

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

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

## Victory Over Sin

Dave Hunt — Last published in October 2006

TORN BETWEEN their sincere desire to serve and honor their Lord and the inner turmoil of fleshly lusts and the seductive pull of worldly pleasures and honors, many Christians struggle to live for Christ. For them, Christianity involves great effort, little joy, much frustration and disillusionment, and the loss (when they have enough will power to deny themselves) of so much they once enjoyed in life. They struggle to avoid Paul’s list of “don’ts” in Colossians 3:5-8: “Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry...put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.” Failing repeatedly, they repent remorsefully and puzzle over their inability to live as they know they should—but seemingly can’t.

They fare no better with Paul’s list of “do’s” that follows (vv. 12-25): “Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving...put on charity....Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly....And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him...[etc.]”

Is it really possible to be sweet, kind, humble, loving, and forgiving at all times? The spirit is willing, but the flesh proves ever to be embarrassingly weak. How can one live up to the high standards the Bible sets for Christian living? Is there some secret to victory we are overlooking? The two key expressions, “mortify” in verse 5 and “put on” in verse 12, only increase the bewilderment and sense of failure. Is it really possible to “put to death” ungodly desires and, shedding that body of evil, as it were, to be clothed in a resurrection body of godliness? Surely Paul, led of the Holy Spirit, is not taunting us with goals that cannot be attained and that, in fact, are not at all practical. Was he not, himself, an example of this kind of life, and did he not say more than once, “Be ye followers of me even as I also am of Christ” (1 Cor 11:1, etc.)? Then why do we fail? From whence comes the motivation and the strength to accomplish what is at once so desirable and yet so seemingly impossible?

There is a general failure to recognize the importance of one little word that occurs in both verses 5 and 12. It holds the answer

to our dilemma. Paul does not say, “Mortify your members” and “Put on...bowels of mercies, kindness....” That would impose a “do-it-yourself” religion of gritting one’s teeth in determination and struggling to live up to high moral standards—no different from the atheist’s or Buddhist’s attempt to do the same. That is not Christianity! Paul carefully and pointedly says, “Mortify *therefore*... Put on *therefore*....” Clearly “therefore” refers to something that Paul is convinced gives the Christian the motivation and power to do what he is commanding and lifts the Christian above the impossible struggle of flesh trying to live a godly life. It is, therefore, the Christian’s secret to a happy, fruitful and holy life pleasing to God.

The mortifying of the old deeds and the putting on of the new is possible only because, as the previous verses declare, “Ye are dead, and...your life is hid with Christ in God” (Col 3:2). Certainly the same thing could not be said of the followers of Buddha, Muhammad, Krishna, et al. Christianity is thus unique and separated from all religions. Herein lies the secret dynamic of the Christian life. Why, then, doesn’t every Christian experience this power in daily living? Sadly, many who call themselves Christians have a very superficial understanding of the gospel they claim to have embraced: “[H]ow that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day...” (1 Cor 15:3-4).

For many who believe that Christ died for their sins, this event is more mystical than historical. The horrible death on the Cross is something that happened to Christ but has only a theoretical rather than practical connection to them. They have such a faulty understanding of what Christ’s death means that they are not true Christians at all. They have imagined that the death of Christ in their place delivered them from their deserved eternal punishment in hell, so that, like Barabbas, they could live as they pleased.

They have never desired what Paul rejoiced in: “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me” (Gal 2:20).

Paul was not expressing an inspiring but empty platitude. For that great apostle, the Cross was no mere religious symbol, but the place where he had died to life as he would have lived it and had begun to experience the very life of Christ being lived in him. He knew that Christ gives resurrection life; therefore only those who have died can experience it. With wonder, amazement and deep gratitude he realized that Christ had actually taken his

IF YE THEN BE RISEN WITH CHRIST,  
SEEK THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE  
ABOVE, WHERE CHRIST SITTETH ON  
THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.

SET YOUR AFFECTION ON THINGS  
ABOVE, NOT ON THINGS ON THE EARTH.

FOR YE ARE DEAD, AND YOUR LIFE IS  
HID WITH CHRIST IN GOD.

WHEN CHRIST, WHO IS OUR LIFE,  
SHALL APPEAR, THEN SHALL YE ALSO  
APPEAR WITH HIM IN GLORY.

MORTIFY THEREFORE YOUR  
MEMBERS WHICH ARE UPON THE  
EARTH; FORNICATION, UNCLEANNESS,  
INORDINATE AFFECTION, EVIL  
CONCUPISCENCE, AND COVETOUSNESS,  
WHICH IS IDOLATRY...

— Colossians 3:1-5

place before a righteous, holy God—and that God had put Christ to death in payment for his (Paul’s) sins. Therefore, Paul was a dead man. Christ’s death in his place was literally his own death, and he rejoiced in that fact. If he was to experience life thereafter, it must be the resurrected Christ living in him.

The transformation in Paul was at once remarkable, yet not surprising. The most seductive temptation Satan can devise will arouse no response from a dead man. Insult a dead man to his face, and he will not retaliate in anger. As a dead man, Paul experienced a new freedom over sin that he had never known before! Yet, in spite of being dead, Paul was more alive than he had ever been: “I am crucified...nevertheless, I live.” Dead to sin, he was alive to God through Christ. So real was this to Paul, that it was as though Christ himself were living in him—and, indeed, He was! Christ had become his very life—and this, said Paul, was what Christianity was all about!

Paul reminded the saints at Colosse that victory over sin and self was not possible through willpower and fleshly struggle. True victory could come only through understanding and believing what it really meant that Christ had died for their sins and had been resurrected for their justification. Paul declared that this was the secret of his own complete transformation—and so it must be with them.

But how could Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection be as real to them as it was to Paul—so real that their very lives would be totally transformed? Paul explained: They must believe that Christ was coming any moment to take them to heaven, where they would thereafter appear with Him in glory! It was the hope of Christ’s imminent return that would make the difference between victory and defeat in the Christian life!

That this hope is the key to victorious living is clear. Notice again Paul’s staggering declaration: “When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory[!] Mortify therefore....”

That was such a vibrant hope and of such certain accomplishment that Paul began this entire section with the statement, “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth” (Col 3:1-2). Herein lay the secret to the godly life that Paul himself lived and expected of the Colossians as well. They were to be so heavenly minded that the things of this earth would have no appeal and thus no power over them.

Nor was this orientation away from earth toward heaven to be merely a “mental attitude” they had adopted without any basis in reality. It was not wishful “positive thinking” but truth that would change their lives. Through Christ’s cross Christians have been crucified to the world and the world has been crucified to them, as Paul had firmly declared (Gal 6:14). A man who has just been taken down, dead, from a cross has no interest in this world nor does it have any claims upon him. The person crucified and those who crucified him have nothing further to do with each other. So it is with the Christian and the world through the cross of Christ. The vicious hatred this world has for Christ, and its irreconcilable animosity against all that He stands for, have been fully exposed in its rejection and crucifixion of our Lord. Christ declared that the world would hate and persecute us as it had Him (Jn 15:18-20;16:2;17:14). By His cross we have been cut off from this world just as surely as He has been.

Death, however, did not end it all. Christ rose triumphant from the grave and ascended to the right hand of the Father in heaven. Moreover, He is coming again in power and glory to judge and take vengeance upon those who have rejected Him—and we, who have identified ourselves with Him in His rejection and death, will participate in His triumph and glory. Nor is that Second Coming so far in the future that it has no practical meaning for us now. On the contrary, it could occur today. The glorious fulfillment of the hope that the gospel has instilled within our hearts could burst upon us at any moment! This fact causes eternity to invade the present and makes the Christian no longer of this world!

Hear Paul say it again: “For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.” Consenting to be dead and willing for Christ to be their life was not only the Colossians’ basis for victory but the essential meaning of the gospel they must embrace. Otherwise,

there could be no salvation. Without that, they were mere Barabbases, grateful that Christ had died in their place but mistakenly assuming that they had been “saved” in order to live for self. If they were not willing to acknowledge Christ’s death as their very own and to give up life as they would have lived it so that Christ could become their life, then they could not experience the victory over sin and self that Paul preached. Indeed, they had not consented to the message of the gospel at all!

And what made the fact of their death, burial, and resurrection with Christ the dynamic power that transformed their lives? It was this promise: “When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.” Once that truth had gripped their hearts so that His “appearing” had become their daily expectation and hope, Christ’s death and resurrection were so real to them in the present that they were changed into new persons. As such, Paul told them, they were to “seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your

affection on things above, not on things on the earth.” May we each pursue that challenge wholeheartedly!

The “pretribulation Rapture” is thus no mere hair-splitting thesis for theologians to discuss, nor is it a theory without practical effect. It is the overlooked secret to victory in the Christian’s life. John said, “Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he [Christ] is pure” (1 Jn 3:3). Paul indicated that it had been his love of Christ’s appearing that had motivated him to holiness and faithfulness and had made him victorious—and that the same “crown of righteousness” was for “all them also that love his [Christ’s] appearing” (2 Tm 4:8). On the other hand, Christ associated wickedness with failing to love His appearing: “But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to smite his fellow-servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken...” (Mt 24:48,49).

Let us diligently and enthusiastically “seek those things that are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.” Let us “set [our] affection on things above, not on things on the earth.” Why? “For our conversation [citizenship] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself” (Phil 3:20-21). Praise God!

TBC

BEHOLD, WHAT MANNER OF LOVE THE FATHER HATH BESTOWED UPON US, THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED THE SONS OF GOD: THEREFORE THE WORLD KNOWETH US NOT, BECAUSE IT KNEW HIM NOT.

BELOVED, NOW ARE WE THE SONS OF GOD, AND IT DOTHT NOT YET APPEAR WHAT WE SHALL BE: BUT WE KNOW THAT, WHEN HE SHALL APPEAR, WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM; FOR WE SHALL SEE HIM AS HE IS.

AND EVERY MAN THAT HATH THIS HOPE IN HIM PURIFIETH HIMSELF, EVEN AS HE IS PURE.

— 1 John 3:1-3

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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

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

**QUESTION:** A Christian friend recently asked us if it is wrong to burn wood and use it to heal people. She says that her father used to do it in Morocco—he was not a believer. Apparently, the idea is to burn wood, then extinguish the flame and apply the burned part to wherever the aches and pains are. We advised her not to get involved in this, as it isn't biblical, whereas the prayer of faith in James 5 is what God has shown us. Do you have any knowledge of this practice of burning wood to heal?

**RESPONSE:** Ritualistic burning of wood and other objects for healing/cleansing or other purposes is a pagan practice. The ancient Nordic (Scandinavian) pagan religious practice of putting ashes on one's forehead was believed to invoke the protection of the god Odin. It is said that this ritual then entered Europe during the Vikings' raids and conquests. The ashes were applied on Wednesday, the day named for Woden, the Germanic deity that is the equivalent of the Norse god Odin.

Catholics and other groups are perpetuating a form of this practice through "Ash Wednesday" observances. We are never told in Scripture that this is something we should do. Ash Wednesday, which is a part of Lent, is practiced by most Catholics and even by some Protestant denominations. According to the website Catholic Online, "Ashes are a symbol of *penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church*, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice" (emphasis added).

The burning of wood for "smudging," is most often thought of as a Native American practice, but the "spiritual" ritual use of rising smoke has been seen in many cultures for thousands of years. Smudging is the burning of wood, herbs, or incense, with the goal of causing a desired change in one's thoughts, emotions, dwellings, circumstances, or reality. Hindu texts acknowledge that this was practiced thousands of years ago through the burning of incense. Egyptian records speak of *purification by smoke*, burning aromatic resins in their various religious ceremonies.

In contrast, we read in the Old Testament that although the priests were to burn a specific mixture of spices and frankincense on the golden altar of incense (before the Holy of Holies) every morning and evening, this was a part of worship and *not* a healing methodology. Moreover, God forbade the use of that same incense outside the tabernacle for the Israelites' own purposes. If they disobeyed, they would be cut off from their people (Ex 30:34-38)!

There are also examples in Scripture of the use of ashes (sometimes translated "dust,") often accompanied by sackcloth to indicate repentance or mourning. "Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son [Joseph] many days" (Gn 37:34). After the fall of Jerusalem to Babylon, "The elders of the daughter of Zion [sat] upon the ground...: they have cast up dust upon their heads; they have girded themselves with sackcloth..." (Lam 2:10). At the rebuke of Elijah for the death of Naboth, "Ahab... rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly" (1 Kg 21:27). After David's sin in numbering the people, "Then David and the elders of Israel, who were clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces" (1 Ch 21:16).

Among the pagans, the King of Nineveh, hearing the preaching of Jonah, "arose from his throne,... laid his robe from him,... covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes" (Jon 3:5-9). Jesus noted in Matthew 11:21, "Woe unto thee, Chorazin!...Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes."

The point is that although dust or ashes could reflect repentance or mourning, "smudging" and similar rituals are pagan in origin and are man-devised methodologies. In direct contrast, for the people of God, the Lord will "give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified" (Is 61:3).

**QUESTION:** Does Satan have to ask permission from God before he can afflict a person?

**RESPONSE:** It seems clear from Scripture that Satan has access to humanity to tempt us through various means. Peter warns, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pt 5:8). This directly implies that the adversary has liberty to take advantage of mankind's weaknesses in order that he may "devour them"; thus the admonition to "be vigilant," especially regarding those weaknesses.

But we also have the example of Job, where we find that on occasion, in order to "prove" them, God may grant Satan special access to afflict individuals. In Job 1:10, Satan says to God, "Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and...his house, and...all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased...." The protection given to Job and his family was *lifted* at the request of Satan so that he might torment him. Job ultimately responded faithfully to the Lord through the trial and was greatly blessed in the end.

First Kings 22:20-21 gives us a behind-the-scenes glimpse of God giving specific permission to a demonic being: "The LORD said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?...And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will persuade him."

To Peter, " [Jesus] said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not..." (Lk 22:31-32). The Lord Jesus, very aware that Satan especially wanted to tempt Peter, had already been praying for him, with the intent that Peter's faith would not fail.

Thus we see that although Satan is the enemy of mankind, his "freedom" to exercise his wrath on humanity is limited to what God *allows* him to do. We read in Scripture that there is coming a time when the Lord warns, "Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time" (Rv 12:12).

In all of this, remember that the Lord doesn't leave us defenseless. He gives us weapons with which we can counter the enemy's attacks: "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (Jas 4:7). And also: "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities... powers... rulers of the darkness of this world... spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints..." (Eph 6:11-18).

# LETTERS

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

## **Berean Call (for your Letters page),**

Attn: Readers of TBC. I've been in prison for thirty-two years. I've received TBC for most of those years because of donations. Please donate so those of us who cannot afford to subscribe can continue to receive this very good publication. If you could see how many prisoners are becoming Muslims you would understand that the truth must keep getting into prisons! God bless you all. PB (MI, prisoner)

## **Dear TBC,**

Good message about the Holy Spirit (06/15), which was Jesus' gift to His followers. The Holy Spirit doesn't call attention to Himself but points to Jesus. Since Jesus said the Holy Spirit was necessary, who...is any pastor to minimize His role in our spiritual lives? I would ask when did this role get diminished or become unnecessary? RD (email)

## **Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,**

I appreciate all of your work [but] I was particularly thankful for your commentary on the recent series, *AD: The Bible Continues*, which has been broadcast on national television. I was surprised and a little disappointed that David Jeremiah endorsed such a production. RO (NY)

## **Hello,**

I so appreciated Brother Hunt's commentary on "Christian Activism." His insights were on the mark. I just want to share that I believe the false idea that America is a Christian nation has been influential in creating an attitude of permissiveness for political and social activism as the "Christian" thing to do. Christian talk radio programs on the whole encourage their listeners to be activists....Brother Hunt's article was a breath of fresh air for me.... DS (email)

## **Dear Berean Call,**

Thank you for your ministry through the years. I discovered Dave Hunt's messages on YouTube and quickly sent for more information. The *Wide Is the Gate* series [produced by Caryl Matrisciana] has been so eye opening. We have bought several

copies to pass out. Thank you for your diligence in sharing the messages you give.

It seems that so many of the young people we know are sucked right into unbiblical teachings. The Bible is not taught anymore in many churches. KG (CA)

## **Dear TBC,**

Thank you! The ministry has meant so much to my family and me over the past fifteen years or so. The Lord has used you to edify us in so many ways. It was *An Urgent Call to a Serious Faith* that helped wake me out of my stagnant spiritual growth and self-centered slumber about ten years ago. We are so burdened and troubled over the ever-growing trend of apostasy and biblical compromise around us. We have been asked to leave or have had to leave three local fellowships over the past seven years. Whether it's gross sexual sin within its leadership, seeker-friendly compromise, yoga, Calvinism, or false prophecies being proclaimed from the pulpit, we cannot find a legitimate local Christian assembly for fellowship. We sway back and forth between loneliness and discouragement to joyful anticipation of the soon return of Christ. TBC has been our main source (other than the Word of God) of encouragement and spiritual sanity over the years. Thank you for all you do in the Lord. Please keep running that race. If you folks were local, I'd drive down to your office and give you all a hug. MB (OH)

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## **TBC NOTES**

### **What Do We Smell Like?**

One of the many things I love about God's Word is the wonderfully significant teachings that are wrapped up in a simple word or phrase. In 2 Corinthians 2:15-16 we find: "For we are unto God a sweet [aroma] of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: To the one we are the [aroma] of death unto death; and to the other the [aroma] of life unto life."

No need to elaborate here. Whether we are among believers or the lost, what is our fragrance?

*T. A. McMAHON*  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## **T. A.'S SPEAKING SCHEDULE**

- Aug 28-30** *TBC Conference*  
Bend, OR (800) 937-6638
- Sep 11-13** *Great Lakes Prophecy Conference*  
Appleton, WI (920) 735-1242
- Oct 18** *First Assembly of God*  
Prineville, OR (541) 447-7254

## **STS 24/7 BROADCAST SCHEDULE**

- Aug 7/14** *Jay Seegert*  
*Young Earth vs. Old Earth*
- Aug 21/28** *Jiovanna Del Cristo*  
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# NEWSWATCH

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

## TRAGIC DAY FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN

**EAGLERISING.COM, 5/26/15, "THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PEDIATRICIANS CALLS SUPREME COURT RULING "A TRAGIC DAY FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN" [EXCERPTS]:** The President of the American College of Pediatricians, Dr. Michelle Cretella, ripped the Supreme Court's decision to force every state in America to allow gay marriage. Dr. Cretella argues that, "[T]his is a tragic day for America's children. The SCOTUS has just undermined the single greatest pro-child institution in the history of mankind: the natural family. [The] SCOTUS has elevated and enshrined the wants of adults over the needs of children."

At [the College website] is posted... scientific evidence that same-sex marriage is destructive to children and that children do best in natural families. In April, the College posted the following press release to their website:

The American College of Pediatricians urges the Supreme Court of the United States to consider the well-being of children in the case before them this week to legalize same-sex marriage. While the debate over the legitimacy of same-sex marriage can be viewed from many perspectives, there should be little debate about the effects it has upon children: Same-sex marriage deliberately deprives the child of a mother or a father, and is therefore detrimental. The College advocates for children in this debate from an objective position grounded in scientific evidence.

President, Michelle Cretella, states "The court must understand the gravity of their decision in its impact upon children around the world. Every child needs a mother and a father. Same-sex marriage directly disenfranchises children of this right."

There is unequivocal evidence of the fundamental value of the married, father-mother family unit to the optimal development of the child... Despite being certified by almost all major social science scholarly associations—indeed, in part because of this—the alleged scientific consensus that having two parents of the same sex is innocuous for child well-being is almost wholly without basis. All but a handful of the studies cited in support draw on small, non-random samples which cannot be extrapolated to the same-sex population at large. This limitation is repeatedly

acknowledged in scientific meetings and journals, but ignored when asserted as settled findings in public or judicial advocacy.

(<http://goo.gl/Zhcm8S>)

## ANTI-CAPITALIST ECO-CRUSADER HOSTED BY VATICAN

**ABCNEWS.COM, 5/19/15, "ANTI-CAPITALIST ECO-CRUSADER NAOMI KLEIN HOSTED AT VATICAN" [EXCERPTS]:** The Vatican added yet another strange bedfellow to its expanding ecological alliance Wednesday, hosting anti-capitalist eco-crusader Naomi Klein at a conference on saving the planet.

Klein, author of *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate*, acknowledged Wednesday that, "as a secular Jewish feminist," she never expected to be invited to the Vatican.

But she told a Vatican news conference that Pope Francis' recent encyclical on the environment and the global economic system spoke to her. She said the manifesto should inspire those who use the Bible to defend human domination of nature and deny climate change to change their ways.

Klein said that the critical state of the planet required unusual alliances to be formed to fight the fossil fuel interests blocking courageous action at U.N. climate conferences. That doesn't mean everyone agrees on everything or that one side's world view is "being subsumed by anyone else's," she said.

"This is an alliance on a specific issue. It's not a merger," Klein said. "But when you are faced with a crisis of this magnitude, people have to get out of their comfort zones."

(<http://goo.gl/5LLtfb>)

## TOO MANY PEOPLE?

**BREITBART.COM, 6/16/15, "Pope Francis Appoints Population Control Extremist" [EXCERPTS]:** A scientist who believes the world is overpopulated by 6 billion people has been appointed by Pope Francis to the Pontifical Academy of Science.

Hans Joachim Schellnhuber [joined] 80 other scientists who are official advisers to the Vatican on scientific matters.

Schellnhuber said in a 2009 speech at the Copenhagen Climate Conference that global warming would devastate Earth's population and "In a very cynical way, it's a triumph for science because at last we

have stabilized something—namely the estimates for the carrying capacity of the planet, namely below 1 billion people."

Schellnhuber is the inventor of something called the "two-degree target" that says governments must not allow global temperatures to rise more than 2 degrees than at the start of the industrial revolution. Any higher and there [is] a global die-off.

Schellnhuber [also] proposes an Earth Constitution, Global Council and a Planetary Court to punish environmental wrongdoers. Schellnhuber is considered to be one of the most "aggressive" scientific advocates for the theory of man-made global warming.

(<http://goo.gl/iUkaDx>)

## THE BEREAN CALL

Founder: Dave Hunt  
Executive Director: T. A. McMahon

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The Berean Call (TBC) has always operated on the belief that God will provide as we seek His face, so we do not make appeals for financial help. Although the ministry operates primarily on donations, these are freewill and not solicited. Through the years, TBC has seen God "do exceeding abundantly above" all that was asked or thought.

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orders and donations: (800) 937-6638  
general inquiries: (541) 382-6210  
e-mail: [editorial@thebereancall.org](mailto:editorial@thebereancall.org)  
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## NEW! BIBLICAL GUIDE TO THE SHEMITAH AND THE BLOOD MOONS



### Biblical Guide to the Shemitah and the Blood Moons

**James**—Are “blood moons” a harbinger for a catastrophic “seventh shemitah” in America? Informed Christians and serious students of God’s Word would certainly agree that America—and the rest of the world—is prophetically on “borrowed time.” With increasing speed, the signs of the times are drawing nearer and growing clearer. Unfortunately, while the church should be encouraged by Bible prophecy and exhorted to greater personal holiness and evangelism, there instead exists a cadre of prophets and pitchmen creating confusion in the body of Christ. Prominent pastor-authors pronounce their warnings—while eager publishers promote their wares. In his latest book, *New York Times* bestselling author Jonathan Cahn boldly purports to reveal a previously unknown and undiscovered “3,000-year-old mystery that...revealed the dates and the hours of the greatest [financial] crashes in

Wall Street history...determined the timing of 9/11...lies behind the rise of America...and its fall...[and] holds the key to what lies ahead for the world and for your life.” If true, these astonishing claims are nothing short of divine revelation. If false, then millions of believing Christians are the victims of brazen marketing hype at best, spiritual deception at worst—or both. But how can one test such claims? Is it even possible to know the truth of these matters? Unequivocally, unhesitatingly, YES! In contrast to the swirling clouds of “mysteries” touching down in churches all across America, readers will appreciate the calm, clear reasoning of international Bible teacher Dave James as he demonstrates the process of spiritual discernment for all readers who desire to “test all things [and] hold fast what is good. —1 Thessalonians 5:21.” *The Berean Call*, 201 pp. Retail \$16.99

**B80070**

wt.6 **\$13.50**



### T. A. McMahon with David James

**McMahon/James**—Join Tom and his guest David James of the Alliance for Biblical Integrity as they discuss Jonathan Cahn’s latest book *The Mystery of the Shemitah*. Does God really have a covenant with America? 1 CD, 51 min.

**CD1439**

wt.2 **\$5.00**



### T. A. McMahon with Greg Sheryl

**McMahon/Sheryl**—Search the Scriptures 24/7 with T. A. McMahon and his guest, Greg Sheryl. Join Tom and Greg as they discuss Jonathan Cahn’s book, *The Mystery of the Shemitah*. Originally aired May/June 2015. 1 CD, 57 min.

**CD1522**

wt.2 **\$5.00**



### SHEMITAH SET!

The set includes David James’s new book and both radio interviews seen above!

**SET144**

wt.1.0 **SALE \$17.00**

## SPECIAL OFFER! ON DAVE HUNT’S CLASSIC – WHATEVER HAPPENED TO HEAVEN?



### Whatever Happened to Heaven?

**Hunt**—During the 1970s, when *The Late, Great Planet Earth* was outselling everything, the Rapture was the hot topic. Pastors preached about heaven, and Christians eagerly anticipated being taken up at any moment to meet their Lord in the air. When Christ didn’t return and the 40 years since the establishment of a new Israel in 1948 expired without the fulfillment of prophesied events, disillusionment began to set in. Today, a growing number of Christians are exchanging the hope of the Rapture for a “new” hope—that Christians can clean up society and elect their own candidates to

political office to make this world a “heaven on earth.” Bestselling author Dave Hunt probes the question “Whatever happened to heaven?” thoroughly and provides an easily understandable explanation of all the many issues and beliefs. Hunt shows us that heaven is really our home and brings fascinating new clarity to why we lost that hope and how it can be regained. *The Berean Call*, 327 pp. Retail \$17.99

**B60705**

wt.1.1 **\$14.50**

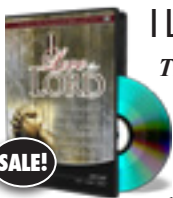


### Countdown to the Second Coming

**Hunt**—For those who seek to understand the times from a biblical perspective, this little volume provides a concise summary of historic and current world events that will excite, encourage, and equip God’s people to boldly proclaim the Gospel to this generation. With clarity and conviction, Dave dispels popular distortions of the Last Days, and demonstrates how believers can minister effectively without fear or anxiety, “redeeming the time, because the days are evil.” *The Berean Call*, 95 pp. Retail \$9.99 \*For a limited time get **Countdown to the Second Coming FREE with purchase of Whatever Happened to Heaven?**

**B00193**

wt.3 **SALE \$5.00**



### I Love the Lord

**The Berean Call**—At TBC’s Third Annual Conference, Dave Hunt encouraged the saints with one of his most heartfelt exhortations on record! Viewers will be edified with the urgency of Dave’s convictions regarding the “cosmic war going on,” which he explains is not a Star Wars battle with weapons of mass destruction but a battle for the hearts and minds of mankind. 1 DVD, 161 min. Retail \$12.99

**SALE!**

**DVD177**

wt.2 **SALE \$7.50**



### The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment

**Burroughs**—This book is marked by clarity, aptness of illustration, and warmth of appeal to the heart. “There is an ark that you may come into, and no men in the world may live such comfortable, cheerful and contented lives as the saints of God.” Burroughs presses his lesson home with all the fervor and cogency of a true and faithful minister of God. *Banner of Truth*, 232 pp. Retail \$9.00

**SALE!**

**B00910**

wt.6 **SALE \$8.00**



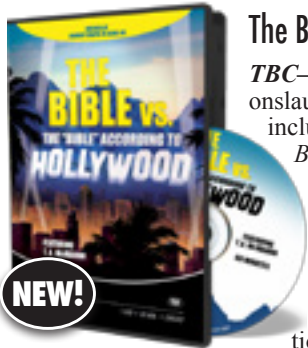
### Why Grace Changes Everything

**Smith**—With remarkable insight gleaned from his own life, Pastor Chuck Smith unfolds the mystery of grace and reveals the surprising truth: We can never grow in grace by our own efforts. True grace flows from the heart of the Father through the love of Jesus Christ. To understand that God is for you and that He loves you is the greatest source of security you will ever know. *The Word for Today*, 175 pp. Retail \$10.99

**B28780**

wt.5 **SALE \$9.50**

## NEW! THE BIBLE VS. THE "BIBLE" ACCORDING TO HOLLYWOOD



NEW!

### The Bible vs. The "Bible" According to Hollywood

**TBC**—In the last couple of years we've seen the release of an onslaught of "biblical" movies and TV-show productions—including *Noah*, *Exodus: Gods and Kings*, and *A.D.: The Bible Continues*. Many believers and pastors have said that Hollywood is finally doing Christianity a "favor" by creating quality Christian entertainment. But are these productions truly biblical and God honoring? What's wrong with "Bible" movies? T. A. McMahon, with his unique background as a former screenwriter for 20th Century Fox, carefully answers these questions and examines many of these popular productions as a Berean—in the light of God's Word. This message challenges believers young and old to think carefully about biblical entertainment and exhorts viewers to return to the Bible. 1 DVD, 60 min. Retail \$12.99

DVD342

wt.2 \$5.00



FREE!

### Showtime for the Sheep?

**McMahon**—After screening *The Passion of the Christ*, T. A. McMahon set about writing a book evaluating the enthusiasm generated for the film among evangelicals. The movie was touted as the greatest opportunity for witnessing since the death of Christ. Could that be true? Or could the church be enthralled with something that might have a host of problems beyond just a popular motion picture about Jesus Christ? *The Berean Call*, 159 pp. \*For a limited time get *Showtime for the Sheep?* FREE with purchase of *The Bible vs. The "Bible" According to Hollywood*.

B60134

wt.4 SALE \$5.00

## NEW! THE GOSPEL UNPLUGGED BY J. B. HIXSON



NEW!

### The Gospel Unplugged

**Hixson**—With all of the bad news in the world today, people are searching for answers. Where can you turn to find perspective and hope? Isn't there some good news in the middle of all of this bad news? The answer is a resounding "Yes!" This book presents amazing good news—good news that transcends everything in life. It is a timeless truth with eternal ramifications revealed by the Creator himself. It is called *The Gospel*. Lucid Books, 95 pp. Retail \$9.99

B09125

wt.3 \$9.50



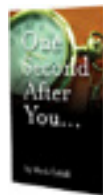
SALE!

### Mark Cahill - 2012 Conference DVD

**The Berean Call**—Over the past 17 years, the Lord has used Mark Cahill to equip and encourage Christians to boldly stand up for what they believe. This DVD includes his three excellent presentations titled "Watchman on the Wall," "Reaching the Lost Now," and "You Plus the Holy Spirit"—filmed at our 2012 conference. 3 DVDs, 161 min. Retail \$20.99

DVD229

wt.3 SALE \$12.50



### One Second after You...

**Cahill**—Specially packaged in an economical 20-pack bundle, this powerful little booklet covers all of the major subjects of witnessing—proving there is a God, creation vs. evolution, the truth of the Bible, the existence of heaven and hell, the presence of sin in every person's life, the cross of Jesus Christ, and the resurrection of our Lord. Mark Cahill Ministries, 64 pp. 20 pack.

B00466

wt.3.0 \$30.00



SALE!

### Will Our Generation Speak?

**Mally**—*Will Our Generation Speak?*, written especially to encourage teens and young adults to evangelize but filled with good exhortation for everyone. Grace Mally issues an invigorating challenge interwoven with real-life experiences, honest reflection, humorous cartoons, and practical ideas for witnessing. *Tomorrow's Forefathers*, 283 pp. Retail \$14.99

B40581

wt.9 SALE \$13.00



SALE!

### One Heartbeat Away

**Cahill**—Can you prove there is a God? Can you really provide evidence that the Bible is true? What happens after you die? Many exciting stories are presented in a user-friendly style—everything from near-death experiences to what celebrities believe. Written primarily to share with nonbelievers, it will also help the believer arm himself with answers to questions that are likely to come up when witnessing. *BDM Publishing*, 240 pp. Retail \$15.00

B66572

wt.7 SALE \$11.00

## BIBLICALLY HANDLING TECH



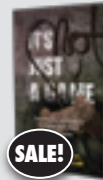
SALE!

### Game Over - It's Not Just a Game

**Apolomedia**—Carl Kerby, Jr., teaches his audience to critically evaluate the spiritual messages found in video games against the one true foundation, the Word of God. When you've finished watching this video you will know that it's NOT just a game! 1 DVD, 48 min. Retail \$12.99

DVD334

wt.3 SALE \$11.00



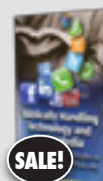
SALE!

### It's Not Just a Game

**Kerby Jr./Thorwall**—Lifelong gamers Carl Kerby, Jr., and Drew Thorwall take a unique approach to more than 70 video games and systems by breaking down the messages within from a biblical perspective. They want to teach parents and gamers *how* to think, not *what* to think. *Apolomedia*, 142 pp. Retail \$14.99

B50906

wt.5 SALE \$13.00



SALE!

### Biblically Handling Technology and Social Media

**Various**—This booklet presents specific Scriptures to help guide Christians in their use of technology-based systems so that they can recognize how to better glorify the Lord and walk worthy of Him (Colossians 1:10). *Biblical Discipleship Publications*, 69 pp. Retail \$5.99

B17366

wt.3 SALE \$4.50

Set includes: *Game Over, It's Not Just a Game* (book and DVD), and *Biblically Handling Technology and Social Media*.

SET143

wt.9 SALE \$27.00



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