



LAMPLIGHTER

"Prophecy is like a lamp shining in a dark place." - II Peter 1:19

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Is the sun setting
on America?



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Observations by the Editor

Aging

In July I turned 78 years old. I received a birthday card that showed a doctor on the front saying, "Your test results are in." Inside, it said, "You're old! Happy Birthday anyway!"

Yep, there's no doubt about it — I'm old. I never expected to live this long. The Bible says in Psalm 90:10, "As for the days of your life, they contain 70 years, or if due to strength, 80 years."

I attribute my longevity to the fact that when I finally gave in to God's call on my life in 1980, I began to pray earnestly that the Lord would enable me to make up the 20 years I wasted while running from Him. In His grace and mercy, He seems to be doing that.

When I wrote a book about the signs of the times that are pointing to the Lord's soon return, I titled it, *Living on Borrowed Time*. I gave it that title because all the biblical signs we are told to watch for are converging today for the first time ever — clearly indicating that we are living in the season of the Lord's return.

At my age, my book title certainly applies to me. I could be called home to be with the Lord at any moment. So, I'm taking it one day at a time, thanking the Lord each morning for giving me one more day to serve Him.

One of my greatest concerns for several years has been the lack of any new, young preachers joining the ranks of those of us who have dedicated our lives to the teaching of God's Prophetic Word and the preaching of His Son's soon return.

I expressed this concern to Tim LaHaye several years ago, and he said he shared it. He then made a very interesting observation. He said, "Dave, I think the reason God is not raising up new prophetic voices is because He is not going to need them." When I asked what he meant, he said, "It's because we are that close to the Rapture."

That could very well be. But as I see the deaths of people like Dave Hunt, Grant Jeffrey, Charles Ryrie and Tim LaHaye, my concern grows about the lack of new Bible prophecy voices.



Dr. Reagan with his daughter, Rachel Houck at the ministry's 2016 Bible conference.

The seminaries are not teaching prophecy. They are almost completely ignoring the whole field of Eschatology. And when they do touch on it, they tend to spiritualize it into meaninglessness. The same is true of churches. There is a famine of the teaching and preaching of Bible prophecy. The focus seems instead to be on church growth gimmicks. The irony is that the preaching of Bible prophecy will result in church growth!

But back to my point about living on borrowed time. That thought really applies to all of us, regardless of age. Each breath we take is due to the grace of God. None of us can say with confidence that we will be alive tomorrow.

I'm reminded of a dear preacher friend of mine who in his mid-40s was the pastor of a large church in Tucson, Arizona. He was invited to return to his home church in Seattle, Washington to speak on Sunday morning and evening.

As he was driving to the church on Sunday evening, he suddenly veered off the highway into a concrete wall and was killed instantly. The steering wheel was driven through his chest, making it impossible to determine what had happened to him. It was assumed that he suffered a heart attack.

They found his Bible on the floor of the car. Folded up inside of it was his sermon for that evening. The very first line of the sermon read as follows: "There is not one person present here this evening who can say with certainty that you will be alive tomorrow."

Are you taking life for granted? If so, then you are walking on thin ice. Today — right now — is the time for you to get right with God. ✚

(The cover photo is from iStockPhoto.com.)

Is the sun setting on America?



(<http://inhomelandsecurity.com>)

Dr. David R. Reagan

The composite photo above is an illustration of God's judgment upon this nation.

Regardless of which person wins the presidential election, our nation will be the loser. The secularization and paganization of our nation will continue.

America can never be great again as long as we continue to murder 3,000 babies a day and we continue to flood the world with pornography and blasphemous, immoral and violent movies and television programs. We are the moral polluter of planet earth, and the only concern of our people and political leaders seems to be the economy and jobs.

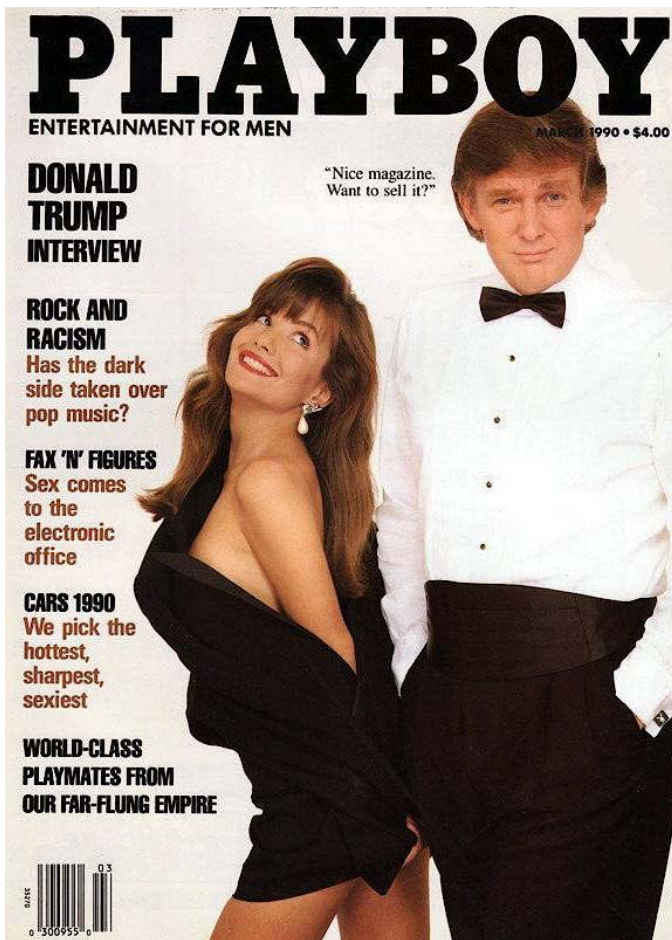
We are incapable of facing the truth that God is not going to bless our economy as long as we thumb our nose at Him and His Word.

So, we are reaping what we have sown. We are faced with a choice between a dishonest, power-hungry Humanist who could not tell the truth if she had to, and an ego-maniacal, glory-seeking Hedonist with a gutter mouth and a sleazy lifestyle.

Our nation's foremost Evangelical spokesperson today is Dr. Albert Mohler, the president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. In a recent editorial, he presented an insightful observation about the eroding moral values of our nation.

He pointed out that during the 1976 presidential campaign between Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, our nation's Evangelical leaders were outraged when Carter became the first presidential candidate in history to give an interview to *Playboy* magazine. Forty years later, we find ourselves with Evangelical leaders who are salivating over the candidacy of Donald Trump — a man who has been featured on the cover of *Playboy*!

Again, regardless of who wins the election, America will continue to disintegrate. The only question will be at what speed. If Clinton triumphs, our descent into darkness will be accelerated because she will call evil good and good evil. If Trump wins, our disintegration may be slowed, but it will continue, for what good can come from an unrighteous leader?



(March 1990)

As I have said many times before, “The only hope for America is Jesus.” And that means our nation has no hope, for we have turned our back on Jesus. We have forsaken the very One who blessed us so mightily. We have given the heart of our nation to the god of money, and in the process, we have become a materialistic, hedonistic greedy people who are crying out for the judgment of God.

In Romans chapter one, Paul outlines in detail how God deals with a rebellious nation He has blessed. There are three steps.

First, God will lower His hedge of protection around the nation and allow sin to multiply (Romans 1:24-25). The result is a sexual revolution, like the one that occurred in our nation during the 1960s.

If the nation refuses to repent, God will take a second step back, lower the hedge of protection further, and a plague of homosexuality will break loose (Romans 1: 26-27). That began in our nation in the 1980s and 90s and culminated in 2003 when the Supreme Court struck down anti-sodomy laws and thus legalized homosexual behavior.

If the nation persists in its rebellion, God will take a third step back, lower the hedge of protection even further, and the nation will be turned over to a depraved mind (Romans 1:28-32). That’s where we are now. We arrived on June 26, 2015 when the Supreme Court legalized the abomination of same-sex marriage.

Our glory days are over. The sun is setting on America. No person can make us great again except Jesus, and we have rejected Him. We are no longer marching to Zion. We are racing toward destruction.

No one likes to hear such words. People have always hated prophetic voices that tell the truth. I don’t claim to have any special word from the Lord. I just know God’s Word and what it teaches about how God deals with rebellious nations.

You can vote for “the lesser evil,” but you are deceived if you believe that in doing so you are going to save our nation. The “lesser evil” could well prove to be the greatest deception. ✚



(February 2013)

What the American Presidential Campaign Means to a Student of Bible Prophecy

Tim Moore

Secular and religious Americans alike have been amazed at the tone of the 2016 Presidential campaign raging in our land. To say that most voters have been underwhelmed would be an understatement.

As always, Bible-believing voters need to pursue true discernment when choosing between various candidates. While this article will not focus on any specific candidate — nor call out any individual or party — suffice it to say that a candidate's position on innocent life, their track record of faithfulness to their spouse, their demonstrated exercise of the fruits of the Spirit recorded in Ephesians chapter 6, and their commitment to integrity should guide anyone seeking to support the individual who hopefully will serve us honorably. Sadly, many of those traits (let alone a clear recognition that the “Lord, He is God”) are lacking in our leading candidates for the presidency.



Tim Moore

The Sovereignty of God

As a student of Scripture, we can take great solace in the proven truth that God is the one who elevates kings and presidents, whether as an outpouring of His blessing on a nation and people, or as a manifestation of His judgment. That is not to minimize our responsibility in advocating for godly leaders or voting for those who best meet a biblical standard. It is rather, an affirmation of the sovereignty of God. It is also a testimony to the continuing necessity for “the righteous to live by faith” (Habakkuk 2:4).

Scripture records the ascendancy of Jewish kings who were clearly evil in the eyes of the Lord. Their unrighteous reign was not only a blot on the history of Israel, they were in fact the natural consequence of the nation's rejection of their one true King. At other times, the Lord blessed Israel with righteous kings, who led the nation back to Him and oversaw periods of blessing and peace.

But, the purpose of this article is to consider what the dynamics driving this election should teach us about Man's natural inclination and what Bible prophecy tells us will soon be the culmination of recorded history. Consider with me the American electorate.

Our Drift Toward Secularism

For many years, our nation has been growing increasingly secular. The “signs of the times” clearly document the accelerat-

ing spiral into disorder and unrighteousness all around us.

We have returned in America to a period like that in Judges, where Scripture tells us, “there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 21:25). But, this orgy of unrestrained liberty (not the 4th of July kind, but the “cast off their fetters” and dance before the golden calf of our age kind) has not resulted in increased peace or comfort. Yes, we remain the most prosperous nation in the world and in history, but America is suffering from spiritual heart disease.

Our Inherent Sin Nature

I would like to turn your attention now to the dynamic this particular election has demonstrated once again about the heart of man and the ease with which a people can be led astray. Isaiah said, “All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way” (Isaiah 53:6). That is why time and again Israel wandered away from the very Lord who promised to be their eternal provision.

Even Christians are not immune from this tendency to stray. The hymnist wrote, “Prone to wander, Lord I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.” That sentiment echoes the truth captured by Paul in Romans 7:19. He wrote, “For the very good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.”

Sadly, the world in general (and even Christians living too large in their own flesh) tends to seek temporal solutions to the problems of their own making. The worse the problem, the more desperate we become, and the more radical the solution we are tempted to embrace. That is why the Communist Party made tremendous gains in this country during the Great Depression of the 1930s. It is why the American electorate has at times dallied with extreme candidates holding radical positions. And, it is why we stand at a precipice today.

The Example of Germany



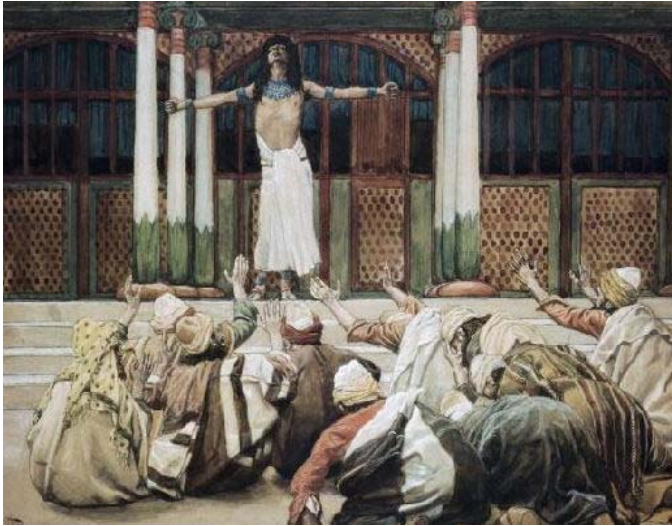
Consider another classic example from the recent past. Have you ever wondered how Germany — one of the most culturally and technologically advanced nations in Europe or the world — could embrace a man like Adolf Hitler? How could a nation steeped in Lutheranism, blessed with the world's highest concentration of scientists and artists, and trained in rationalism descend into the hell of Nazi-driven hate?

The answer is desperation. Sociologists have studied the tremendous strain on Germany following the First World War, both economically and mentally. The victorious allies imposed a crushing war debt on Germany and showed no mercy when Germany's currency became worthless and its citizens began to

starve.

Germans longed for a great leader — or fuhrer — to lead them out of this morass. The masses cared less for lofty ideals than practical (if illogical) solutions to their problems. At a critical moment in time, Adolf Hitler offered himself as that individual. As Henry Ford admiringly observed, he stabilized the currency, eliminated unemployment, restocked the grocery shelves, and made the trains run on time. Most Germans were also ecstatic that their sense of national pride was restored — so much so that they were willing to overlook Hitler's abominable treatment of Jews in their midst. By the time Germany's dream turned into a nightmare, it was too late.

The Example of Joseph



Joseph reveals himself to his brothers. A painting by James Tissot.

This tendency toward willing acceptance of dictatorship and blindness toward unfathomable excess (if not evil) is age old. Consider the account of Joseph in Egypt. We tend to focus on the provision of God to keep Joseph through his various trials, so that he could in turn preserve the lives of the very brothers who had sold him into slavery. Indeed, Joseph is an exemplar of confident faith. Instead of abandoning hope during either of his several moments of discouragement, Genesis records that time and again he rose to greater and greater responsibility and acclaim.

But, not everything Joseph did is worthy of repeating. With Pharaoh's blessing, Joseph enacted the plan his dream suggested: he gathered up excess food and stored it against the seven years of famine in Egypt. When the famine started, Joseph sold that grain back to the Egyptians. When their money ran out, Joseph bartered grain for their livestock. When Pharaoh possessed all the livestock, the people offered their land and themselves in exchange for food.

So, Joseph bought up all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh, and forced the people to be gathered into cities. In the course of seven years, Joseph oversaw the collection of all the people's money, all their livestock, all their land, and all their labor — bought with the very grain they had harvested and given to Pharaoh in the first place. Genesis 47 records that he then doled out just enough seed for the Egyptian people to plant, on the condition that one-fifth of their produce would belong to Pharaoh. The people rejoiced and actually declared, “we will be

Pharaoh's slaves” (Genesis 47:25).

The Coming World Dictator

This brings us to our prophetic application. When conditions get bad enough, people will gladly accept and desperately cling to any offer of hope or salvation. That truth is exactly why the most fitting opportunity for most people to embrace the truth of the Gospel is not while they are basking in prosperity, but when they are wallowing in desperation. The Prodigal Son only returned to the Father when he came to the end of himself and was reduced to eating pig slop.

We know from Scripture that soon, and very soon, the world's accelerating slouch toward Gomorrah will turn into a headlong rush. We hear much these days about the global economy — that something will trigger a global economic collapse that will make the Great Depression look like a slight market downturn. Simultaneously, great social upheavals will cause nation to rise against nation — as we are seeing already both at home and abroad.

In the midst of this chaos, one great and willing leader will step forward offering solutions that will appeal to the masses. He will propose to reunite a divided world and restore prosperity and pride and hope. He will even craft a solution to age-old animosities that have existed between Israel and the nations of the world, providing an opportunity for Israel to finally have real peace and rebuild the temple it has longed to see for 2,000 years. This great leader, this global emperor, this exalted fuhrer, will be none other than the Antichrist.

Looking back to the very first book of the Bible, we can see how a free people facing a seven year famine were induced to give away their own food, their wealth, their possessions, their land, and even their own freedom. Likewise, the very last book of the Bible tells us that someday soon, most men will accept a mark to buy and sell. They will embrace a dictator unlike any the world has ever seen. In other words, if you wonder about enlightened and freedom-loving Americans embracing candidates that seem to turn our Judeo-Christian heritage on its head and promise to lead us further away from the truth, “you ain't seen nothing yet.”

The Key Event

What will inspire the depth of global desperation that will lead governments to yield their collective power to one aspiring leader? What cataclysm will cause billions of the world's inhabitants to follow the ultimate megalomaniac? What dynamic will enable this crafty man to quickly attain the dream of global domination harbored by every despot and dictator the world has ever known?

In a word: the Rapture.

While the world will inevitably grow darker and despair will increase exponentially in the years to come, the Rapture is the cataclysmic event that will shake the world to its core and set off unprecedented economic and social meltdowns. In the blink of an eye, millions of Christians from around the world will be snatched up to be with Christ. Their sudden disappearance will decimate the ranks of leaders in business, government, religion, and the military. In our own country, although our influence will continue to dwindle in the years to come as persecution rises, committed Christians are still scattered throughout the hierarchy

of America. Their sudden departure will plunge our nation into chaos. America's sudden disintegration will add to the global cataclysm.

World Chaos



“The Sovereignty of God,” a painting by Pat Marvenko Smith.

The ensuing anarchy and economic calamity will cause governments to collapse, interrupt shipments of food and medicine, pit nation against nation, and threaten the so-called “civilized” survival of the human race. Into this maelstrom of confusion and panic, one man will quickly rise, offering himself as the savior of the world's problem. In that very secular sense, he will present himself as the messiah for the modern age. And, in very quick order, he will con-

solidate his power and crush his opposition.

The Antichrist will reign throughout the Tribulation. He will perpetrate hell on earth, killing a majority of the earth's inhabitants as he consolidates and exercises his unprecedented power. He will eventually demand to be worshiped. He will turn on the Jewish people and all those who profess Jesus Christ as their Lord. Wielding absolute power, he will prove himself to be absolutely corrupt.

Conclusion

Whether we reflect on ancient Egypt, 20th Century Germany, or 21st Century America, we can see that the heart of Man is darkened by sin, easily deluded by false promises of peace, and — short of the touch of the Holy Spirit — unwilling to bow before the true and righteous God. Without Jesus, people will seek any alternate answer to their problems — no matter how outlandish or ultimately harmful.

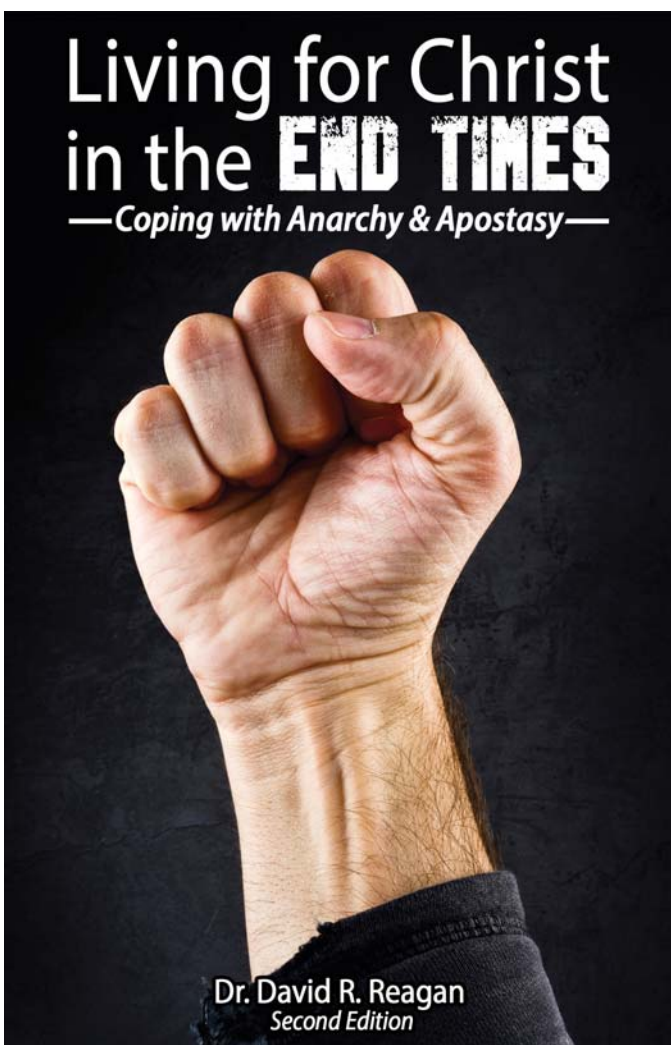
In 2016, many are desperate for hope. Only Jesus offers Himself as the Blessed Hope. He is at the very gates of heaven, ready to burst forth and gather those who have put their trust in Him. He has promised to rescue us from the horrors of the wrath to come (1 Thessalonians 1:10).

As I recently heard, “If you know who the Antichrist is, you’ve been left behind.” Do not wait. Join the great company of saints who are credited with righteousness because of their faith in Jesus. And then, look up and be watchful, for our Redemption — the Lord Jesus Himself — draws near!

Godspeed! ✚

Note: Tim Moore is available to speak at churches and conferences. You may contact him at tmoore@lamblion.com. For detailed information about Tim, see <http://christinprophecy.org/?staff=tim-moore>.

Understanding Our Times



Dr. Reagan first wrote this book in 1999 for publication in the year 2000. He proposed that the subtitle be “Coping with Anarchy and Apostasy.” But the publisher thought that was too radical a statement. Instead, it was given the innocuous sub-title of “Balancing Today with the Hope of Tomorrow.”

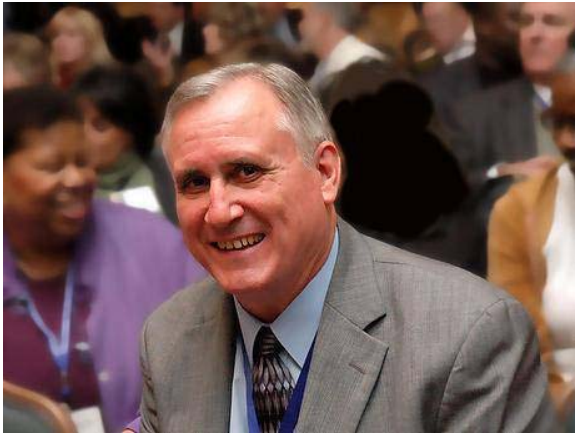
Last year we regained the publishing rights to the book, and published this second edition and gave it the subtitle Dr. Reagan originally intended. Can anyone today doubt that the two greatest challenges facing Christians are rampant apostasy in the church and the explosion of violence in society?

After outlining in detail the moral and spiritual challenges we face, Dr. Reagan then proceeds to present ten principles that Christians can follow to overcome paganism and live victorious lives. The final two chapters present prophetic material from the Bible which shows that Christians will ultimately triumph over paganism when Jesus returns in glory and power.

The book runs 328 pages in length. It sells for \$20, including the cost of mailing. To order, call 972-736-3567 between 8am and 5pm Central Time, Monday through Friday, or place your order through our website at www.lamblion.com. ✚

Another Outrageous Presidential Action

Al Gist



(Editor's note: Al Gist is the founder and evangelist of Maranatha Evangelistic Ministries located near DeRidder, Louisiana. This article appeared in the June 2016 issue of his newsletter and is reprinted here by permission.)

Well, once again, our dictator Barack Obama has used his presidential powers to force a ridiculous edict down the throats of the people.

In May, his administration threatened to withhold federal education funding from states that do not enforce his STUPID view on accommodating transgender people in school bathrooms and locker rooms. According to the mandate, a biologically male person should be allowed to go into the female bathrooms and locker rooms if he “identifies himself” as a female, regardless of what his birth certificate sex designation is. In other words, any male can go into the female restroom (or, vice versa) if he simply thinks on that day he feels more like a female.

Such utter nonsense is beyond my comprehension! Not only is it a violation of the sensible right of the girls’ to privacy in those places, but it is unbelievable that our country would allow such blackmailing tactics to be used with the threat of federal funds that came from the very people he is forcing this on. Why not allow the schools to just provide a single occupant restroom that is for either sex, or transgendered person, if the school thinks one is needed?

This is more than I can stomach! From the Supreme Court decision last year to recognize same sex marriage as being as valid as a heterosexual marriage — to now this ridiculous

presidential edict on accommodating transgender people, I’m just wondering how much more the American people are going to swallow.

What will be next? What completely bazaar and sinful action will the government think of next?

It appears that there are very few politicians who will take a stand against this junk. However, the last count that I heard is that eleven states have filed a lawsuit against the federal government over this last action (thank goodness my home state of Louisiana is one of them). What amazes me is (1) that all fifty states are not in on that lawsuit and (2) the federal government thinks it can force any action upon the state and local governments — provoking lawsuits between the local and federal governments. And, if the decision in such cases ends up being decided by our liberal Supreme Court, is it any wonder who they will side with? Dear God! What is our country coming to?

As the American citizens accept more and more of the government actions against Christian values, and, as those actions gradually become totally accepted and ingrained into the fabric of our society, there will be more and more animosity against those of us who reject such godless rules. More and more, REAL Christians will be seen as “rebellious” and “anti-establishment” so that persecution through government authority will increase (fines, confiscation of property, and even imprisonment).

This will not destroy God’s Church because our Lord has declared that the “gates of Hell” will not prevail against His Church (Matthew 16:18). But it will purge the Church of those who do not have a real commitment to Jesus Christ. Thus, the outcome will be a smaller (numerically), but far more spiritual body of believers.



And when the persecution gets bad enough to drive the true saints to their knees, the miracle-working power of God will become far more evident. Satan’s persecution of the Church in order to destroy it has always had the opposite affect. I tell you this to encourage you to (1) “stand against the wiles of the devil” (Ephesians 6:11) and (2) to remind you that no matter how sinful this world becomes, God’s true Church will shine as a light in the darkness.

Let us commit our lives NOW to being that light in this dark world! Amen? ✚

Religious Liberty and the Right to be Christian

Dr. Albert Mohler



Dr. Mohler

(Editor's note: Dr. Mohler is the president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. This article is excerpted from his Internet blog. The material it contains was originally published 2001 in his book, *We Cannot Be Silent*. His blog can be found at www.albertmohler.com.)

Moral revolutions require legal revolutions. This is certainly the case with the sexual revolution and its various causes of sexual liberation. A revolution is only complete when the legal structure aligns itself with a new moral understanding. This alignment is exactly what is taking place in American public life on the issue of gay liberation . . .

Throughout almost all of Western history, for the most part, this process has played out in a non-threatening way for the Christian church and Christians in the larger society. So long as the moral judgment of the culture matched the convictions and teachings of the church, the church and culture were not at odds in the courts . . .

The Secularization of Society

All that began to change in the modern age as the culture became more secularized and as Western societies moved more progressively distant from the Christian morality they had embraced in the past. Christians in this generation recognize that we do not represent the same moral framework now pervasively presented in modern academia, the context of creative culture, and the arena of law.

The secularization of public life and the separation of society from its Christian roots has left many Americans seemingly unaware of the fact that the very beliefs and teachings for which Christians are now criticized were once considered not only mainstream beliefs, but essential to the entire project of society. As the sexual revolution completely pervades the society . . . Christians now face an array of religious liberty challenges that were inconceivable in previous generations.

In one of the most important of these recent cases, a judge found that a wedding photographer broke the law by refusing to serve as a photographer for a same-sex wedding. In an incredibly revealing decision, the court stated, quite straightforwardly, that the religious liberties of the photographer would indeed be violated by coerced participation in a same-sex wedding. Nevertheless, the court found that the new morality trumped concern for religious liberty.¹

Similarly, we have seen religious institutions, especially colleges and schools, confronted by the demands that amount to

a surrender to the sexual revolution with regards to nondiscrimination on the basis of sex, sexual behavior, and sexual orientation pertaining to admissions, the hiring of faculty, and student housing. In some jurisdictions, lawmakers are contemplating hate crime legislation that would marginalize and criminalize speech that is in conflict with the new moral consensus.

A Conflict of Liberties

We now face an inevitable conflict of liberties . . . In this case, the conflict of liberties means that the new moral regime, with the backing of the courts and the regulatory state, will prioritize erotic liberty over religious liberty . . . *Erotic liberty has been elevated as a right more fundamental than religious liberty.*

Erotic liberty now marginalizes, subverts, and neutralizes religious liberty — a liberty highly prized by the builders of this nation and its constitutional order. We must remember that the framers of the Constitution did not believe they were creating rights within the Constitution, but rather acknowledging rights given to all humanity by “nature and nature’s God.”

The challenges we will face with regards to religious liberty are immense and increasing by the season. The government has at its disposal mechanisms for moral coercion that reach far beyond prisons, jails, and fines. For example, at least some business people who refused to participate in same-sex weddings, such as photographers, bakers, or florists, were required to undergo “sensitivity training.” . . . These sensitivity training programs represent efforts to bring intellectual cleansing. And now, in some jurisdictions they can be inflicted upon religious believers who dare oppose the morality of the new regime.



. . . This poses no danger to theological liberals and their churches and denominations because those churches have accommodated themselves to the new morality and find themselves quite comfortable within the context of the new moral regime. Furthermore, some of these liberal denominations and churches style themselves as defenders of the new morality and actually advocate legal modifications that restrict the religious liberty rights of more conservative churches and denominations.

. . . We can be sure this is not the end of our struggle. It is only the beginning.✚

1) The Supreme Court of New Mexico, *Elane Photography, LLC v. Vanessa Willock*, August 22, 2013, <http://online.wsj.com/public/resources/documents/Photogopinion.pdf>.

Gender Insanity

Dr. David R. Reagan

God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them (Genesis 1:27).

The anti-God Leftists in this nation have decided to launch an all-out war against the biblical concept that there are only two genders — male and female. It is all part of the fundamental aim of liberating our nation from Christian principles so that it can become a full-blown atheistic, pagan society.

In May of this year, the New York City Commission on Human Rights declared that there are at least 31 genders that must be recognized in the workplace, in public areas and in housing. And they made it clear that their list below is not exhaustive.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) Bi-gendered | 17) Woman |
| 2) Cross-dresser | 18) Man |
| 3) Drag King | 19) Butch |
| 4) Drag Queen | 20) Two-Spirit |
| 5) Femme Queen | 21) Trans |
| 6) Female-to-Male | 22) Agender |
| 7) FTM | 23) Third Sex |
| 8) Gender Bender | 24) Gender Fluid |
| 9) Genderqueer | 25) Non-Binary Transgender |
| 10) Male-to-Female | 26) Androgyne |
| 11) MTF | 27) Gender Gifted |
| 12) Non-Op | 28) Gender Blender |
| 13) HIJRA | 29) Femme |
| 14) Pangender | 30) Androgynous |
| 15) Transsexual/Transsexual | 31) Person of Transgender |
| 16) Trans Person | Experience |

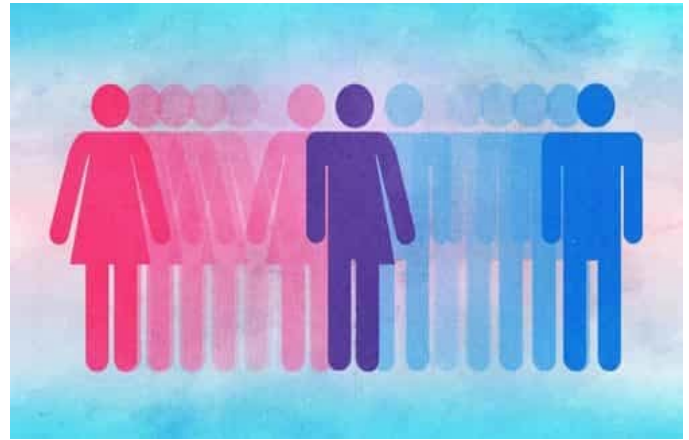
So, what does it mean when the Commission declared that these genders must be recognized? You had better put on your seat belt!

The Commission declared that a refusal to use a person's preferred name, pronoun or title can constitute "gender-based harassment" and can result in a fine up to \$250,000. That means that a man who wants to be called miss or she has a right to *demand* the use of those terms by his employer, fellow employees, landlord or fellow tenants.

And that is only the tip of the iceberg. Other gender titles that can be demanded include ze, hir, sie, ey, ve, tey, fae, and xe — oh, and also, glugga. (I'm not kidding, although I wish I were.)

Talk about a gross violation of our Constitutional right of free speech! This is depravity gone to seed coupled with government dictatorship.

This insanity is already spreading across our nation. Consider what happened recently in the Gresham-Barlow School District, located just outside of Portland, Oregon. A female elementary school teacher decided that she identified as neither male nor female. She claimed to be "genderqueer" or "transmasculine." She changed her name to Leo and asked to be referred



(www.prophecynewswatch.com)

to as "they." When her fellow teachers continued to refer to her as a woman and refused to call her, "they," she filed a gender-harassment complaint with the school district.

Incredibly, the District officials came to a settlement with "they" in which the district agreed to pay her/him/they — whatever — \$60,000 for "emotional distress." They also agreed to provide gender-neutral restrooms. And to top it off, they ordered all of her (sorry!) fellow teachers to call her, "they," under the threat of discipline or dismissal.

Franklin Graham called their settlement "incredible." He added, "Doesn't a person's DNA or birth certificate count for anything? Shouldn't fact override fantasy?"

Graham's observation gets to the bottom line. Any man who thinks he is a woman or any woman who thinks she is a man or any person who thinks he/she is both male and female is delusional and mentally ill. They are equivalent to a woman who announces that she is Joan of Arc, or a man who claims to be Napoleon.

Such persons need spiritual and mental help. They do not need to be encouraged in their delusion, nor should the government be forcing normal people to recognize and accept their delusion. And they certainly should not be allowed to be teachers in our public schools.

Romans chapter one says that the final stage in God's destruction of a nation occurs when He delivers the society over to a depraved mind. American has arrived.

And the rest of the world is not far behind. In fact, most of Europe is far ahead of us in its depravity. Facebook in England now provides for 71 gender identities.

We are witnessing the fulfillment of the prophecy that Paul wrote to Timothy (2 Timothy 3:1-5):

Remember that there will be difficult times in the last days. People will be selfish, greedy, boastful, and conceited; they will be insulting, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, and irreligious; they will be unkind, merciless, slanderers, violent, and fierce; they will hate the good; they will be treacherous, reckless, and swollen with pride; they will love pleasure rather than God . . . (LBP) ❖

Trey Pearson chose deception, not “honesty”

Peter Heck



Peter Heck

(Editor's note: Peter Heck is an author, speaker and teacher who lives in Kokomo, Indiana with his wife Jenny. They have two daughters and a son. Peter has been a public high school teacher since 2001. He is the author of several books, and he serves as a contributing opinion columnist for the *Indianapolis Star* and *The American Thinker*. His website can be found at peterheck.com. This article is reprinted with his permission.)

By “coming out,” the lead singer of *Everyday Sunday* has decided to allow his sinful urge the power to devastate his wife, confuse his children, destroy his ministry, and take the throne room of his soul away from Christ.

I was recently asked by a friend what I thought about Trey Pearson's decision to abandon his family and “come out” to the world. For those that don't know who he is, Trey Pearson is the lead singer of a Christian rock band called *Everyday Sunday*. In a magazine article and a host of subsequent interviews, Pearson detailed how he never wanted to be gay, but had to be honest with himself. In fact, that was apparently the major impetus behind his decision, as he tweeted: “To my fans and friends: I'm finally being honest with myself. I love you all.”

The world's reaction was immediate and tremendously positive . . . And tragically, that support wasn't isolated to the world. Many Christians echoed the world (as is becoming an all-too-often refrain these days) in affirming Pearson's decision to live an outwardly homosexual life . . .

And that's what concerns me the most, I think. Apparently the Christianity that Trey Pearson knew and learned, as well as the Christianity practiced by so many professing believers these days (meaning the Christianity proclaimed from so many pulpits), has little to no grounding in the authority of God's Word. I don't just mean the truth that homosexuality is one form of offensive and sinful conduct. I mean the foundational teaching of man's basic state.

For any Christian, being “honest” with ourselves is coming to recognize that we are sinners, pulled towards sinful urges (sexual and otherwise) by a depraved nature that leads us into believing we can be gods of our own private universes. It requires us to confront the destiny of our sinful souls and choose repentance and reliance on a power that is not of this world — a power that makes the blind see, the lost found, and the vilest offender of the Christian faith into the greatest missionary the world has ever known. It requires us to recognize that no matter how strong the urge to sin may be, no matter how natural or powerful it may appear when compared to our earthly strength,

the same spirit that raised Jesus from the grave is available to raise us up out of our deadly desires and designs.

Being “honest” with ourselves means that we acknowledge the way that seems — and feels — so right to us, leads us to death.

But rather than be honest with himself, Pearson has actually chosen to deceive himself (and sadly so many others) into believing that his sinful urge defines him, controls him and owns him . . . Pearson told Religion News Service, “God wants me to be . . . my truest self.” No, He doesn't. That belief is divorced from any notion of biblical truth. Such a statement does not come from a mind surrendered to the will of Christ, but a mind drowned in sinful pride.

God tells us repeatedly that the only way to live is to die (Galatians 2:20). God desires not that we exalt ourselves but that we die to self (Ephesians 4:22-24) . . .

The Christian life is about denial of self (Colossians 3:5). ***Trey Pearson has chosen instead to deny God and exalt himself.*** And he has done so at the cost of everything God had graciously given him: a loving wife, children, witness, ministry, and platform. That isn't a decision that any Christian should appreciate, applaud or affirm . . .



Trey Pearson

Trey Pearson is currently enjoying the fake love wrapped in the fleeting adoration of the world . . . But when the invitations onto *The View*, the interviews with *Huffington Post*, the congratulatory tweets from celebrities fade, Pearson will be a man alone grappling with his public denial of Christ, and with the sin he has chosen to embrace, vainly hoping it will fill a void only Jesus can fill.

Pray first for his innocent family. Then pray for him, pray for those who might reach him in those vulnerable moments to come — that they will exhibit the courage to speak the truth that hurts but heals, and pray that Pearson may come to trust the Word of God over the words of men. ✚

Witnessing to a New Breed of False Converts

Mike Gendron



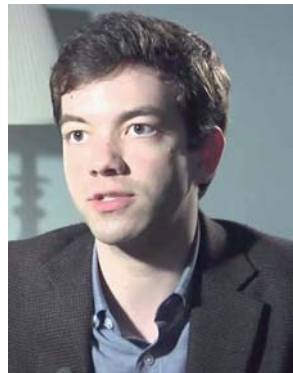
Mike Gendron

(Editor's note: Mike Gendron is the founder and evangelist of Proclaiming the Gospel Ministries in Garland, Texas. He is an expert on Christian doctrine. His website is pro-gospel.org.)

A new kind of false convert has emerged within the professing church in this generation. They are professing Christians who identify themselves with a particular sinful lifestyle. They call themselves "gay Christians" and they are becoming more and more accepted in many Christian communities.

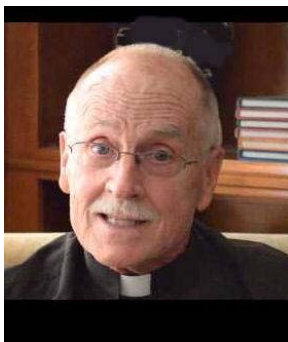
Many of them have been encouraged by a book released last year called *God and the Gay Christian: The Biblical Case in Support of Same-Sex Relationships*. The book was written by Matthew Vines who was raised in a Christian home. At age 19, he left Harvard University after his third semester to study the Bible and prove that homosexuality is not a sin and to remove the "homophobia" that he thought was in the Church.

In March 2012, he released a YouTube message about the Bible and homosexuality that called for acceptance of gay Christians and same-sex marriages. Since then, his message has been seen nearly a million times on YouTube and was featured in *The New York Times* and *The Christian Post*. Tragically, Vines interprets the Bible through the lens of his sexuality rather than interpreting his sexuality through the lens of Scripture!



Matthew Vines

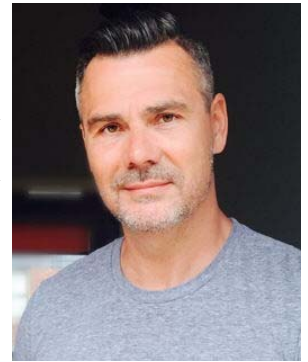
There is also the Metropolitan Community Church, which calls itself a Christian denomination, with 222 congregations in 37 countries. It is an outreach to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender families and reportedly bases its theology on the historic creeds of the Christian Church.



Mel White

One of its pastors was Mel White, who was best known for his ghostwriting autobiographies for Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson, and Billy Graham. After years of writing for the Christian right, he came out as a homosexual in 1994 and wrote his autobiography, *Stranger at the Gate: To Be Gay And Christian In America*.

Stan Mitchell, the apostate pastor of GracePointe Church in Franklin, Tennessee, who leads the megachurch congregation that country star Carrie Underwood attends, announced from the pulpit in January 2015 that not only can practicing homosexuals be members, but those in sexual sin can now fully serve in his church and will be allowed to "marry" at the facility.



Stan Mitchell

How do we evangelize people who believe they are Christians but, at the same time, deny their sin of homosexuality? We know from God's Word that conviction of sin is an essential part of true conversion (John 16:8-11; 2 Cor. 7:10). Until the sinner is convinced of sin, he can never be converted from sin. Until sin is thoroughly revealed, Christ cannot be rightly claimed as Savior.

As long as sin is rationalized, Christ will be recognized merely as a badge of honor. No one will seek a Savior unless they know they are perishing. We must speak the truth in love to "gay Christians" and tell them that the Lord Jesus saves us from sin, not in sin.

We must tell them that the Bible reveals homosexuality to be a most degrading and indecent behavior that dishonors the body. It is an ungodly and unnatural sin that has been condemned by God, was punishable by death in the Old Testament and given as a divine judgment in the New Testament.

It is a twisted perversion of the God-ordained roles for men and women. Of over 30,000 verses in the Bible, not one makes a positive statement about homosexuality. We must encourage false converts to take the Word of God seriously. Those who don't will be judged by the Word of God on the last day (John 12:48).

The Apostle Paul made it profoundly clear: "Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Cor. 6:9-10). We must lovingly confront homosexuals and share with them that there is forgiveness in Christ.

The power of God can set captives free from the bondage of any sin when they are washed, sanctified and justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God (1 Corinthians 6:11). In Christ, there will be victory and there will be joy and peace.

When God replaces man's stony heart with a heart of flesh, and opens his eyes to see the light of the Gospel, and he is humbled under the sovereign hand of God, he will turn from his sin to Jesus Christ in gratitude and thanksgiving. Then his mind, his will, and his heart will all join together in the power of the Holy Spirit to put to death the evil deeds of the flesh for the glory of God. ✚

Changing *Jesus Calling* Damage Control for a False Christ

Warren B. Smith

(Editor's notes: Warren Smith is a native of Connecticut. He has degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and Tulane University. Before becoming a Christian evangelist, he spent most of his life as a community social worker. Over the years, he became deeply involved in the New Age Movement, even serving as a teacher of New Age principles.

After becoming a Christian, he began writing extensively on the subject of spiritual deception. He has written six books and numerous booklets and has been a popular conference speaker for the last 25 years. For more information, visit www.warrenb.smith.com. For more detailed information about *Jesus Calling*, see his book titled, "*Another Jesus*" *Calling*. His fascinating life story is contained in his book, *The Light That Was Dark*.)

What if you are a major publisher like Thomas Nelson and you suddenly discover that your mega best-selling book *Jesus Calling* was inspired by a channeled New Age book?

And what if you find out that some of the "messages" your author "received" from her "Jesus" weren't really from Jesus because they contradict what the real Jesus Christ says in the Bible?

And what if your best-selling author has introduced a host of other problems in her book that your usually sharp editors had somehow overlooked?

What do you do given these issues are already in the pages of ten million previously published books? If you want to be fair to your readers, you deal honestly with these problems as they are brought to your attention. However, if you are more interested in protecting your product rather than in protecting the truth, you do everything in your power to make these problems disappear.

One thing is for sure — the author, Sarah Young, and the publisher, Thomas Nelson, have made some of their problems suddenly disappear in recent editions of *Jesus Calling*, most especially in the special 10th anniversary edition of the book that was released in September 2014.

Like the Watergate Tapes

Perhaps taking their cue from the missing eighteen-and-a-half minutes from Richard Nixon's Watergate tapes, Sarah Young and Thomas Nelson have been systematically deleting controversial material from *Jesus Calling*.

Adding, subtracting, cutting, pasting, and completely eliminating problematic words, sentences, and even whole paragraphs, Young and her editors do not hesitate to put words in the mouth of their "Jesus," even as they take others away. But like the Watergate tapes, the missing evidence and their in-your-face tactics are doing more to expose their problems than cover them up.



New Age expert, Warren B. Smith.

Another *Jesus Calling*

In the fall of 2013, my book "*Another Jesus*" *Calling* was published by Lighthouse Trails Publishing. I was not the first person to express concern about *Jesus Calling*, but not much had been written up to that point. As our concerns were publicized, Sarah Young and Thomas Nelson obviously became aware of our objections. Without a word of explanation to anyone, significant alterations began to be made in subsequent editions of *Jesus Calling*.

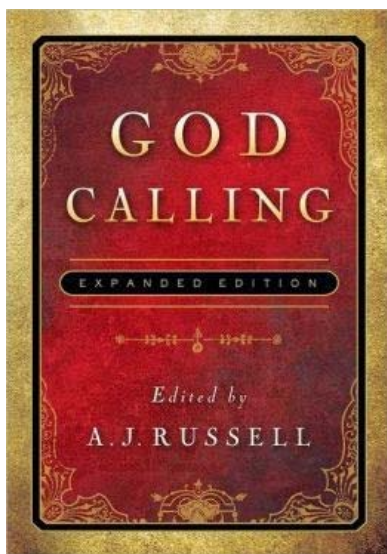
With "now you see it, now you don't" editing, some of their major problems suddenly disappeared from the pages of *Jesus Calling*. To illustrate the lengths to which Sarah Young and Thomas Nelson have gone to protect their book and their multi-million dollar *Jesus Calling* industry, I will provide five specific examples — and there are many others — to demonstrate how readers of *Jesus Calling* are being managed and manipulated. Make no mistake about it — damage control is in full swing at Thomas Nelson, and it is especially evident in their special 10th anniversary edition of Sarah Young's book.

Five Problems

1 *Jesus Calling* was inspired by a channeled New Age book titled, *God Calling*.¹

In an interview with the Christian Broadcasting Network, author Sarah Young said that her journey with *Jesus Calling* began with the book *God Calling*. She stated:²

My journey began with a devotional book (*God Calling*) written in the 1930s by two women who practiced waiting in God's Presence, writing the messages they received as they "listened." About a year after I started reading this book, I began to wonder if I too could receive messages during my times of communing with God . . . So I decided to "listen" to God with pen in hand, writing down whatever I sensed He was saying.



But Sarah Young and her editors somehow missed the fact that *God Calling* is a channeled New Age book. It consists of a collection of channeled messages presented in the form of daily devotionals. The messages were channeled through two English women in the 1930s and could easily have been titled “Jesus Calling” because they claimed it was dictated by “The Living Christ Himself.”³

The Encyclopedia of New Age Beliefs, published by Harvest House Christian publishers, specifically describes *God Calling* as a channeled New Age book. In their lengthy chapter on channeling and spiritual dictation, authors/apologists John Weldon and John Ankerberg explain that channeling is a form of New Age “mediumship” and according to the Bible it is a practice that is specifically forbidden (Deuteronomy 18:9-12).⁴

Under the subheading titled “Impersonations of Christianity,” the authors describe *God Calling* as a New Age book “replete with denials of biblical teaching”⁵ as it “subtly encourages psychic development and spiritistic inspiration under the guise of Christ’s personal guidance . . . and often misinterprets Scripture.”⁶ Yet Sarah Young wrote that it was *God Calling* that inspired her to receive her own messages from “Jesus.” In her original introduction to *Jesus Calling*, Young praised *God Calling* as “a treasure to me.”⁷

The Damage Control

. . . In recent editions of *Jesus Calling* — including the 10th anniversary edition — the paragraph regarding *God Calling* has been removed from the author’s longstanding introduction. No explanation. No apology. Nothing. Suddenly and completely gone is any mention of *God Calling* — how it had inspired her to receive her own “messages” from “Jesus” and how it was a “treasure” to her . . .

The unexplained changes have caused many former supporters of *Jesus Calling* to stop using the devotional book. Christian online newspaper WorldNetDaily (WND) picked up on the controversy and published two articles, “Top Christian Bestseller Accused of Heresy”⁸ and “Is Hit Book ‘Jesus Calling’ Pushing New Age?”⁹ *Charisma* magazine followed up with a similar article that noted the growing controversy. It was titled “Critics Accuse ‘Jesus Calling’ of Mixing Truth With New Age Error.”¹⁰

For Sarah Young to not have initially recognized *God Calling* as a New Age book should raise some serious red flags. For her to praise *God Calling* as “a treasure to me” should raise those red flags even further. But for Sarah Young and her publisher to remove all references to *God Calling* without any explanation or apology to her millions of readers is perhaps the reddest flag of all. It is the height of spiritual irresponsibility for Sarah Young to pretend it is no big deal after her original

endorsement of *God Calling* re-ignited the sales of this blatant New Age book, especially when *God Calling* — thanks to her — now sits alongside *Jesus Calling* in thousands of bookstores across the country — including countless Christian bookstores.

2 Sarah Young originally wrote that she “received messages” from “Jesus” Himself.

The Damage Control

In recent editions of *Jesus Calling*, all ten references to the words “message” and “messages” have been deleted from her otherwise longstanding introduction. What were originally described as “messages” she “received” from “Jesus” are now being described as “writings” and “devotions” that she “gleaned” in her “quiet moments.”

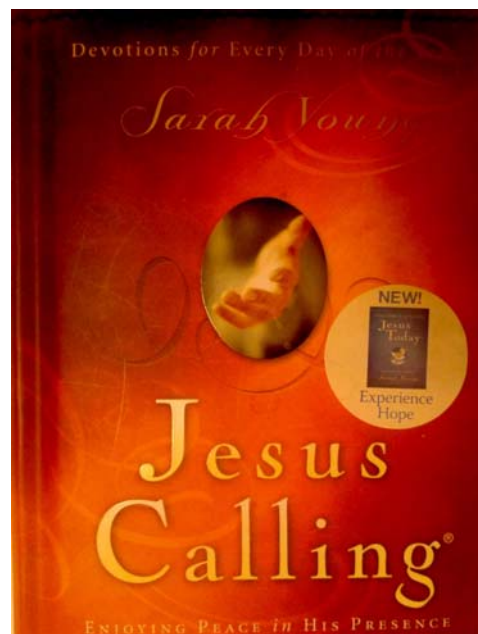
. . . Changing the “messages” she “received” to the “writings” and “devotions” she “gleaned” in her “quiet moments” attempts to counter any suggestion that Sarah Young might be getting deceived by a seducing spirit that is presenting itself as the real Jesus (1 Timothy 4:1, Matthew 24:4-5).

3 Sarah Young’s “Jesus” contradicts the Bible’s true Jesus Christ.

In two separate messages, Sarah Young was told by her “Jesus” that the last words he spoke after his resurrection and before ascending into heaven were “I am with you always.” But this statement made by the true Jesus Christ on a Mount in the Galilee was not His last words before ascending into heaven. His last words were spoken from the Mount of Olives as recorded in Acts 1:7-9, 12. The two “messages” Sarah Young received from her “Jesus” contradict the words of the true Jesus Christ in the Holy Bible. What her “Jesus” said was totally unbiblical.

The Damage Control

Since this unbiblical contradiction was brought to light in my book “*Another Jesus*” *Calling*, Sarah Young and Thomas Nelson have eliminated this obvious contradiction in their 10th anniversary edition. In other words, they had their “Jesus” correct himself . . .



4 Sarah Young's "Jesus" stated that Abraham was guilty of "idolatry" and "son-worship."

In the August 23rd message in *Jesus Calling*, Sarah Young's "Jesus" says that Abraham was a man of "undisciplined emotions" and was guilty of "son-worship" and "idolatry." Many believers have recoiled at these strange, extra-biblical remarks.

The Damage Control

Sarah Young and Thomas Nelson have attempted to make this particular problem disappear by deleting all references to Abraham and Isaac, replacing them with a reference to Jacob and Joseph instead . . .

5 "Jesus" complains about the night of his birth.

Creating considerable controversy and confusion, the "Jesus" of *Jesus Calling* says he was born "under appalling conditions" in a "filthy stable" and that the night of his birth "was a dark night" for him. To many readers, this did not sound like the voice of their Savior — it sounded like the voice of a stranger (John 10:5) and that Satan — not Jesus — would be the one describing the night of Jesus' birth as "that dark night for Me."

The Damage Control

In the 10th anniversary edition of *Jesus Calling*, the controversial statement — "That was a dark night for Me" — was deleted and quietly replaced by the less controversial statement. "There was nothing glorious about that setting."

Summary

. . . Intrigued by the channeled messages of *God Calling*, Sarah Young was apparently not satisfied with the sufficiency of God's Word. In her original introduction, Young stated: "I knew that God communicated with me through the Bible, but I yearned for more."¹¹ While this statement — along with many others — has been deleted in recent editions, it is clear the author of *Jesus Calling* "yearned for more," and more is what she got.

As a result, she received "messages" from a "Jesus" that has proven himself to be one of the false Christs that the real Jesus Christ warned us to watch out for (Matthew 24:4-5, 23-24). Wanting a word from God more than the Word of God, Sarah Young ended up getting deceived. "Deceiving, and being deceived" (2 Timothy 3:13), she has taken millions of *Jesus Calling* readers along with her.

The Bible describes those who love and respect the power and authority of God's Word as those who tremble at God's Word (Isaiah 66:2). The Bible also describes those who do not tremble at God's Word but rather use and manipulate God's Word for their own selfish purposes (2 Corinthians 4:2).

There is no nice way to say it. *Jesus Calling* is a gross affront to our true Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. And the self-serving effort by Sarah Young and her publisher to cover up some of the many problems found in *Jesus Calling* is a gross affront to the body of Christ. It is one thing for Sarah Young to be deceived, it is quite another for her to be the author of deception herself.

The five examples provided in this article typify the unprincipled damage control that the author and her publisher have undertaken to preserve their multi-million dollar *Jesus Calling* industry — all at the expense of people who have put their trust



Sarah Young

in Sarah Young and her "Jesus."

To those who would argue that there is a lot of truth in *Jesus Calling* and that the book has comforted many people, we need to be reminded of the words of former Moody Memorial Church pastor Dr. Harry Ironside who warned about "truth mixed with error."¹²

Error is like leaven, of which we read, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." Truth mixed with error is equivalent to all error, except that it is more innocent looking and, therefore, more dangerous. God hates such a mixture! Any error, or truth-and-error mixture, calls for definite exposure and repudiation. To condone such is to be unfaithful to God and His Word and treacherous to imperiled souls for whom Christ died.

Jesus warned that great deception would characterize the time of the end and that the deception would come in His name. I am absolutely convinced that the "Jesus" of *Jesus Calling* is not the true Christ. Rather he is one of the false Christs that the real Jesus warned us to watch out for (Matthew 24:3-5):

And as He sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when shall these things be and what shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?" And Jesus answered and said unto them, "Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."

Editor's note: Anytime anyone starts trying to put words in the mouth of Jesus, a red flag should go up. The fact that this book, *Jesus Calling*, is being sold in Christian bookstores and church bookstores is evidence of the lack of spiritual discernment that exists in Christendom today. (Reference notes for this article are attached to the article posted on our website.)



Dr. David R. Reagan

When I learned of the decision of the British people to withdraw their nation from the European Union, I was full of rejoicing. There were several reasons for my reaction.

One Worldism

First, I am always delighted when multinational or international organizations are weakened in any way. That's because all such organizations exist in rebellion against God's will. The Bible says that God is the one who establishes nations and defines their boundaries (Acts 17:24-26). When political leaders decide to transcend those boundaries to establish multinational or international organizations, they put themselves in direct defiance of God's will.

God's response to the attempt early in Mankind's history to unite all nations into one at Babylon should make it clear what our Creator thinks of such misguided efforts (Genesis 11:1-9). He confused their language and scattered them all over the world. The reason God resists all such efforts to unite people across national boundaries is because such efforts always end up with Man exalting himself rather than God.

Freedom

A second reason for my rejoicing is that I love freedom, and the British people had lost a good deal of their freedom when their nation joined the European Union. They began to be ruled by an over-bloated bureaucracy that they had no control over.

For example, the British were forced to surrender their ancient system of measurements. No longer could they think in terms of ounces and pounds, inches and yards, miles or gallons. Butchers were arrested and fined for continuing to sell meat by the pound. And all this was only the beginning. Before long, every aspect of life was being dictated by the European Union.

Most people do not realize how much sovereignty member nations surrender when they enter the EU. For example, in *Costa v ENEL* (1964), the European Court of Justice ruled that member states have definitively transferred sovereign rights to the European Union and Union law can not be overridden by domestic law.

Immigration

Another reason I rejoiced is because the decision will allow the British to regain control of their borders. As a member of the European Union, their doors had to be open to immigrants from any other EU nation, just as Americans can move within the United States from one state to another without permission.

This unrestricted immigration has been rapidly transforming Britain from a nation based on Judeo-Christian principles to one based on very alien concepts, like Islamic Sharia law. As a result,

there are more mosques in Britain today than Methodist churches.

Anti-Semitism

The European Union is extremely anti-Semitic and treats Israel with contempt. Just recently, in June of this year, the President of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, spoke to the EU Parliament and accused Israel of being a "fascist country." He then updated a vicious medieval anti-Semitic canard by charging that Israeli rabbis are urging Jews to poison the Palestinian water supply! The representatives of the 28 member nations responded with a thunderous 30-second standing ovation.

The new Prime Minister of England, Theresa May, has made it clear that she strongly supports Israel and the Jewish people. In a series of speeches she gave in the wake of the Paris terror attacks last year, May said, "I could never have imagined Jewish people being too scared to stay in Britain." Without its Jews, she said, "Britain would not be Britain." In a speech in September of 2014 she talked about Israel's right to defend itself: "No democratic government could, in the face of such danger, do anything but maintain a strong defense and security capability. . . That is why I — and the whole British government — will always defend Israel's right to defend itself."



**Prime Minister
Theresa May**

Britain can now speak out strongly in behalf of Israel without having to worry about contradicting the official foreign policy line of the EU.

The Panic

All the hullabaloo over the pending economic collapse of Britain because of the EU exit decision is just that — a lot of hot air. Sure, there will be economic adjustment problems, but the British can establish new economic relationships with the EU, just as the United States has done. Furthermore, the UK is a net importer from the EU, and therefore, the EU needs the UK more than the UK needs the EU.

Alignment with Prophecy

As to prophetic implications, the British exit is in accordance with Bible prophecy. Daniel 2 makes it clear that in the end times, the Roman Empire will be revived, and I believe the European Union is the foundation of that prophecy. But the imagery in Daniel 2 of the end time revival pictures the revived empire as a loose and unstable confederation, symbolized by a mixture of clay and iron (Daniel 2:41-42).

Accordingly, I believe the European Union will remain highly unstable until it is united and stabilized by the Antichrist who will then use it as his base of operations from which he will build his world empire. ✚

Under Rowers for Christ

John Baugh

(Editor's note: This remarkable article is reprinted with the permission of the author. John Baugh is a retired scientist who worked as a quality assurance executive in the pharmaceutical industry. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University and resides in Clinton, Mississippi. Since the year 2000, John has devoted his life to a full time ministry of disciple-making. John and his wife, Cindy, have been married for 45 years. They have two sons and four grandchildren. He maintains a discipling website at ToBeLikeHim.com.)



John Baugh

In his letter to the Church at Corinth, Paul made a simple statement, that upon close inspection, becomes very interesting — as if anything Paul ever wrote was less than interesting! He wrote that he and his team wanted to be regarded as “servants.”

So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God (1 Corinthians 4:1).

Most anyone with a maturing relationship with Christ has at one time or another used the word “servant” to describe their standing with our Lord. Depending on how many times anyone has used the adjective; they might allow it to roll off the tongue with ease, and perhaps with little thought.

“With ease and little thought” were never appropriate words to describe any statement Paul made.

The Greek Word Servant

The Greek word Paul used that we translate as servant is *huperetes*. It literally means “under rowers.” But to translate it as “Men ought to regard us as under rowers for Christ” would mean little to most of us. So our Bible translators use the word servant. But for the Corinthians of the First Century, and to anyone with any sea experience in that time, it was a serious term that they understood very well . . .

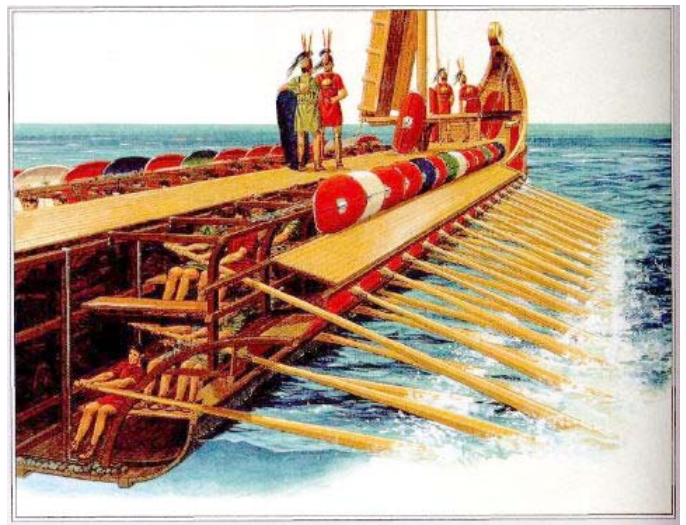
The most common boats of that day were the Triremes or galley slave ships. These ships were equipped with three banks of oars in three levels, one above another. The oars and those who pulled the oars functioned as propulsion for the vessels. The slaves on the lower level who sat chained to the oars were called *huperetes*, the “under rowers.”

Life at the Bottom of the Ship

The under rowers’ job at the bottom of the ship was grim, and it was permanent. There was little relief from the demands placed on these slaves. Most of these slave rowers died in service and the chains about their ankles served as a constant reminder of their servitude to the vessel’s captain.

There were five aspects of the work of the under rowers that Paul and his companions could identify with when they referred to themselves as “servants” of Christ.

- First, the galley slave rowed “to the captain’s beat.” In order to keep as many as 150 oars together, a rhythmic beat was sounded on a drum. Each slave in the galley had to pull on their oar in time with the beat.
- Second, the slaves had to row together. On larger craft, the oars were up to thirty feet in length and were pulled by up to three rowers per oar. The under rower slaves quickly learned that with three of them working the oar, one could not lean on the oar, another push, and another pull! They had to work together as a team.
- Third, they had to trust the captain. In the gloomy depths of the boat a slave had no idea where he was, where he was going, or the time of arrival. The life of the rower was one of total faith and obedience. As the captain’s beat grew more and more rapid it might signal an impending enemy attack, a storm to be avoided, or a hurried schedule. The slave was not allowed to question which. His job was only to obey the beat of the captain’s drum and to row.
- Fourth, the galley slave was committed for life. His was always a one-way trip. The damp, hard benches were no relief to his weary bones after a day’s labor. Comfort was not a concern and the leg chains bound every slave to the ship with deadly certainty. And if the ship went down in a storm or in conflict, the slaves were tied to the fate of the ship with no way of escape.
- Finally, the slave received no honor. Only the captain of the vessel was visible to the outer world. Although there were many men who gave their lives and very breath to keep the ship going, they were never seen. They rowed on and on, day in and day out, invisible to and unrewarded by the world. If an under rower was ever seen, it was because he was not doing his job.



A cut-away drawing of a Roman ship with three rows of galley slaves, or “under rowers,” as they were called in the Greek language.

Galley Slaves for Christ

In his letter to the church at Corinth, Paul provided a portrait that was vivid and remains meaningful to those who understand, many years later. He said it was a description of himself and his team in their service to the Lord. Likewise, it needs to describe us as disciples, today.

Paul wanted to be known for five things (and we should, too):

- 1) He was submissive. He rowed to the Captain's beat.
- 2) He was sensitive. He worked in harmony with those about him.
- 3) He was trusting. He had no concern where he labored for the Captain.
- 4) He was dedicated. He was willing to labor at his post until death.
- 5) He was humble. He wanted none of the glory to go to himself, but all to the Captain.

Although our motivation for serving Christ differs from the rowing slave's relationship to their Captain, like the rowers, we need to:

- 1) Remain obedient to our Master.
- 2) Cooperate with our fellow servants.
- 3) Trust the Lord to take us where we need to go.
- 4) Remain in service to the Lord for a lifetime.
- 5) Give Christ all the glory.

The galley slaves did these things out of fear, but we can do them with confident trust in a loving Captain whose plans for us are for our eventual good. That promise is given to us in Jeremiah 29:11 where it says, "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'" (Jeremiah 29:11).

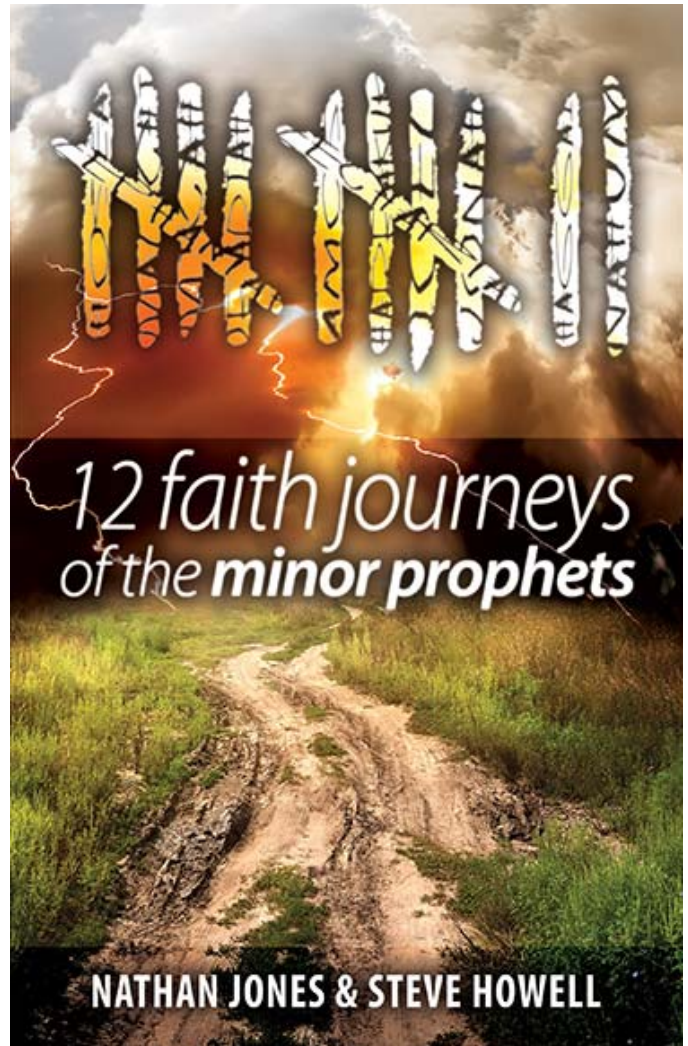
Like the galley slaves of the seas of Corinth's day, disciples of the Lord belong to someone else. Paul described this well when he wrote to the Corinthians, "You are not your own" . . . "you were bought at a price" (1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NIV).

There is an important difference in our bondage from that of the under rowers. They were held by the shackles and iron chains of a slave whereas we are held in Christ's service by a different kind of chain that Paul described when he wrote, "For Christ's love compels us . . ." (2 Corinthians 5:14).

As we give ourselves to the Lord, we need to have the goals of the Huperetes — the Under Rower:

- 1) To become truly submissive, rowing to the beat of the Lord.
- 2) To pull together with our fellow servants in Christ.
- 3) To be willing to go, trusting, wherever He leads (steers the ship).
- 4) Our commitment to Him needs to be a lifelong commitment.
- 5) We need to have no expectation for glory in this world, only a desire to do all for Him. ✚

A Great Discipleship Book



Dr. Reagan considers this new book by Nathan Jones and his friend, Steve Howell, to be the best book about the Minor Prophets that he has ever read.

"It is full of spiritual insights about what it means to live by faith," said Dr. Reagan. "And there is not a dull chapter in it," Dr. Reagan added.

This book provides a great introduction to the 12 books of scripture that are probably least read by Christians. When you read it, you will discover that the so-called "Minor Prophets" are minor only in the length of their books, as compared to the Major Prophets. There is nothing "minor" about the spiritual insights they contain.

One aspect of this book that is unique is that the authors provide a fictional introduction to each book that gives the reader a feel for the personality of the prophet and the historical setting of his time. Although fictional, the introductions are based on clues contained in the books.

The book runs a total of 313 pages. It sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping. You can place your order through our website at lamblion.com, or you can call us at 972-736-3567 between 8am and 5pm, Central time, Monday through Friday. ✚

My Great Encourager

Dr. David R. Reagan

My dear friend, Wayne Smith, died in June at the age of 87. He loved Jesus, and he loved people. And everyone who knew him, loved him.



Wayne Smith

(Lexington Herald-Leader, www.kentucky.com)

I will be forever indebted to Wayne for his support of this ministry and the constant encouragement he gave to me.

When I established Lamb & Lion Ministries in 1980, I had few contacts in the religious world. I had been a university professor and administrator for 20 years. It was 15 years before public access to the Internet, so it was extremely difficult to get known.

For the first three years, I spoke to small rural congregations that rarely had more than 50 members. I began to wonder if the ministry would ever “take off.”

The turning point came in 1984 when I was invited to hold a four night conference in Lexington, Kentucky. The invitation came from a group of ministers representing non-instrumental Churches of Christ. I accepted their invitation, but on certain conditions that I thought they would never agree to. Specifically, I requested that the conference be held at a neutral site like a hotel or school auditorium. I asked that it be promoted in a non-denominational name, like “The Blue Grass Committee for Christ.” And I requested that other denominations be invited to participate by supplying choirs or pastors to pray. To my astonishment, they agreed to all the conditions.

About a week after the conference, I got a call from Wayne Smith. I had no idea who he was. I was totally unaware of the fact that he was the pastor of one of the largest churches in Kentucky — the Southland Christian Church. “David,” he said, “one of my church members dragged me to the last night of your conference, and I was impressed. I don’t know anything about Bible prophecy, but you sure sound like you do, so I want to invite you to come hold a meeting at my church.”

I held that meeting, and the Lord greatly blessed it. Wayne wrote it up in his bulletin like it was the greatest thing that had ever happened at his church. What I did not know was that

Wayne was so highly admired and respected, that the pastors at nearly all the Independent Christian Churches of America subscribed to his church’s bulletin. And when Wayne endorsed you, that opened the doors to many churches. I suddenly started receiving invitations from all across the nation.

And Wayne started receiving vicious criticism from some of the leaders of the Independent Christian Churches. The reason was because the denomination as a whole is strictly Amillennial, and they highly resented a Premillennialist like me being endorsed by one of their leading pastors. But Wayne never let the criticism bother him, and he kept inviting me to return.

As I got to know him, I discovered that Wayne was one of the funniest men I had ever met in my life. He could easily have been a professional stand-up comedian. He had a joke for everything, and he had a unique way of telling them whereby he would start laughing heartily before he got to the punch line!

When he experienced a terrible automobile accident on the outskirts of Lexington, he told the paramedics as they were loading him into an ambulance, “Don’t take me to the Baptist hospital because they believe in ‘once sick, always sick.’”

Wayne was no Bible scholar, nor did he pretend to be. He built his church from 152 to over 4,000 members through love and humor. He knew everyone’s name, he loved them genuinely, and he was willing to overlook their failures. One of his favorite expressions was, “No one’s perfect.” He would often visit as many as five families each day. I know, because he took me with him several times. He would ring the door bell, hug the person who came to the door, rush to the kitchen to raid the refrigerator, tell a few jokes, and head to the next household. If he took you to lunch at a restaurant, it always took 30 minutes to get out of the place after you finished eating because he had to shake hands with everyone.

He was also a man who never hesitated to stand for righteousness. He fought against liquor sales, abortion, x-rated movies, and coed dorms at the University of Kentucky. He even took on the Kentucky Board of Education over their plan to start substituting BCE and CE for BC and AD. When he was once asked, “If you were not a conservative, what would you be?” He answered, “Ashamed.”

Wayne was always pulling surprises on me. He loved to give me gifts of plaques and candy, and he loved to plan ways of catching me off guard when introducing me to his congregation. That was the occasion for the photo below. I don’t remember what it was all about. It was just classic Wayne Smith. I’m sure he has all of Heaven laughing. ✚



My Bible Prophecy Mentor

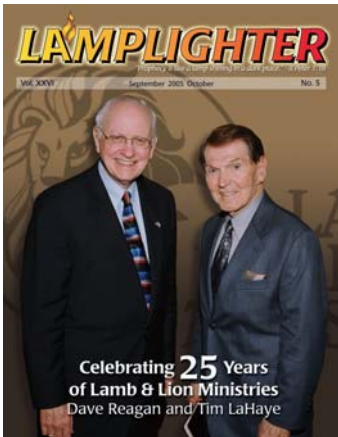
Dr. David R. Reagan

I grew up in an Amillennial church, so I learned nothing about Bible prophecy. I got interested in prophecy during the Six Day War in 1967. As I started studying the subject in depth, I began to pray that the Lord would lead me to an accurate book that would help me to understand His Prophetic Word. The book He led me to was one by Tim LaHaye titled, *Revelation Illustrated and Made Plain*.

At the time, I had no idea who Tim LaHaye was, but his book was a real blessing. It was easy to understand and was full of interesting illustrations. I devoured it, and have read it several times since.

Never did I dream that I would ever become personally acquainted with Tim. That occurred in the early 1990s when he formed the Pre-Trib Study Group. Over the years since that time, I have had the privilege to get to know him well, and during those years, he has served as a constant source of encouragement to me and this ministry.

In 2005 he agreed to be the featured speaker at our 25th anniversary banquet. And I had the opportunity to interview him numerous times for our television program.



Tim strongly believed in the power of the written word, and he constantly encouraged me to write books. He wrote more than 60 himself, including the blockbuster *Left Behind* series that has now sold more than 80 million copies.

He once told me a very interesting story about his writing career. He said that when he first started writing books, he could not find a publisher. So he produced the books on a mimeograph machine (I'm not

kidding!). He would print out all the pages, put each page in a separate cardboard box, spread out the boxes on shelves in his garage, and then he and his wife, Beverly, would walk around in circles in the garage, assembling the book one page at a time.

One day while they were doing this, one of his children opened the garage door, a wind swept in, and the pages of the book went flying in the air. They spent the rest of the afternoon retrieving the pages and sorting them out into their appropriate boxes.

That evening, Beverly took Tim to the airport for him to fly to a church where he was scheduled to conduct an evangelistic meeting. Before Tim got out of the car, she said, "Honey, I want to pray for you." He said okay, and she started to pray: "Lord, please, please find Tim a publisher so we won't have to assemble any more of his books!" It wasn't long before publishers were begging for his books!



Rachel Houck with Tim LaHaye at a video shoot in December of 2014. Rachel is the Chief Operating Officer of Lamb & Lion.

Last year, when I spoke at a conference sponsored by a church in Indio, California, the first person I saw when I drove up to my motel was Tim LaHaye. At age 89, he and his wife had driven 130 miles from San Diego to attend the conference. He loved Bible prophecy that much, and he wanted to be an encouragement to me.

I have a video clip of an interview with him that I have watched many times and have used on various television programs. He tells the story of his father, Frank, dying of a heart attack when Tim was only 9 years old. He was very close to his father, and he said he cried non-stop for three days. When the day came for the funeral, he told his mom he did not want to go, but she made him.

After the service, when they went to the cemetery. Tim said it was a very dark, overcast Michigan day. The presiding pastor said: "This is not the end of Frank LaHaye. Because he accepted Jesus, the day will come when the Lord will shout from heaven and descend, and the dead in Christ will rise first and then we'll be caught up together to meet him in the air."

Tim said that as the pastor uttered that last line, he pointed to the sky, and the clouds suddenly parted and the sun shined through. "All of a sudden, there was hope in my heart I'd see my father again," and Tim spent the rest of his life preaching that message of hope.

Tim turned 90 years old on April 27th. He suffered a stroke on July 23rd and went to his heavenly reward on July 25th. He and Beverly had celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary on July 5th.

Tim's heavenly rewards are going to be great. For 25 years he pastored a church in the San Diego area which today is known as the Shadow Mountain Community Church, pastored by David Jeremiah. He founded San Diego Christian College and co-founded The Institute for Creation Research, together with Dr. Henry Morris.

Tim lived looking for the Rapture. Paul said that those who live looking for the Lord's return will receive a special reward called "the crown of righteousness" (2 Timothy 4:7-8). ❖

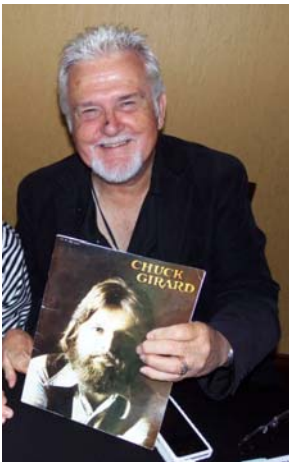
Another Blessed Conference



Dr. David R. Reagan

Our annual Bible Conference, which was held in the Dallas area in mid-July was greatly blessed by the Lord — in music, Bible study and fellowship. For the first time ever, we had standing room only at our Saturday sessions, with about 700 people present.

The conference began on Friday evening with a banquet, a concert and a keynote speech. The featured musician this year was Chuck Girard, a Christian music legend. He was one of the pioneers of Contemporary Christian Music. When he and his band called Love Song burst onto the scene in the late 1960s the only Christian music consisted of quartets singing southern gospel songs and soloists like George Beverly Shea singing hymns.



Chuck Girard with one of his albums from the 1970s.

made his presentation.

Our keynote speaker, Dr. David Hocking, is also a legendary figure from California. Like Chuck, he spent many years at the Costa Mesa Calvary Chapel as one of their featured Bible teachers. Today he has a ministry called Hope for Today. He conducts prophecy conferences all over the United States and Canada and he hosts a daily radio program that is broadcast nationally.

Dr. Hocking spoke on “Why We Should Support Israel,” and in the process, he dealt with the evil of Replacement Theology which asserts that the Church has replaced Israel and

that God has washed His hand of the Jews. It was powerful presentation that received a passionate standing ovation.



Dr. David Hocking with Dr. Reagan.

The five Saturday sessions were all characterized by outstanding presentations. Our Assistant Evangelist, Tim Moore, began by talking about what we can know about the timing of the Lord’s return. He asked the question, “Can we know when the Lord will return?” and he answered, “NO!” He then turned to walk off the stage! He did return and explain that although we cannot know the date, we can know the season by watching for the signs of the times.

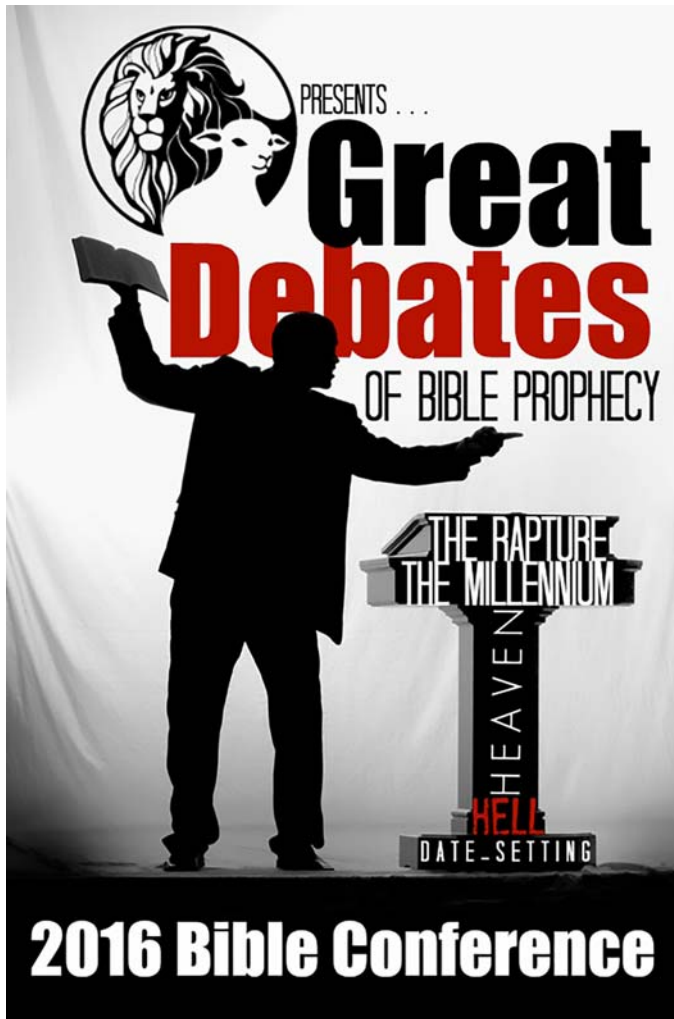
Our second speaker was Ron Rhodes who made his usual powerful presentation. He focused on the timing of the Rapture, arguing in behalf of the Pre-Trib position. His outstanding book, *The 8 Great Debates of Bible Prophecy*, was what inspired the theme of our conference this year.

Our former Associate Evangelist, Dennis Pollock, was the first speaker after lunch. Dennis was with our ministry for 11 years before he decided to form a ministry of his own called Spirit of Grace. He focuses on conducting evangelistic crusades in Africa. Dennis spoke on whether or not Heaven would be tangible or ethereal.

Nathan Jones, our Web Minister and Associate Evangelist, was the fourth speaker. He presented an overwhelming amount of scripture to prove that the Millennial reign of Jesus is yet future and does not consist of His ruling over the Church now.

I was the final speaker of the day. I taught the meaning of the Conditional View of Hell. The conference was concluded with Jack Hollingsworth leading a Christian medley of songs. ❖

2016 Conference Album



This video album contains three DVD discs, with two presentations on each disk. Each presentation runs approximately 50 minutes in length.

The presentations contained in the album are:

- “Why We Should Support Israel” by Dr. David Hocking.
- “Date-Setting: What Can We Know?” by Tim Moore.
- “The Rapture: Pre, Mid, Late or Post-Trib?” by Ron Rhodes.
- “Heaven: Ethereal or Literal?” by Dennis Pollock.
- “The Millennium: Literal or Symbolic?” by Nathan Jones.
- “Hell: Eternal Punishment or Punishing?” by Dave Reagan.

The total running time of the three disks is approximately 270 minutes. The cost is \$25, which includes the cost of shipping.

These presentations are appropriate for both individual and group study.

To order any of the items on this page, call 972-736-3567 between 8am and 5pm Central time, Monday through Friday, or order through our website at www.lamblion.com. ❖

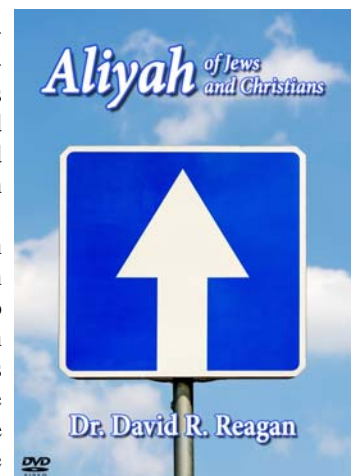
Other New Video Programs



Focus on Israel — How does Israel fit into the end time pattern of prophesied events? Do the Jewish people have any legal or biblical right to the land of Israel? Can Israel continue to exist in the midst of the sea of Arab peoples who surround it? Is there any hope for a lasting peace settlement in the Middle East? Where does ISIS fit into the end time biblical picture of events? What is the relevance of events in the Middle East to the Church and the average Christian today?

What do events in the Middle East tell us, if anything, about the timing of the Lord’s return? These questions are answered in this one hour presentation by Dr. Reagan that was videotaped before a live audience. \$20, includes shipping. ❖

Two Aliyahs — The Hebrew word, *aliyah*, means “going up.” This album contains two presentations by Dr. David Reagan which were videotaped before a live audience. Both run about 45 minutes in length. In one, Dr. Reagan provides an exciting overview of the return (aliyah) of the Jewish people to their homeland that began in the 20th Century and continues to this day. In the other, he talks about the Rapture of the Church and why it will be the aliyah for Christians. \$20 including shipping.



Special: You can order **both** the Focus on Israel and the Aliyah albums for \$35, including the cost of shipping. ❖

Ministry News

Speaking Schedule —

September:

Dr. Reagan and Tim Moore at Maranatha Ministry's annual Bible prophecy conference at Trinity Baptist Church in Lake Charles, LA. (9-10).

Tim Moore at Priest River Church in Newport, ID (17-18).

Dr. Reagan at Believer's Bible Class at First Baptist Church in Forney, TX (25).

October:

Dr. Reagan at First Baptist Church in Alma, AR (1-2).

Dr. Reagan at the Brookhaven Church in McKinney, TX (evening service on the 30th).

November:

Nathan Jones at the Strategic Angel Care Ministry Banquet in Plano, TX (10).

Annual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Tim Moore (12-23).

Bible Prophecy Teachers —

Due to the illness of his wife, Ann, Dr. Reagan can only accept one out-of-town speaking engagement per month. He has no limit on the number of speaking engagements he is willing to accept within the Dallas-Ft. Worth area.



Nathan Jones, Dave Reagan & Tim Moore

Our other two evangelists, Nathan Jones and Tim Moore, are available for speaking engagements anywhere. Please consider inviting one of these men to speak at your church. You can find detailed information about them on our website at www.lambdion.com/about/staff. Either one can conduct a weekend Bible prophecy conference, or they can come and speak at your Sunday morning services plus a teaching session consisting of all your adult and teen classes.

Missions Outreach —

During 2015 we gave a total of \$273,480 in financial donations and services to domestic and foreign missions, representing nine percent of our total income. We are currently sending regular donations each month to a total of 9 domestic ministries and 11 foreign ministries. Any special, designated donations we receive for any of these ministries are forwarded to them immediately, above and beyond what we send them monthly.

Financial Accountability —



For the 12th year in a row, we have received the highest rating (4 stars) from Charity Navigator, which is the leading monitor of non-profit organizations in America. Their ratings are based on many factors — including financial transparency, fund raising costs and overall accountability. You can obtain detailed information through the organization's website at www.charitynavigator.org.

New Video Series —



Nathan Jones, our Web Minister and Associate Evangelist, has a heart for reaching young people with the fundamentals of Bible prophecy. Accordingly, he and his assistant, Steven Stufflebean, are preparing a new series of short, fast-moving videos about Bible prophecy that will be called The Inbox. The first one in the series, "Why Study Bible Prophecy?" has been completed and is posted on our website. Go to www.youtube.com/user/ChristInProphecy, click on "Playlists," and the first Inbox video will appear as video #1.

MJAA Experience —



Dr. Reagan being ordained as Joel Chernoff prays.

In early July Dr. Reagan traveled to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to speak to the national conference of the Messianic Jewish Alliance of America. His topic was "Why the World Hates the Jews." He received an overwhelmingly positive response to his presentation, and he was officially ordained as an honorary Messianic Rabbi! ☆



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Important New Video

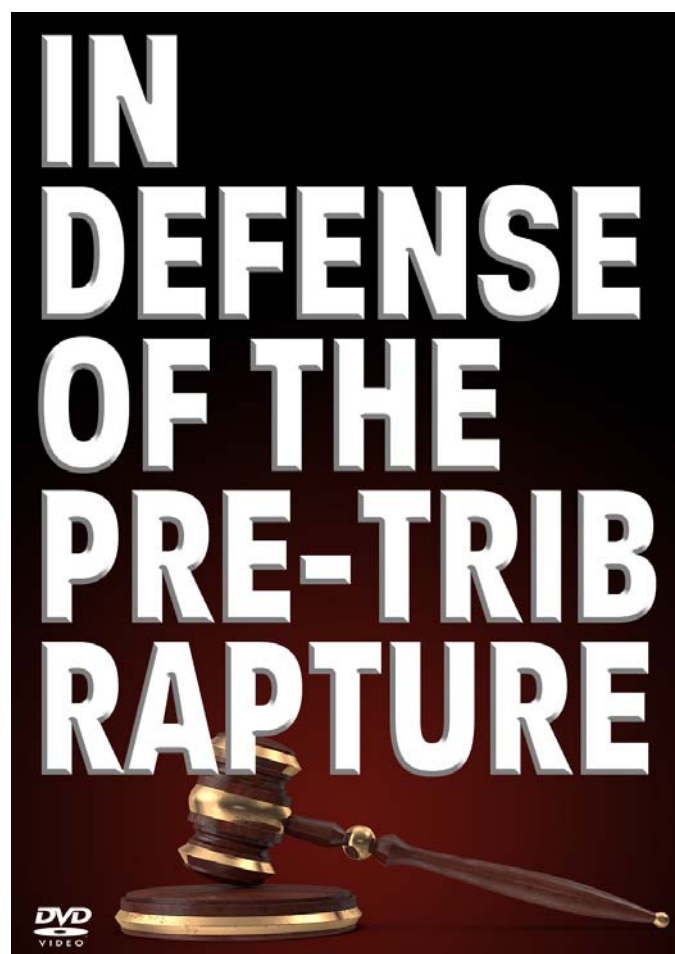
Last year a ministry in California produced a very Lmean-spirited 4½ hour video that attacked the validity of the concept of a Pre-Trib Rapture. The video relied on character assassination and was filled with misrepresentations concerning what the Bible teaches about the timing of the Rapture.

This one hour and 32 minute video is Dr. Reagan's response. Rather than focusing on individuals, this response concentrates on biblical arguments in behalf of the concept that the Rapture is most likely to occur before the Tribulation begins.

Dr. Reagan believes this is the most important video that the ministry has ever produced. He is anxious for it to receive widespread distribution. It not only presents a firm biblical case for a Pre-Trib Rapture, it also deals with many of the silly myths about the doctrine that have been conjured up by the opponents.

Some of the specific questions it deals with are:

- Were all the people involved in the development of the Pre-Trib Rapture doctrine either immoral in character or spiritually unorthodox, or both?
- Was the Pre-Trib doctrine held by any of the Church Fathers?
- Is the doctrine too new to be true?
- Does the doctrine rob the Church of its responsibility to proclaim the Gospel to all the world?
- Is there any biblical evidence that the Rapture will be an event separate and apart from the Second Coming?
- Are there any scriptures that indicate that the Rapture will occur before the Tribulation



begins?

All these questions and more are dealt with by Dr. Reagan and the people he interviews: Tommy Ice, Andy Woods, Mark Hitchcock, William Watson, Charles Ryrie, and Tim LaHaye.

This video program is available for \$20, including the cost of shipping. To order, call 972-736-3567 between 8am and 5pm Central time, Monday through Friday. You can also place your order through our website at www.lamblion.com.✚