of Islam, is now on its way to being enshrined in British law.

(goo.gl/yNXj4z)

PLEASE NOTE: NewsWatch URLs are shortened versions of the original website links and are case sensitive.

T. A.'s Speaking Schedule

- May 1-3** **Great Lakes Pastor's Conference**
Appleton, WI
(920) 735-1242
www.ccappleton.org
- May 4** **Calvary Chapel Madison**
Madison, WI
(608) 273-2911
- Aug 29-31** **TBC Conference**
Bend, OR
(800) 937-6638
www.thebereanall.org
- Sep 6** **Midwest Hebrew Ministries**
Arden Hills, MN
(763) 427-7162
- Oct 17-18** **Discern for Life Youth Conference**
Niles, MI (near S. Bend, IN)
www.discernment-ministries.org

STS 24/7 Broadcast Schedule

- May 9/16** **Don Chittick**
Puzzle of Ancient Man
- May 23/30** **Dave & Tom Classic**
Rick Warren

Listen to Search the Scriptures 24/7 at:
www.thebereanall.org/radio
(Schedule is subject to change.)

Letters

Dear Mr. McMahon,

Thank you so much for suggesting a 15-minute-per-day Bible reading program.

I usually read in a study fashion—book by book—with commentaries and notes. This takes quite a bit of time. As the day gets away from me I often do not get to it. I became frustrated and decided to try your recommendation. I am amazed how easy it is to grab a 15-minute slot daily!...In addition, starting in Genesis and just reading straight through offers a perspective that jumping around does not offer. Thank you so very much! ZL (WY)

Dear Brethren,

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your most appreciated and informative monthly news magazine....In this unit of forty-seven men there are only eight Christians, more than twenty Muslims, and several atheists. We Christians have had to strive just to practice our Christian belief but the Lord told us that it would be so. We who are of the mind of Christ are mocked and ridiculed on a regular basis. I am greatly thankful to all the brethren at The Berean

Call for refreshing articles and insight; for exposing a number of false doctrines and teachers....Please keep up your diligent work in God's work and I will continue to pray that God will strengthen you in His work. RW (IN, prisoner)

Dear Brother McMahon,

So glad you are carrying on the work of Brother Dave. I met him personally two times. We rejoice in being of the same spirit of Truth. I am a psychiatrist, thus rarely get into what all the counselors are passing on called Therapy.... I am 83 years old but still work two days each week and always try to find a way to pass along the things of God to help this burgeoning population who have forsaken God. TF (OK)

Mr. McMahon,

I'm not very good at expressing myself, so receive this in the same spirit I write it. The most disappointing words I hear every week are when you say, "We only have a few minutes left...." Thank you all for your weekly radio program, *Search the Scriptures 24/7*. TF (email)

Dear Tom,

One just has to marvel at how you and Dave put together...*America: The Sorcerer's New Apprentice*. To read it 25+ years after it was first published and to find it more relevant than ever is evidence of your foresightedness and diligence....Much appreciative of your "stick-to-it-ness" and insight! B&MD (WI)

Dear Sir,

Please remove us from your mailing list. We no longer want to receive your magazine. We did not appreciate your recent attack on the Strange Fire Conference.... Your paper used to inform and enlighten believers with great discernment and spiritual food from God's Word. Lately, it seems you are stuck on riding your particular hobby horse. You have gone from being a "Berean" to just harping on your pet peeve. Sadly, *The Berean Call* has simply become *The Arminian Call*. There are a lot more discernment ministries out there who are doing a fine work. We will seek edification from their ministries, and not yours, from now on. JB (WA)

Dear Berean Call,

Thank you so much for the *Search the Scriptures 24/7* with Warren Smith. Several women in my Bible study were very enthusiastic about the devotional book, *Jesus Calling*, which highly concerned me. I ordered the CD of the broadcast and [Smith's book] "*Another Jesus*" *Calling*. After reading and underlining the book, I

brought it to my pastor's attention and gave him the CD and book.

Last Sunday he warned the congregation about *Jesus Calling*. I am so grateful that the Lord used your program to rescue several people from the deception of *Jesus Calling*. Praise God for your ministry! MF (CA)

Dear Mr. McMahon,

Thank you for your December 2013 article titled, *The Secret of Biblical Self-Improvement, Part Two*. It is a wonderfully concise and biblically accurate teaching regarding how a disciple of Jesus Christ should behave regardless of what the world promotes. This is such an important understanding for believers, especially recent generations who are truly wandering aimlessly in the wilderness. I will be sharing this article with many. Thank you for your obedience to God's calling. LK (email)

TBC Notes

Bend in Late August... You'll Love It!

Without trying to sound like I'm working for the Chamber of Commerce, it's hard for me to invite you to our conference here in Bend, Oregon, without giving you some insights into what you will experience in visiting our city in late August (29-31). Locals will tell you that there is no better time of year weatherwise for experiencing the myriad of outdoor activities (unless skiing is your thing) available here.

Even so, all of that takes a back seat to the blessings through wonderful fellowship and excellent teaching that our conferences have provided over the years. This year we are excited to have Ron Merryman, Dick Fisher, Warren Smith, Paul Wilkinson, and yours truly as our speakers. In addition to their edifying messages, they will be available to answer your questions for all to hear immediately following their talks, as well as on a one-to-one basis throughout the conference.

If the Lord has put it upon your heart to attend, our prayer is that He will work out every detail to His glory and your enablement and benefit so that we might be together at the end of this summer.

T. A. McMAHON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

GROWING EVIDENCE OF ONCOMING PERSECUTION — BY EDWIN NEWBY

“Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you” (1 John 3:13). These words were spoken by John. If historical tradition is accurate, he is the only apostle who died of old age. The others were martyred, put to death in a number of ways, including crucifixion, by the sword, thrown from the summit of a building, or beaten to death. Although we are aware that Christians are being martyred in other nations, for several centuries the church in America and the West has enjoyed a peace and safety that is somewhat of an anomaly. Consider John Fox.

John Fox (or Foxe), author of *Fox's Book of Martyrs*, was said to have lived in “respectable circumstances.” Educated at Oxford, he became a Fellow at Magdalen College, where he would “resort to a grove near the college...In these solitary walks he was often heard to [utter] heavy sobs and sighs, and with tears to pour forth his prayers to God. These nightly retirements...gave rise to the first suspicion of his alienation from the Church of Rome. Being pressed for an explanation of this alteration in his conduct,” Fox refused to lie, spoke the truth and was “by the sentence of the college convicted, condemned as a heretic, and expelled” (*Fox's Book of Martyrs*, “Sketch of the Author,” Edited by William Byron Forbush).

Fox eventually fled England and began gathering material for his book *Fox's Book of Martyrs*, documenting the persecutions of Christians from Nero up until his present time.

Today, we have difficulty relating to them in the American church. Groups who have monitored the persecution of evangelicals overseas (such as International Christian Concern) have seen evidence of a disturbing trend in the United States, calling this a “Cold War against the Church” because the violence that will follow has yet to occur. The Family Research Council and Liberty Institute issued a “2013 Survey of Hostility to Religion in America.” There are currently 1,200 “cases of hostility” against religious people—the majority against Christians. Concerning “government restrictions and social hostility towards religion around the globe,” the Pew Forum has raised the level in the United States from “low to moderate” (Morgan, “A Storm Approaches,” *Persecution*, International Christian Concern, Feb. 2014, p.3).

Although biblical faith is not based upon a cross, a nativity scene, or an icon, the world finds these important enough to remove along with anything else suggesting Christianity. Military chaplains face increasing restrictions on their liberty to minister the gospel or pray in the name of Jesus, while Muslims are *gaining* concessions. Muslim taxi drivers are permitted to refuse blind passengers because of their “defiling” seeing-eye dogs. Muslim students at universities have prayer times and prayer rooms, along with ritual footbaths.

Growing evidence has raised concerns for Christians in America. 2013 saw increasing evidence of animosity in the US military toward Christians. Mikey Weinstein (founder of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation), in an interview with Fox News stated that a Christian sharing his faith with another, “. . . is a version of being spiritually raped, and you are being spiritually raped by fundamentalist Christian religious predators.” Though dismissed as an extremist, his presence is testimony for the beliefs of those who have no tolerance for a biblical faith. Their numbers are growing.

Even more recently, “A professor of criminology at the University of North Carolina, Dr. Mike Adams, filed a suit against the university saying he has been routinely discriminated against” for his Christian-based views on social issues “since his conversion to Christianity in 2000. Before his conversion, Dr. Adams was regularly awarded for his work and promoted, . . . (<http://www.persecution.org>).

This should not be surprising. The Lord Jesus warned in John 15:18-21, “If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the

world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me.”

Jo Jin Hye, born in North Korea, experienced first hand the tortures of North Korean authorities as she was beaten, kicked, slapped, and her back whipped with wires. She “was close to execution—for repeated defection, helping other defectors, and interacting with Christians—but escaped death because of prayer: ‘I was between life and death—what had I to lose? I had no fear or doubts, I just prayed. . . God answered them all’” (Devine/Lee, “Fleeing Hell,” *World*, 3/22/14, p. 44).

Now living in the US, “Jo feels her own faith has dwindled as she got ‘a little too comfortable’ with her religious liberties in America. It’s a vastly different spiritual landscape in North Korea, where ‘just by professing your faith, you can get killed. . . . You’re putting your life at risk by becoming a Christian’” (ibid.). Jo Jin Hye’s concerns may not last too long. Evidence is mounting that the liberties of Christians in America are at risk. “It was in 2010 that analysts began to notice a change in the language of government ‘servants.’ Movement away from the traditionally accepted term of ‘freedom of religion’ to the phrase ‘freedom of worship’ became commonplace.

“The term ‘freedom of worship’ is a concept utilized in places like Russia and Hitler’s Germany. Generally speaking the term ‘freedom of worship’ means that individuals are given permission to ‘worship’ whomever or whatever they like as long as they do it in a church or in the privacy of their home. Otherwise all ‘religious’ activities are considered an affront to statism” (Rayphe, “Is There Christian Persecution in America? Report 2013,” <http://christianpersecutioninamerica.com/2013/07/08>).

Though far lighter than what believers face in other countries, even secular commentators have seen a growing body of evidence is developing. For example, “Even Ira Glass, an atheist and secular Jew, recently mentioned that Christians are portrayed as ‘doctrinaire crazy hothead people.’ He went on to talk about the Christians he knows personally and how they are nothing like the way they’re portrayed in the media; indicating that Christians are unfairly treated” (Brennan, “Religious Persecution in the U.S.? Christians are Fair Game,” *Nevada Business*, 10/1/13).

This nation, like all nations, has an appointment with endtime events. Scripture prophesies a future ruler who “. . . shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High. . . .” (Daniel 7:25).

In 2 Timothy 3:12, Paul echoed these warnings, “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” It has never been a matter of “if” but rather of “when.”

There is a cost for following the Lord Jesus, who preached, “Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man’s sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets” (Luke 6:22-23).

As believers, our focus is not that the world hates us. Rather, with the approach of the man of sin (2 Thessalonians 2:3), we know that whatever sufferings believers may face, “The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth. The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming” (Psalm 37:12-13).

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, “Brethren, pray for us” (1 Thessalonians 5:25). Let us also remember to pray for our brethren in this present age.

[TBC: We are thankful to report that Dr. Mike Adams won his lawsuit against UNC.]

WHO DROVE THE ARABS OUT OF ISRAEL?

EXCERPTED FROM CHAPTER FIVE OF *Judgment Day!* BY DAVE HUNT

THE ACCUSATION has been widely publicized and believed that the Israelis drove nearly a million Arabs out of Palestine during the 1948 war. This is the foundation for the demands that the “Palestinians” make for the right of return to their former villages. There were some instances where Arab civilians who were sheltering, helping, or hiding attacking Arab soldiers were forced to leave. But most of the Arabs who fled did so in spite of Israeli promises of safety and pleas to stay.... Many left before Israel declared its independence and the war had really begun.

It was the *Arab military* that warned Arab civilians to “get out” and declared that those who remained would be considered traitors to the Arab cause. Nevertheless, they are the only “refugees” in the Middle East, as far as the world is concerned, and to whom all the sympathy is given. No thought is given to the Jewish refugees who, in far larger numbers, were either expelled or managed to flee Muslim countries in 1948.

On April 22, 1948 (three weeks before Israel declared itself a nation), Aubrey Lippincott, US Consul-General in Haifa, stated that “local mufti-dominated Arab leaders [were urging] all Arabs to leave the city, and large numbers did so.”⁷¹ About the same time, Haifa’s British police chief, A. J. Bridmead, reported, “Every effort is being made by the Jews to persuade the Arab population to remain.” A foreign visitor reported: “In Tiberias I saw a placard affixed to a sealed Arab Mosque that read, ‘We did not dispossess them [and] the day will come when the Arabs will return to their homes and property in this town...let no citizen touch their property.’ It was signed by the Jewish Town Council of Tiberias.”⁷²

...A Jordanian newspaper reported, “The Arab States encouraged the Palestine Arabs to leave their homes temporarily in order to be out of the way of the Arab invasion armies.”⁷³ Another Jordanian newspaper quoted a complaining refugee: “The Arab government told us: ‘Get out so that we can get in. So we got out, but they did not get in.’”⁷⁴ ...Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri Said declared: “We will smash the country with our guns and obliterate every place where the Jews seek shelter. The Arabs should conduct their wives and children to safe areas until the fighting has died down.”⁷⁵ Syrian Prime Minister, Khaled al Azm, later admitted, “Since 1948 we have been demanding the return of the refugees.... But we ourselves are the ones who encouraged them to leave.”⁷⁶ Jordan’s King Hussein stated in 1960: “Since 1948, Arab leaders have approached the Palestine problem in an irresponsible manner. They have used the Palestine people for selfish political purposes. This is ridiculous and I could say even criminal.”

OVERWHELMING TESTIMONY

The *New York Times* reported that “The mass evacuation, prompted partly by fear, partly by orders of Arab leaders, left the Arab quarter of Haifa a ghost city....”⁷⁷ The Arab National Committee in Jerusalem, following instructions of the Arab Higher Committee, ordered women, children, and the elderly in various parts of Jerusalem to leave their homes and warned, “Any opposition to this order...is an obstacle to the holy war...and will hamper the operations of the fighters in these districts.”⁷⁸

Emil Ghory, secretary of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee, admitted, “The fact that there are those refugees is the direct consequence of the action of the Arab states in opposing partition and the Jewish state. The Arab states agreed upon this policy unanimously....”⁷⁹ Arafat’s successor, the Palestinian Authority’s current

prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, admitted in writing, “The Arab armies, who invaded the country in ’48, forced the Palestinians to emigrate and leave their homeland and forced a political and ideological siege on them.”¹⁰ According to a British report, “Of the 62,000 Arabs who formerly lived in Haifa not more than 5,000 or 6,000 remained...the most potent [factors in the Arab flight]... were the announcements made over the air by the Higher Arab Executive urging all Arabs to leave...[and] that those Arabs who remained in Haifa and accepted Jewish protection would be regarded as renegades.”¹¹

While visiting Palestinian Arab refugee camps in Lebanon and Jordan, Carl Hermann Voss was told by the refugees themselves that “the Arab High Command ordered them out of Palestine during the 1948 war...told [them] that the Jews in Palestine would be annihilated within a few weeks and that the Arab Liberation Army did not want to worry about any fellow Arabs getting in the way of such a devastating Arab jihad. Those Palestinian refugees were bitter at their Arab compatriots who had left them homeless.... [But] four decades later he would be reading about the intense hatred harbored toward the Jewish people by the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of those refugees.... Accounts of Arab negligence and Arab miscalculation during the 1948 war had been forgotten, having been replaced with stories of Jewish ‘atrocities.’”¹²

ISLAM’S RECORD OF OPPRESSION AND SLAUGHTER

The hatred against all Jews, which comes not from being an Arab but specifically from Islamic teaching, was reflected in the inhumane treatment of Jews in Arab countries ever since Islam took over. Prior to the seventh century and the advent of the prophet Muhammad and Islam, as...Joan Peters points out from her exhaustive research in her book, *From Time Immemorial*, “Jews and Arabs did have harmonious relations, and words of praise regarding the noble virtues of the Jews may be found in ancient Arab literature. Indeed, Muhammad himself in the early years, as he was seeking recognition as a prophet, looked with favor upon both Jews and Christians and cultivated their friendship.” But that turned to hatred when they rejected him as “the prophet of Allah.”

Though Muhammad continued to call Christians and Jews “the people of the book,” the fierce hatred that had begun when they rejected him continued to grow. The Qur’an declares, “O ye who believe! Take not the Jews and the Christians for friends.”¹³ Muhammad’s dying words were, “May Allah curse the Christians and Jews!” What a contrast to Christ’s teaching that we are to love all mankind as ourselves,¹⁴ and to His dying words spoken specifically of those who had tortured and crucified Him—but also of all mankind: “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”¹⁵

The oppression of Jews and Christians in Arab countries throughout the centuries after the birth of Islam was at times almost beyond description. Hundreds of books have been written about this evil, but thousands could not contain the full record....

In A.D. 1012, one Caliph in Egypt, al-Hakim of the Fatimids, furious at failing to convert Jews and Christians to Allah despite threats and humiliation, destroyed Cairo’s Jewish quarter along with its residents.¹⁶ A new community eventually grew in its place. They had no country of their own. There was never a way of escape and nowhere to go.... In early nineteenth-century Egypt, Jews were “held in the utmost contempt and abhorrence by the Muslims in general...detested by the Muslims far more than Christians...jostled

in the streets of Cairo...beaten merely for passing on the right hand of a Muslim...dared not utter a word of abuse when reviled or beaten unjustly by the meanest Arab or Turk; for many a Jew has been put to death upon a false and malicious accusation of uttering disrespectful words against the Qur'an or the Prophet...[or has been] sacrificed to save a Muslim...."¹⁷

In the 1940s, organized anti-Jewish riots injured or killed many Jews in Egypt. Egypt passed a law that made it nearly impossible for a Jew to find employment, the government confiscated much Jewish property, and within a few months Jews were reduced to financial ruin. After the UN partitioned Palestine on November 29, 1947, "Jews in Cairo and Alexandria were threatened with death, their houses were looted, and synagogues were attacked."¹⁸

THE FORGOTTEN JEWISH REFUGEES

In 1948, as soon as a national Jewish homeland was created, more than 850,000 Jews fled (most of them to Israel for refuge) from Muslim lands where they had lived for 2,000 or more years, leaving behind virtually everything they had possessed. This was far more than the number of Arab refugees who fled from Israel during the War of Independence. Beginning in 1947 and accelerating in 1948 and thereafter, there has been an aggressive effort on the part of the international community to assist the "Palestinian" refugees. Many programs have been put into action and billions of dollars expended for their assistance. During the same period, no concern has been expressed by the United Nations for the plight of some 856,000 Jewish refugees who fled severe persecution in (or were forcibly expelled from) Arab lands. There have been more than 680 UN General Assembly resolutions dealing with every aspect of the Middle East Arab-Israeli conflict. More than 100 have dealt specifically with the "plight of Palestinian refugees." In none of these, nor in any others, has the slightest concern been expressed for the even larger number of Jewish refugees from Arab lands.

This has not been due to ignorance. On many occasions, the Israeli government, the World Organization of Jews from Arab Countries (WOJAC), and other agencies, have brought to the attention of the UN and its affiliates the numbers of and circumstances creating the far larger number of Jewish refugees, and have appealed for help. Numerous times, the mistreatment of Jews in Muslim countries...has been brought to the attention of the UN: by Golda Meir on November 27 and 30, 1956; on December 21, 1956, by Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., as US Representative to the UN; on December 2, 1968, to then UN Secretary General U-Thant by the International League for the Rights of Man (non-Jewish), and on many other occasions. The appeals fell on deaf ears.

...How could more than 850,000 refugees be overlooked by the United Nations and the world? Yet these Jewish refugees who fled the unbelievably inhumane persecution and slaughter they and their forebears had endured for centuries are ignored at the UN and in the media....Here is anti-Semitism in raw form!... [This] violates everything the United Nations is supposed to stand for [and] has no rational explanation. It can only be a continuing manifestation of the Satanic hatred against God's chosen people foretold by His prophets—a hatred and persecution that would dog the steps of Jews worldwide until Israel's national repentance. The prophets foretold both Israel's persistent rebellion through the centuries and the resulting punishment that would not be finished until Armageddon had drained the last bitter drop of the cup of God's judgment.

...It should be infuriating to anyone with even a minimal sense of fairness...that in the continuing concern expressed in repeated international conferences that discuss the plight of the Palestinian refugees, no concern is expressed, nor is any mention made, regarding the far greater number of Jewish refugees from Muslim lands.

Of course, they are no longer refugees, having been absorbed into normal life in Israel. Nor would there be any "Palestinians" remaining in that category had the Arab nations, with their vast wealth and resources, accepted them—but they refused....

THE ONE EXCEPTION!

In the last 100 years, there have been about 100 million displaced persons who have fled from violence in their former homelands to be taken in as refugees by neighboring countries.... No one has called for their return to the homes from which they fled—nor for a return of any of the other 85 million. This is the rule and practice.

Ah, but there is *one* exception—the "Palestinians." In March 1976, Matthew Mitchell, then director of the United States Committee for Refugees, declared in all seriousness in an interview that in contrast to "the world situation... Arab refugees are a special case."¹⁹ These exploited victims of Arab hatred against Israel, deliberately kept on display in squalid camps, must be received back to Israel in order to destroy her—so says world opinion.... If justice demands that the "Palestinians" return to Israel, why isn't there an equal cry of justice for the even larger number of Jews to be allowed back into Muslim lands? The answer to that question, as we are emphasizing, is indisputable proof of the pervasive anti-Semitism that the Bible prophesied the Jews would suffer until the Messiah returns at Armageddon to rescue them.

In contrast to the favored treatment of Arab refugees, the full story of the inhuman treatment of Jewish refugees during World War II (let alone throughout the centuries) would fill a library. One seldom-mentioned crime was the deliberate drowning of hundreds in the Black Sea. On December 12, 1941, the *Struma* left Constanta, Romania, bound for "Palestine." The 769 Jewish refugees aboard (including 103 children and infants) were fleeing the Nazi Holocaust and had paid exorbitant fees, only to find themselves escaping Hitler on a dilapidated Greek cattle barge with only one bathroom, an engine that kept breaking down, and scarcely room for 100 people. The fare was supposed to have included entry visas to be picked up in Istanbul.

When the disabled vessel was finally towed into Istanbul with a dead engine, the *Struma* was anchored in a quarantine section of the port and no one (including the crew) was allowed ashore. There the passengers endured a living hell for seventy-one days. The only water and food was supplied by Jewish benefactors. It was then that the refugees learned that they were victims of a hoax more cruel than they had imagined—the promised "immigration certificates" in Istanbul did not exist.

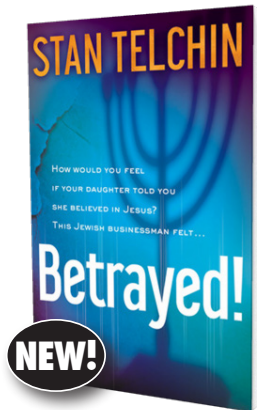
The British, who controlled "Palestine" under a mandate to make it the Jewish national home but kept Jews out, forbade the Turkish government to allow the *Struma* through the Bosphorus Strait to the Mediterranean—a needless prohibition because all efforts to repair the engine failed. To return to Romania—even if possible—would have meant death. Finally, on February 23, 1942, under British pressure, Turkish police forcibly came aboard, cut the anchor chains, and towed the helpless vessel, with its occupants, far into the Black Sea. The *Struma* was blown apart and sunk early the next morning by a Russian sub, for which the sub's commander, Lieutenant Denezhko, was given a medal. The lone survivor (except for one pregnant woman allowed ashore to have her baby) was 19-year-old David Stoliar, who, though near death and unable to walk, was confined to a Turkish jail. He is presently a resident of Bend, Oregon, and was interviewed by the author.

ENDNOTES FOR THIS ARTICLE ARE LOCATED ON P. 5.

SEE PAGE 2 FOR A SPECIAL OFFER FOR

Judgment Day! Israel, Islam, and the Nations

NEW BIOGRAPHIES! CAPTIVATING STORIES OF RESCUE AND SALVATION

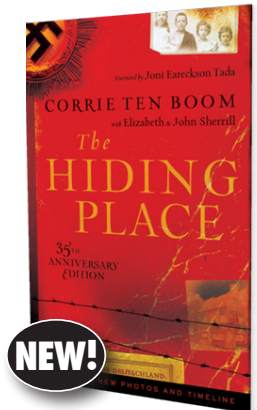


Betrayed!

Telchin—*Betrayed!* is the page-turning account of a loving Jewish family caught on divergent prongs of a historic conflict. When Stan Telchin's daughter accepts Jesus as her Messiah, she makes a touching plea for him to search out the truth for himself. Intending to prove her wrong, Telchin sets out on a vigorous and critical examination of the claims of Jesus Christ. He is astonished at what he learns and finds himself facing a wrenching and life changing decision. As readers travel with Telchin, they too will discover a deeper, fuller awareness of both Judaism and Christian-

ity, as well as how God can heal wounds from the bitterest conflicts. Even more, readers will discover the inexorable power of the gospel. This new edition includes an update from the author and wisdom filled words on Jewish identity. Chosen, 158 pp.

B94231 Retail \$14.99 — 2 or more just \$11.20 each! wt .5 **\$14.00**



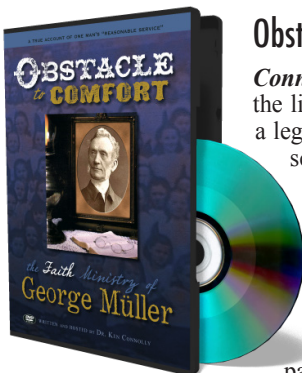
The Hiding Place

Ten Boom—Corrie ten Boom was a Dutch watchmaker who became a heroine of the Resistance, a survivor of Hitler's concentration camps, and one of the most remarkable evangelists of the twentieth century. In World War II she and her family risked their lives to help Jews and underground workers escape from the Nazis, and for their work they were tested in the infamous Nazi death camps. Only Corrie among her family survived to tell the story of how faith ultimately triumphs over evil. Here is the riveting account of how Corrie and her family were able to save many of God's

chosen people. For 35 years millions have seen that there is no pit so deep that God's love is not deeper still. Now *The Hiding Place*, repackaged for a new generation of readers, continues to declare that God's love will overcome, heal, and restore. Chosen, 269 pp.

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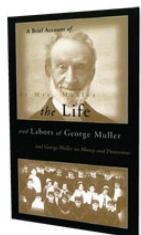


Obstacle to Comfort

Connolly—*Obstacle to Comfort* is a 52-minute video on the life of George Müller of Bristol. The man became a legend in his own generation. He was the builder of schools, a supporter of missions, and a father of some 10,000 orphans. The amazing issue of his life does not lie with what he did but in how he accomplished it. He operated by faith. He relied solely on God to meet all his needs. He refused to accept donations from unbelievers, and when he started his scriptural knowledge institution to accomplish these tasks, between him and his partner they possessed no more than one shilling, or twelve pence. He refused to inform anybody regarding

his needs, mentioning them only to God, in private, on his knees. But look at what he accomplished! An inspiring documentary. Narrated by Ken Connolly. 52 min.

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The Life and Labors of George Müller

Müller—Written by Müller's second wife, Susannah, this book is a concise, faithful, and intriguing overview of Müller's remarkable life and work. It was intended to provide a low-cost, condensed version of Mr. Müller's multi-volume *Narrative*, which had ignited a revival that swept through Ireland, England, Europe, and even into Asia Minor beginning in the mid 1800s. Includes a collection of his journal entries titled, *George Müller on Money and Possessions*. Christian Communicators Worldwide, 161 pp.

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This set includes *Obstacle to Comfort* DVD and *The Life and Labors of George Müller*

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The following videos capture inspirational testimony's that will light a fire in your heart for revival!



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The Berean Call—Ken Connolly, producer and narrator of the moving documentary on the life of George Müller, *Obstacle to Comfort*, delivers this stirring two-part examination of the Revival of 1859, including important historical

examples and a biblical definition of true revival. Re-mastered from VHS originals, this powerful program is perhaps even more needed today than when it was first produced. 1 DVD, 67 min. Retail \$15.99

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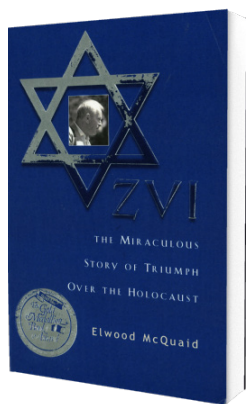
Three Themes of a Hero

The Berean Call—TBC is pleased to present this inspiring—and convicting—presentation by Paul Wilkinson, featured at our 2011 Summer Bible Conference. Wilkinson passionately recounts

“The Three Themes of a Hero” as first noted by William Andrew of Glasgow in his 1912 tribute to Baptist pastor, John Harper. Harper, along with his six-year-old daughter, was a passenger on the ill-fated *Titanic*. 1 DVD, 58 min. Retail \$12.99

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THE MIRACULOUS ACCOUNT OF ZVI A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR



ZVI: The Miraculous Story of Triumph Over the Holocaust

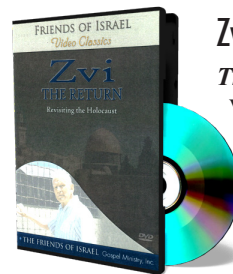
McQuaid—For more than half a century, *ZVI* has endured as the best-selling book produced by the ministry of The Friends of Israel. Millions of people have been touched, inspired, and encouraged by this story of a World War II waif in Warsaw, Poland. As a 10-year-old Jewish boy, Zvi was separated from his parents and forced to face the trials of survival in Adolph Hitler's crazed world. How he triumphed against all odds and found his way to Israel and faith in the Messiah is one of the great stories of our time. Now *ZVI* and the sequel, *ZVI and the Next Generation*, are combined in a new book, *ZVI: The Miraculous Story of Triumph Over the Holocaust*. The whole story—together at last and updated with new information

that will thrill your heart. This is a book you will find difficult to put down. Friends of Israel, 352 pp. Retail \$12.95

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Zvi: The Return

The Friends of Israel—Zvi visits his childhood home in Warsaw, Poland, and reflects on his experiences more than half a century after the Holocaust. This highly acclaimed documentary chronicles Zvi's return and reenacts his life during World War II and his immigration to Israel in 1948. The amazing story, shot on location, is guaranteed to inspire you as it reveals the lengths to which a loving God will go to bring one soul safely home. 1 DVD, 75 min. Retail \$14.95

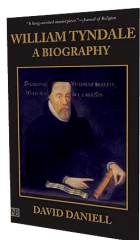
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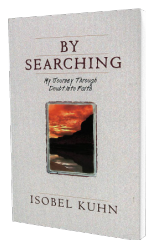
ADDITIONAL BIOGRAPHIES INSPIRATIONAL TESTIMONIES OF GOD'S GRACE!



William Tyndale: A Biography

Daniell—This major biography traces the dramatic life of William Tyndale, the first person to translate the Bible into English from the original Greek and Hebrew, and discusses the profound religious, literary, intellectual, and social implications of his immense achievement. Tyndale's Bible formed the basis of all English Bibles and made significant and lasting contributions to the English language. Yale University Press, 429 pp. Retail \$22.00

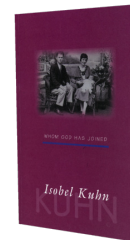
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By Searching

Kuhn—Isobel Miller gave up God for worldly pursuits. But as graduation approached and her engagement was broken, she questioned that decision. "If You will prove to me that You are, and if You will give me peace, I will give You my whole life." God heard Isobel's prayers and responded. He reached out to her, ending years of searching and building her up for decades of fruitful missionary service with her husband, John Kuhn, in China. Moody Publishers, 160 pp. Retail \$6.99

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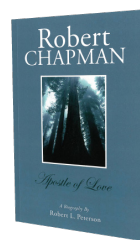


Whom God Has Joined

Kuhn—John and Isobel Kuhn were two ordinary people who made an extraordinary commitment—to put "God first." With transparent honesty and humor, Isobel shares stories from her life as a missionary wife in China.

Her exuberance and colorful style make those far-away places seem as close as next door, while her deep faith in God speaks to the deep needs we all experience. Overseas Missionary Fellowship, Int'l., 122 pp. Retail \$8.99

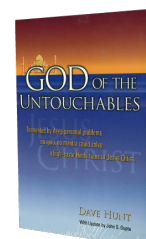
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Robert Chapman: Apostle of Love

Peterson—Although he is not widely known today, Robert Chapman was one of the most respected Christians of his generation. This remarkable man served God in the small town of Barnstaple, England, during the nineteenth century. Chapman deliberately avoided publicity because he did not want the attention that rightly belonged to the Lord. Yet at the end of his life he was known throughout the world for his great compassion, wisdom, and love. Lewis & Roth, 210 pp. Retail \$13.99

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God of the Untouchables

Hunt—Dave Hunt tells the poignantly human, true story of a young Hindu raised in the heart of India, who found the Salvation that all men seek! A brilliant student, Paul Gupta failed in school. A devoted son, he stole from his father. A devout Hindu, named for a god, he succumbed to debauchery. And now, here he was, enrolled at the Bible Institute of Los Angeles! Where was the God of the Untouchables leading him? Straight Street Publishing, 140 pp. Retail \$10.00

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The Light That Was Dark

Smith—Warren Smith's fascinating spiritual journey begins with a dramatic reading by a traveling psychic. After that, a number of mysterious, seemingly "meant to be" personal encounters and spiritual experiences propel him forward on his journey. Follow the trail as a bewildered Smith and the woman who is soon to become his wife are compelled to come to terms with the nature of good and evil. After surfacing from a series of tumultuous and harrowing incidents, he shares his journey's startling and inescapable conclusion. Mountain Stream Press, 167 pp. Retail \$14.95

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TBC BOOKSHELF RESOURCES ON ISRAEL AND ISLAM

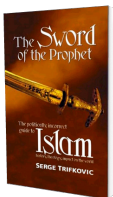


Battle for the Last Days Temple

Price—Middle East expert Randall Price provides fascinating answers based on archaeological evidence, historical records, and exclusive interviews with

those at the forefront of the Temple movement. Along the way, he shows how today's headlines about the Temple Mount line up with what the Bible says about the future. Harvest House Publishers, 331 pp. Retail \$12.99

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The Sword of the Prophet

Trifkovic—In *The Sword of the Prophet*, the reader receives the unvarnished truth about the rise of Islam and the patterns set by its founder, Muhammad; the historical meaning of jihad against

the (non-Muslim) infidel that we see today in the al-Qaeda terror network; the broad sweep of the global military, political, moral, and spiritual struggle that faces us. Regina Orthodox Press, 312 pp. Retail \$19.95

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Myths and Facts

Bard—This classic guide contains 25 chapters covering everything from Israel's roots to each of the wars to the events following September 11. In addition to discussions of the

historical issues and current events, the book has a collection of maps and key documents, such as Resolution 242 and the Hamas Covenant. The facts are footnoted and a wide variety of sources have been consulted, from Arabic, Hebrew, and English newspapers to scholarly journals and books. American-Israeli, 374 pp. Retail \$14.95

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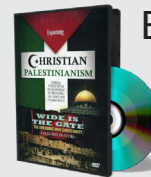


Who Is This Allah?

Moshay—Many people in the West have little knowledge of Islam, and many Muslims have not been taught the difference between the teaching of the Bible and the teaching of the

Qur'an. Hence, this book is timely for both Muslims and Christians. Dorchester House Publications, 183 pp. Retail \$12.99

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Exposing Christian Palestinianism

Caryl Productions—Caryl Matriciana narrates this informative three-part documentary

featuring Dave Hunt and Paul Wilkinson. Each powerful program is approximately 35 minutes in length and features fast-moving, graphic footage that exposes the rising tide of apostasy gripping today's church regarding modern Israel. 1 DVD, 107 min. Retail \$24.95

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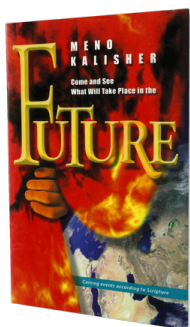


The New Barbarians

Caryl Productions—*The New Barbarians* tells the horrible story of the radical Jihad movement within Islam, which incites children to hatred, violence and killing. 1 DVD, 63 min. Retail \$24.95

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visuals and a unique timeline across each spread of pages that shows major future events, Kalisher explains the effect of these events on the Jews, Gentiles, the church, Tribulation Saints, and the Remnant of Israel. Jerusalem Assembly, 35 pp. Retail \$5.95

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ABOUT MENO KALISHER:

Kalisher serves as a Pastor of Jerusalem Assembly — House of Redemption and as a Bible Teacher at inter-congregational conventions and activities in Israel and abroad. Meno and his wife Anat have four children. His father Zvi is a Jewish survivor of the Nazi holocaust (see p. 13 of these resource pages).

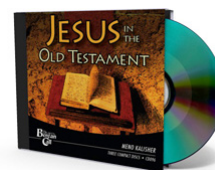


Jesus in the Hebrew Scriptures

Kalisher—Jesus in the Hebrew Scriptures? Wasn't He supposed to be in the New Testament only? Well, of course He is featured in the prophecies that foretell His first and second coming, and this book has a detailed look at some of them. But did you know that throughout the Hebrew narrative Jesus was also there in person? Did you know that He was seen not

only by some of the well-known heroes of the faith but that He also met and conversed with some of the less prominent Jewish figures? Let us turn to the Hebrew Scriptures and see what they teach about Jesus. Jerusalem Assembly, 176 pp. Retail \$9.95

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Jesus in the Old Testament

The Berean Call—This Old Testament survey was presented at the 2002 Winnipeg Prophecy Conference. Meno Kalisher is pastor of the Jerusalem Assembly House of Redemption, located in Jerusalem, Israel. He is a representative of The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc. 3 CDs, 3.6 hours. Retail \$15.99

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Union. As Hans recounts to Dave, he quickly came to a startling realization: “I was staggered by the relationship these people had with God, because it raised a devastating question: If this was Christianity, then what was the game we were playing in the West?” Originally titled *Mission Possible* in 1975, this exclusive TBC edition is a facsimile of the 1987 Harvest House edition titled *Secret Invasion*, with a redesigned commemorative cover. The Berean Call, 223 pp. Retail \$12.99

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“Only one who has felt the nearness of death can truly be grateful for each new day, no matter how much suffering it might bring.” Thus speaks Maria Linke, survivor of nine years’ imprisonment in the death camps and prisons of Stalin’s Russia following World War II. We are grateful to Ruth Hunt for the opportunity to preserve this valuable literary work, and we present it as a true Christian classic for edification, enrichment, and enjoyment. The Berean Call, 240 pp. Retail \$14.99

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