

Basic Christian

Christian Information, Links, Resources and Free Downloads

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<http://www.basicchristian.org/>

***** Updated: 07-01-2010 Basic Christian 2010 (2300 Pages) - The BasicChristian.org Website Articles (PDF)**

Basic Christian Full Content PDF Version. The BasicChristian.org most complete resource.

<http://www.basicchristian.info/downloads/BasicChristian.pdf>

Basic Christian: blog Bible Study - Genesis - Revelation (Online)

Through the Bible blog Bible Study online. The complete Through the Bible blog Bible Study.

http://basicchristian.org/blog_biblestudy.html

Basic Christian: blog Bible Study - Genesis - Revelation (PDF)

The complete Through the Bible blog Bible Study in PDF format.

http://basicchristian.org/blog_Bible_Study.pdf

Update Summer 2010: The Majesty and Glory of King Jesus Christ! "All Blessings, Honor, Glory, Majesty and Praise to the King and Savior the Lord Jesus Christ" - The Basic Christian Ministry is currently undergoing the series "The 8 Kingdoms of the World" regarding the Majesty and Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ

Basic Christian has recently completed the 'blog Bible Study' and is currently in the process of the 'blog History Study' including the '8 Kingdoms of the World' study. The current plan is to study at a slower pace than the fast paced blog Bible Study and also to insert a couple of Topical Studies before the 8 Kingdom Study really gets back on track. Ideally the plan is to really get into the 8 Kingdom Study this Fall and then conclude the 8 Kingdoms (Kings) study just before we celebrate Christmas 2010 and the birth of the King the Lord Jesus Christ (Isaiah 6:5, Matthew 2:2). Then to spend the time from Christmas to Resurrection Day Easter (2011) studying Christian Church History as we prepare for Resurrection Day 2011 and the birth of the Christian Church - the Christian Church having started on the Resurrection Day of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

<http://basicchristian.info/wordpress/>

Basic Christian: On break until after the 4th - Have a Blessed 4th of July 2010

God bless everyone in Jesus Christ as we continue in our Bible devotions, study, prayer, fellowship and obedience to God in Jesus Christ. ~ David Anson Brown

<http://basicchristian.info/wordpress/>

~ ~ ~ Updated - Basic Christian: blog History Study - The 8 Kingdoms of the World (PDF)

Nimrod, Egypt, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome, [Revised Rome - NWO] Antichrist, Millennial (1,000 year) Kingdom Reign of Jesus Christ.

http://www.basicchristian.org/blog_History_Study.pdf

~ ~ ~ Updated - Basic Christian: blog Bible Study - Genesis - Revelation (PDF)

The complete Basic Christian blog Bible Study covering Genesis to Revelation in PDF format.

http://basicchristian.org/blog_Bible_Study.pdf

Church Discipline: The Guest Teachers Series - DOES THE TRUTH MATTER ANYMORE? by John MacArthur \$64.95 (5 Parts DVD) - entire series \$203.72 (CrossTv.com) {Note: Christianity involves two parts, the death of Jesus and the resurrection of Jesus. We follow Jesus in our own death (dying - self discipline) to self, sin and this world and in our own personal resurrection in living to God and His Holy Spiritual realm. Much of what the Emergent (New Age) Church is trying to do is to live the spiritual resurrection (grace, peace, holiness, wellbeing, sharing, joy) without first experiencing the death to self, sin and this world. Christianity is grounded and based in both parts, both dying to self (discipline) and resurrection (joy) living to God - these videos are more about the dying to self (self discipline) part but don't forget to also live the holy spiritual (grace, peace, holiness, wellbeing, sharing, joy) resurrection part. (Philippians 1:20-21, 1 Corinthians 10:31)} (DVDs)

Everywhere is apathy. Nobody cares whether that which is preached is true or false. A sermon is a sermon whatever the subject; only, the shorter it is the better." Those words were written by Charles Spurgeon MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO! Yet, he might have just as easily been describing the state of the church at the beginning of the 21st Century. Well, in this "tell-it-like-it-is" indictment of the attitudes, methods and approaches of much of the modern church, Pastor John MacArthur picks up where Charles Spurgeon left off. This is 'MUST VIEWING' for the modern Christian. Presented by: John MacArthur

<http://www.crosstv.com/GuestTeachers.htm>

Vacation For The Frank and Chris Show - {Just listened to what is normally the Frank and Chris Show podcast (one of my favorite podcast programs) but today it is an announcement that the podcast is on a (well deserved) break - Myself (and many others) will be looking forward to the return of the podcast in whatever form it takes and there are still plenty of excellent podcasts and projects going on over at the RRN website.} (Mp3s)

We're taking a break. -All Frank's Fault- Download for a quick update and stay tuned.

Windows Phone 7 in trouble? MeeGo DOA? Not good signs: Microsoft backtracks on its clean break from Windows Mobile, while Intel invests in [Google] Android OS - By Galen Gruman | InfoWorld {MeeGo won't fail because the bar for handheld devices is extremely low especially when compared to other devices like a desktop pc that has to do everything locally [games, research, render video, run spreadsheets] for everyone at any one time but a handheld device only has a few tasks [widgets] to perform and most of the tasks are rendered on remote cloud computing - it goes online - it checks email - it checks Facebook - it checks the weather - then going really out on a limb it displays an eBook or plays an Mp3 or a Video - and these small, repetitive, quickly enabled tasks are what the Linux operating system [like MeeGo] and handheld devices [like Intel Moorestown] specialize in - end of story!}

If I believed in conspiracy theories, I'd say that Windows Phone 7 is a failure six months before its expected availability. And the Nokia-Intel MeeGo operating system will be dead on arrival, if it's ever released. Windows Phone 7: Microsoft seems to be investing in alternatives Let's start with Windows Phone 7. Touted earlier this year as the successor to the much unloved Windows Mobile platform, Microsoft has gone largely silent on Windows Phone 7 since then, all but ignoring its great hope to stave off the iPhone at its recent TechEd conference. (And according to a recent Cnet report, Microsoft is sticking with its earlier decision not to include copy and paste -- sheesh! [probably can't copy and paste with an ARM based CPU]) In the meantime, Microsoft has announced three other mobile operating systems. If Windows Phone 7 is meant to be the break-from-the-past successor to Windows Mobile, as Microsoft has said, the all-new mobile OS that brings Microsoft into the 21st century, why has Microsoft released Windows Phone (the poorly received Kin phones) and now the Windows Embedded Handheld OS? A Microsoft spokesman told me that Windows Embedded Handheld OS was meant to provide continuity for enterprises using specialized Windows Mobile 6.5 devices. Windows Phone 7 won't run Windows Mobile applications, so developers had two choices: Switch to Windows Phone 7 and rework the apps to the modern operating system, or keep using their specialty legacy devices. ... Intel invests in Android, while MeeGo limps along: Intel is another company that seems to be hedging its bets -- or is quietly backing a new horse -- on the mobile operating system front. This winter, it dropped its Moblin mobile Linux effort and joined with Nokia to develop a new mobile OS (MeeGo) that merged Moblin with Nokia's in-development Maemo, the intended successor to Nokia's lackluster Symbian operating system. You can tell from that description that neither the Moblin nor Maemo efforts were moving with any urgency. There've been plenty of conferences but little tangible result. And now word is out that Intel is porting Google's new Android OS 2.2 (Froyo) to the x86 chip architecture this summer. That can only mean Intel sees Android mattering greatly in the tablet and perhaps netbook markets, so Intel wants to make sure its Atom chips can power those devices. (Android was developed for the competing ARM-architecture chips, such as the Qualcomm Snapdragon in the HTC Droid Incredible and the Texas Instruments OMAP3630 in the forthcoming Motorola Droid X.) The speed at which Intel is moving on Android, compared to the snail's pace development of MeeGo, is telling. If Intel thought MeeGo were a significant OS, it would be pushing that effort along. ... Developing MeeGo in incremental stages over several years also seems a sure way to lose, and Intel's speedy action in porting Android to x86 tells me that Intel already knows the MeeGo bet will fail.

<http://www.infoworld.com/d/mobilize/windows-phone-7-in-trouble-meego-doa-665>

[MS] Windows Phone 7 (yet to be released to consumers) "an ad-serving machine" - "For marketers this is actually turning out to be an ad-serving machine" - Microsoft says consumers can opt out of the services if they feel overwhelmed by the bombardment {Windows Phone 7 [a completely different form factor than the already existing MS Windows 7 for desktop computers] is now the odd operating system out. Phone 7 is designed not to run on an Intel CPU but on an ARM [phone] CPU -- but Apple

iPhone and Google Android operating systems already run on an ARM [phone] CPU so MS Phone 7 is already left out. Intel and Nokia are developing MeeGo [Linux] and derivatives of MeeGo [Tablet] to be used on Intel CPUs and also a version of Android will run on an Intel CPU later this summer. It's important because with the already existing ARM [phone] CPU a phone is still basically a phone although ever increasingly more powerful but with an Intel CPU in a new phone the new Intel phone now becomes an Intel computer phone.}

By Stewart Mitchell Posted on 28 Jun 2010 - Microsoft has branded its Windows Phone 7 smartphone platform [unrelated to MS windows 7 desktop version] an "ad-serving machine" during a briefing to show off new features. "For marketers this is actually turning out to be an ad-serving machine," said Kostas Mallios, general manager at Microsoft's Live Labs, at an advertising industry conference. "It lets advertisers connect with consumers over time." Microsoft showed off three tools in the sales-blitz portfolio - Apps, Tiles and Toast - which give brand owners access to the front pages of handsets if consumers download apps from third parties. With the Tiles and Apps feature, Mallios said, icons on the homepage would be dynamic so a brand could send out information about offers or new releases. Should the message fail to get through - perhaps because the consumer has turned the application off - then a third tool, dubbed Toast, could be used to crank up the volume. "If the app isn't running then Toast is a dynamic way of reaching people," said Mallios. "Toast can enable an advertiser to push content out to the device." Microsoft says consumers can opt out of the services if they feel overwhelmed by the bombardment. Windows Phone 7 is expected to be released in October [2010].

<http://www.pcpro.co.uk/news/359020/windows-phone-7-an-ad-serving-machine>

{Flashback} Intel/Nokia MeeGo 1.0 on Many Devices and Screen Sizes (Beijing, April 2010) - Netbook, TV, Mall Restaurant Menu, Coupon and Smart Sign Demonstration (YouTube)

**A very important video to watch it shows the coming Smart Phone, Smart Device and accompanying (World Wide - Global) Cloud Computing concept for consumers.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ub_cwsJnQps

{Flashback} More info on Windows Phone 7: Windows Live ID (i.e. Hotmail account) will be required {There is a ton of new (and transitional) always on internet phone [Intel Moorestown] - type of technology and gadgets coming out this fall and into 2011 finally providing for stable and highly useable mobile internet devices. Intel and Nokia have the MeeGo operating system, Google has their Android system, Apple has their iPhone system and Microsoft will have their own system in Phone 7 but so far Microsoft seems to be the one to avoid.}

Microsoft still has a lot of work to do until the first Windows Phone 7 devices are launched (sometime in the fourth quarter of the year), and that's why we don't know all we'd want to know about the upcoming OS. However, new details have been uncovered by Tweakers.net, **including the fact that, to use a Windows Phone 7 handset [phone], you will need a Windows Live ID account (you automatically have one if you use Hotmail or MSN Messenger). Apparently, Windows Live ID will also provide access to Windows Marketplace. Furthermore, it looks like Windows Phone 7 will only support ARM7 processors (like the Qualcomm Snapdragon). This leaves out Intel's Moorestown processors - but it's not like Intel cares too much, since it has MeeGo and we'll soon see Moorestown-based MeeGo devices on the market. As previously mentioned, all Windows Phone 7 devices will require capacitive touchscreen displays (apparently, non-touch devices won't be able to run WP7), three buttons on the front (Back, Start and Search), a power button, a camera button, and two volume buttons. Weird enough, it looks like Windows Phone 7 will support Bluetooth 2.1, but not Bluetooth 3.0. Well, maybe support for the newer version of Bluetooth will be added after launch.

Washington Post: Obama names Cook religious freedom ambassador - The White House just announced that they're filling the long awaited position of ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom - The appointee is Rev. Suzan Johnson Cook, whose experience includes pastoring a New York City church and founding a group called Wisdom Worldwide Center She has also been a chaplain for NYPD

UPDATE: Cook's name had been out there for months (as we reported in January), so there has been plenty of time for the self-described international religious freedom community to react. Reaction has been pretty uniform -- respect for Cook's work in building a New York City-based mega-ministry and in her interest in public service, but concern for the lack of any expertise in international religious freedom and human rights work, or foreign policy work in general. And this at a time when President Obama has beefed up the staffing and role of religion in embassies worldwide. International religious freedom advocates have also been upset that the position remained empty for so long and that Cook -- unlike other ambassadors-at-large within the State Department -- and her staff will have less access to the Secretary of State than they believe the law creating her position envisioned.

http://newsweek.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/undergod/2010/06/obama_names_cook_religious_freedom_ambassador.html

LighthouseTrailsResearch.com: Obama Names Suzan Johnson Cook Ambassador For International Religious Freedom - According to a Washington DC press release in 2009, Johnson Cook is "dubbed Billy Graham and Oprah rolled into one" i.e., a new spirituality "Christian" - According to Johnson Cook's website, she is also a member of Renaissance Weekend, an interfaith **think tank [NWO 'think tank' religion i.e. Rick Warren] that "seeks to build bridges across traditional divides of professions and politics, geography and generations, religions and philosophies"

According to a Washington DC press release in 2009, Johnson Cook is "dubbed Billy Graham and Oprah rolled into one" (i.e., a new spirituality "Christian"). Since aggressively stepping up to the "spiritual" plate during the 911 attacks in 2001 [Ergun and Emir Caner also arose out of the ashes of 9-11-2001], serving as the only NYPD Chaplain's until now, Dr. Sujay has been called, "America's Chaplain". She firmly believes that, "We are mind, body and spirit which means it's time to put the stress of the current economic decline aside and get back to the basics of life - which is simply getting back in touch with your God, His wonderful promises and purpose for our lives." According to Johnson Cook's website, she is also a member of Renaissance Weekend, an interfaith think tank that "seeks to build bridges across traditional divides of professions and politics, geography and generations, religions and philosophies."

<http://www.lighthouse Trailsresearch.com/blog/>

Wikipedia.org: Mike MacIntosh "a Ground Zero Chaplain" - the senior pastor of Horizon Christian Fellowship in San Diego, California a Calvary Chapel affiliate - [Book] (2002) When Your World Falls Apart: Life Lessons from a Ground Zero Chaplain by Mike MacIntosh, Foreword by Anne Graham Lotz {Wow! 9-11 books and bracelets - some Calvary Chapel pastors seemed to see 9-11 as an opportunity to make some quick money. No wonder Calvary Chapel Pastors don't investigate [or even publically talk about] the possible NYC 9-11-2001 events because it seems in their best interest (best income opportunities) to go along with the official 9-11 version of events.}

Mike MacIntosh (born 1944) is the senior pastor of Horizon Christian Fellowship in San Diego, California, and is a Christian leader in the United States. MacIntosh left the hippie scene of the 1960s and got involved with Calvary Chapel. He then went on to pastor Horizon Christian Fellowship, a Calvary Chapel affiliate, beginning in 1974. He is also the organizer of Festival of Life, an international evangelical outreach program. MacIntosh has also served as a chaplain for the San Diego Police Department, and has been involved in post-9/11 rescue efforts in New York City, as documented in his book *When Your World Falls Apart*. [*When Your World Falls Apart* (2002): Life Lessons from a Ground Zero Chaplain by Mike MacIntosh, Foreward by Anne Graham Lotz - Amazon.com] -- An Unofficial Associate Pastor: An example of this is Calvary of Albuquerque [pastor Skip Hietzig] where Skip's wife, Lenya, functioned almost as a pastor for women. Her "9-11 bracelet" idea [was it her idea alone or was it a 'think tank' religion idea being passed along through Lenya Hietzig?] ended up costing the church hundreds of thousands of dollars in inventory write-offs. - Source: <http://calvarychapel.pbworks.com/pastors-wife>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mike_MacIntosh

{Flashback} Calvary Chapel (Skip Heitzig) Albuquerque States: Leonard Sweet Will Not Be Speaking at Conference - Lighthouse Trails Calls For Answers - Questions Arise: Is New Age Sympathizer Leonard Sweet Speaking at Calvary Chapel Albuquerque or Not? - the National Worship Leader Conference website still maintains that Leonard Sweet will indeed be speaking at Calvary Chapel Albuquerque {Note: Because of deceptive and non-Christian practices emanating from various Calvary Chapel pastors the website links from Basic Christian to Skip Heitzig and several other Calvary Chapel (Costa Mesa) resources, Churches and pastors have recently been removed by the Basic Christian Ministry.}

This is an update regarding the Lighthouse Trails report that New Age sympathizer Leonard Sweet is scheduled to speak at Calvary Chapel Albuquerque for the National Worship Leader Conference this June. Conflicting reports are occurring as to whether Sweet's speaking engagement has been cancelled. Please refer to our recent posting, *Questions Arise: Is New Age Sympathizer Leonard Sweet Speaking at Calvary Chapel Albuquerque or Not?* where we write on some of these conflicting reports. A number of Lighthouse Trails' readers contacted us over the last couple days sending us copies of an email they each received from an undisclosed personnel at Calvary Chapel Albuquerque. **The form letter states: Thank you for contacting us here at The Connection and thanks for writing to Pastor Skip. We always love to hear from you. The conference is not a Calvary conference. The conference is being put on by Worship Leader Magazine using our facility - just like CAPE, Home school graduation, funerals, etc. Therefore, Leonard Sweet is not speaking at "Skip's Church". [LT: Heitzig is one of the speakers at this event.] He is part of a conference using Calvary's facilities. Leonard Sweet will attend the conference but WILL NOT BE SPEAKING. It is our prayer that God will continue to reveal Himself to you through His Word as you seek to know Him. Love in Christ, Connection Communications -- Because the National Worship Leader Conference website still maintains that Leonard Sweet will indeed be speaking at Calvary Chapel Albuquerque, an official public notice from CCA stating that Leonard Sweet will not be speaking there could help clear up the present confusion. Just as important, a statement explaining to the body of Christ why they have decided to remove him from the platform would be important. In a day and age when so many Christian leaders are sending out mixed messages to the Church regarding spiritual deception, those wanting to maintain biblical integrity need to be forthright and clear in what they believe and stand for. And regardless of what denomination or movement this confusion is occurring in, those particular leaders do have a biblical obligation to the entire body of Jesus Christ. This is not Lighthouse Trails saying this - this is what the Bible requests of leaders and pastors.

<http://www.lighthouse trailsresearch.com/blog/?p=4462>

{Flashback} Note: There has been a change to the referencing for each of the Basic Christian blog

Bible Study postings - Each posting will now contain the Bible's book and chapter and will no longer provide a reference to an alternate past study by Chuck Smith of Calvary Chapel of Costa Mesa - The change is being made out of necessity in that the teachings of the Basic Christian blog Bible Study are too divergent from the alternate material of Calvary Chapel and therefore providing Chuck Smith or Calvary Chapel as an alternate reference in the blog Bible Study has been causing too much confusion within the current blog Bible Study - The re-referencing of each post will be completed as soon as possible - My sincere apologies for any inconvenience that this has caused or might cause for anyone studying the Bible - God bless you, David Anson Brown

Originally the postings to the Basic Christian blog Bible Study were listed with an alternate past study of the Calvary Chapel C3000 series by Chuck Smith however the teachings and material of Chuck Smith have become to inconsistent and run to counter to the current [in progress] teachings given in the Basic Christian blog Bible Study and therefore there is no reason to [continue to] provide a listing to an alternate Chuck Smith resource. Sadly, it has also recently [in part through the faithful and diligent ministry of Randy Maugans at The Threshing Floor] come to the attention of the Basic Christian ministry that there are now several serious allegations that Chuck Smith does not have his own material but often plagiarizes much of his material from other sources [including now New Age material i.e. his 2006 book "When Storms Come" by Chuck Smith with (later removed) portions plagiarized from two New Age authors] and that Chuck Smith had then put his name on the material of others as though it was his own material. In Short there was an attempt to provide a reference to some past material as an alternate counterbalance to the Basic Christian material however it quickly became evident that the material of the alternate teaching of Chuck Smith is filled with too many personal antecedents has too many inconsistencies [biblical names, dates and locations] (probably from his use of too many external sources i.e. other commentaries) and even outright biblical misrepresentations [i.e. Kingdom - eternal rewards] to the point that the past study of Chuck Smith is incompatible with the current Basic Christian blog Bible Study and therefore for clarity all references to any Calvary Chapel or Chuck Smith material will be removed from all of the Basic Christian material.

http://www.basicchristian.org/truth_deception.html

{Flashback} Dr. Norman Geisler On Ergun Caner by Peter Lumpkins [Apparently it's not a hoax and Dr. Norman Geisler did author that incoherent rant.] {Note: We live in crucial times and as such it is now time that we REJECT the current Christian pastors, teachers and leaders that are unable or unwilling to accurately evaluate and assess the post 9-11-2001 era of danger, beguile and betrayal that we now exist in. Too many Pastors are still more interested in their own personal agendas, comfort and finances than in spreading the gospel message of Jesus Christ. -- Past pastors, teachers and leaders like Chuck Smith Sr. of Calvary Chapel, Rick Warren, John Hagee, Greg Laurie, Skip Heitzig, James Dobson, Norman Geisler, Jerry Falwell Jr., John MacArthur, Rick Joyner, Mark Demoss, Tony Perkins, David Brody, Lee Strobel, R.C. Sproul, Max Lucado and a host of others who consider themselves to be apostles, prophets, teachers and leaders need no longer be taken seriously or even be considered to be viable as a Christian Church authority by those within or without the true Christian Church. It is time to call into question their motives, abilities, agendas and desires that make them unwilling to accurately or faithfully proclaim the trusted Gospel of Jesus Christ!}}

COMMENTS: Peter, With all due respect to Dr. Geisler's accomplishments of years past, I fear this is another of a group of recent statements showing how out of touch he is with present [since 9-11-2001] reality. What have we come to in the evangelical community when fabrications, exaggerations and lies are dismissed and those who expose such things are called "libelous"? I'm sorry, but relying solely on the assessments of men like Elmer Towns and Norm Geisler in a postmodern, digital age is not altogether sound. It would be safe to say that these men spend little or no time on the internet, much less reading blogs, web sites, twitter feeds, etc. The abundance of information today can be overwhelming for those of previous generations. This is not to say that the present environment is better, just VERY different. Moreover, Dr. Geisler is not a completely unbiased source in this matter. Caner is a regular speaker at apologetics conferences held at Southern Evangelical Seminary, founded by Geisler. Furthermore, how is it possible that he able to render summary judgement on this matter by only talking to "Dr. Caner and other principal parties at Liberty"? How can one make a final judgement on a matter by only talking to one side of the matter? What if we applied this same standard in our legal system? What if judges rendered judgement on a case after only speaking with the defendant? This seems grossly biased to me. Lastly, I agree we all should "pray for and encourage our brother". We should PRAY that DR. Caner will repent of his fabrications and falsehoods. We should ENCOURAGE Dr. Caner to start telling his TRUE testimony: that of a child from a broken him divided between Islamic and secularistic values whom God miraculously and graciously brought to salvation. {Amen!}

http://peterlumpkins.typepad.com/peter_lumpkins/2010/05/dr-norman-geisler-on-ergun-caner-by-peter-lumpkins.html#more

The Threshing Floor Radio Show-June 27, 2010-Randy Maugans - The End of Religion (Mp3)

"The tendency to turn human judgments into divine commands makes religion one of the most dangerous forces in the world." Georgia Harkness -- We have got to deal with this: Many religious doctrines are of men, not God. Religion is a tool of control that drives blind allegiances to falsehoods, stifles growth, and limits our capacity to be both critical and embracing of new information. Religion substitutes rigid rules and narrow interpretation for genuine seeking of TRUTH. Even worse, religion is conformity to a world-view that streams into the goals of the elites...easily aroused to passions of fervor, the religious become unwitting pawns in a game of social control, genocide, and war. This is about you...your quest...your battle for truth regardless of cost...heedless of risk. Faith begins at the point of not knowing, it ends at the moment you think you "know."

<http://threshingfloor-radio.com/index.php/2010/06/the-end-of-religion/>

The Zeph Report - "Z Live" on WWCR - June 26, 2010 - Guest Randy Maugans - An extended transmission of the live shortwave feed (Mp3)

"And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. Isaiah 40:5" - A word is spoken in the show: REJECT FEAR! Additionally, I would say embrace love-AGAPE. The gulf oil spill is a shadow of the wounds that are in each of us...places that bleed, are broken, and need healing. Empty out yourself from yourself and get real before the Lord. The off-air segment finds us discussing music, along with summarizing the themes brought out in the broadcast. Nothing planned...no agendas...the Spirit heals in the places of our wounds.

<http://threshingfloor-radio.com/index.php/2010/06/z-live-fear-not/>

LHTR Discussion Topic: The Shack Author Says "The God of Evangelical Christianity is a Monster" - Comments: Young's Jesus cannot save - Young is leading his readers straight to the Lake of Fire - He doesn't understand God's love [or God's Holiness, His righteousness and His justice] -- Incredibly,

this novel continues to cut a swath through the Body of Christ - Will it make a difference when--and if--Christians learn the truth about the author's rejection of the Biblical Christ? -- I am very distressed as my denomination [unknown] greatly pushes this book as wonderful - has had lots of discussion groups, promotes its reading - When I said it was wrong, I got into all kinds of trouble - It saddens me greatly that the Christian community now puts "modern novels and wrong doctrine" above the Bible - Guess they only want to read things that "tickle the ears"

On Friday night, author and researcher Ray Yungen attended a lecture at Concordia University in Portland, Oregon to hear The Shack author William Paul Young. The name of Young's talk was "Can God Really Be That Good?" During the talk, Young told the audience that "the God of evangelical Christianity is a monster." He was referring to the belief that God is a God of judgment and will judge the unbelieving. Young also rejects the biblical view of atonement (wherein Jesus died as a substitute for us to pay the price of our sins). This view by Young is evident in a radio interview he had one year ago where he rejected the biblical view of the atonement. He echoes the sentiments of William Shannon and Brennan Manning, who both say that the God who punishes His own son to pay for the sins of others does not exist: He is the God who exacts the last drop of blood from His Son, so that His just anger, evoked by sin, may be appeased. This God whose moods alternate between graciousness and fierce anger - a God who is still all too familiar to many Christians - is a caricature of the true God. This God does not exist. (Shannon, Silence on Fire, p. 110, also see Manning who stated the very same thing in Above All, pp. 58-59). Young told the audience that his book has now sold 14 million copies. He says that he believes his book has been a "god thing" to heal people's souls because so many people have been tainted by this evangelical God. Young said his book is so effective because when you put something in a story form it gets past mental defenses. Young's obvious disdain for evangelical Christianity (in a derogatory manner, he said there are "1.4 million" rules in the evangelical church) is shown in his book as well when The Shack's "Jesus" states: "I have no desire to make them [people from all religious and political backgrounds] Christian, but I do want to join them in their transformation into sons and daughters of my Papa" (p. 184). Young asked "evangelicals," "Do you want to hold onto your darkness?" and answered for them, "No, you want to get rid of it."

<http://www.lighthouse trailsresearch.com/LTForum/index.php/topic,32.msg65.html>

Bible verse: 1 Corinthians 2:12 Now we [Christians] have received, not the spirit of the world, but the [Holy] Spirit which is of God; that we might know *the things that are freely given to us of God. {Note: As Christians if we were to try to go the 'works' route in attempting to facilitate a relationship with God our own works would continually keep us from experiencing the fullness of God, all that God has for us at any one moment. Works imply receiving something later, a later payment that is missing but a personal relationship facilitates fullness in God and with God at all times regardless of our own works or of our own abilities.}

'1 Corinthians 2:12 Now we [Christians] have received, not the spirit of the world, but the [Holy] Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.' -- 'Romans 5:11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.' -- 'Romans 5:17 For if by one man's [Adam's] offence death reigned by one; much more they [Saints - Christians] which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.' -- 'Romans 8:15-17 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the [born again] Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, *that we are the Children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together.' -- 'Philippians 1:11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.'

<http://www.ChristianFaithDownloads.com/>

Josh McDowell: Can I Trust the Bible? - Parts 1-4 Video (wmv)

"The Bible stands alone among all other books. It is unique, 'different from all others,' in the following ways plus a multitude more: *Continuity, *Circulation, *Translation, *Survival, *Teachings, *Influence on Literature, and *Influence on Civilization." Evidence That Demands a Verdict, Pg. 4, 4-16.

http://www.josh.org/site/c.ddKDIMNtEqG/b.4172663/k.624E/Can_I_Trust_the_Bible.htm

Hooray! This marks the official release of "The Bible vs Joseph Smith!" In a conversation between a Christian and a Mormon, the prophets of both the Bible and the Book of Mormon are put head to head in a test to see which prophets are truly speaking for God - If even one prophecy fails to come true, that prophet is a false prophet, and must be put to death -- See Also: The Bible vs. The Book of Mormon - DVD Trailers (Online Videos)

Hooray! This marks the official release of "The Bible vs Joseph Smith!" We have worked very hard on this full-length documentary since the beginning of August last year, and it's now finally available. And now is when we need your help more than ever! Here are some things you can do: 1. Order multiple copies to use in your witness to Mormons, and to promote the film in your community. 2. Host a local showing of the documentary (not restricted to pastors). 3. Forward our release email to 10 or more of your friends (for those on our mailing list). 4. Share this post on your Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, etc., with the "share" icon at the bottom of this post! 5. Embed the trailer on your own website or blog with the code below: You have blessed us so much! Thank you for all your support, now let's spread this tool as far and wide as possible to uncover the fallacy of Mormonism, and reveal the glory of God in Jesus Christ! *If you are a Mormon, email us and we'll set you up to watch The Bible vs Joseph Smith for free.

<http://sourceflix.com/the-bible-vs-joseph-smith-official-release/>

PREEMPTION BROADCAST with Russ Dizdar - Prophecy Prayer, the Past Present and Future (Mp3s)

Prophecy Prayer, the Past Present and Future the Book of Daniel chapter 9.

<http://preemptionbroadcast.podomatic.com/>

The Amber May [Radio] Show is Coming To An End - Amber May's time on 1010 AM is coming to an end - She is so sad by the ending - *She will continue to do podcasts - Please continue to visit her website www.ambermayshow.com - She just opened an online store on the website please check it out - She needs funds to pay off the radio bill - Amber May also has several discount offers on her website as well - Please check out the blog while you are there as well (Mp3s)

Welcome to The Amber May Show. The aim of the program is to give hope to hurting hearts. The show also tries encouraging the believers of Christ, in their daily walk with him. Amber May deals with life issues from a biblical perspective. Amber May would also like to introduce the character of God to those who may not know him. She hopes that people will have a better understanding of God after they listen to the program. Please check out the podcast. There might be a show that she had done, that may help you with a life struggle that you are currently dealing with. Amber May would love to hear from you. Please visit her contact page or, follow her on the social medias below. Make sure you check out the discounts page for some money saving codes for your next purchase. Please consider making a donation, radio air time is expensive.

<http://www.ambermayshow.com/>

Navigators.org: The Evolution of the Wheel Illustration - Throughout his ministry, Dawson Trotman, founder and first president of The Navigators, liked to use illustrations or diagrams like this to help others remember basic principles of the Christian life - So in the 1930s, when he was working with Sunday School classes and boys' clubs, he used the best illustration he had heard describing the balanced Christian life--the three-legged stool - But Trotman became dissatisfied with the [stool] illustration ... So in 1968 "Obedience" was moved to the rim of the Wheel and "Fellowship" replaced it as a spoke - That leaves us with the Wheel as it is today - And whether it remains in this form, or is eventually changed again, it is a useful way of understanding and remembering the essentials for living the Christian life

The Wheel® - History: The Evolution of the Wheel Illustration by Ray King - "They say the Christian life is like a three-legged stool," the young Sunday School teacher told his class. "You must be supported by three things--the Word, prayer and witnessing--to be effective in your Christian lives." Throughout his ministry, Dawson Trotman, founder and first president of The Navigators, liked to use illustrations or diagrams like this to help others remember basic principles of the Christian life. So in the 1930s, when he was working with Sunday School classes and boys' clubs, he used the best illustration he had heard describing the balanced Christian life--the three-legged stool (illustration 1). But Trotman became dissatisfied with the illustration. It left the Christian sitting down--certainly not a practical way to approach the dynamic Christian life he saw taught in the Bible. After much thought and prayer, he designed what he called "The Wheel" illustration to solve this problem. This wasn't the Wheel many of us know today, but a forerunner to it. The hub was Christ, the center of the Christian's life; but there were only three spokes on this wheel, corresponding to the three legs of the stool (illustration 2). Now he had the Christian moving, but he began to see another weakness in the illustration. It showed that Christians should witness, know the Word and pray, but it left out the application of the Bible to all areas of one's life demonstrating the power of Christian living. So Trotman added a fourth spoke--"Living the Life" --to the Wheel (illustration 3). The rim was called "The Christian Life" or "The Christian in Action." This emphasis on living every area of life with and for the Lord came at an important time. Dr. Arthur Glasser, dean of the School of Mission at Fuller Theological Seminary, says, "Dawson was one of the pioneers in reacting against easy believism. Daws said 'You can't treat a command in the Bible as advice. A command is a command!' He was a living protest against a form of Christianity that sought to understand the Bible, but which wasn't serious about obeying it." Later the new fourth spoke, "Living the Life," was shortened to "Obedience" and the rim was renamed "The Christian Living the Life" (illustration 4). Some people asked, "Where is the Holy Spirit in the Wheel?" Trotman answered that the Holy Spirit was intrinsic throughout, being necessary to the fulfillment of each component of the Wheel. After Trotman's death, in 1956, the Wheel continued to change. Some thought "Obedience" shouldn't be a spoke, since it wasn't in the same category as the other spokes. Rather, it was the theme of the entire Wheel. At the same time others realized that another basic element of the Christian life was not included in the Wheel, even though it was being practiced throughout the body of Christ and was found throughout the New Testament--fellowship. So in 1968 "Obedience" was moved to the rim of the Wheel and "Fellowship" replaced it as a spoke. That leaves us with the Wheel as it is today (illustration 5). And whether it remains in this form, or is eventually changed again, it is a useful way of understanding and remembering the essentials for living the Christian life, just as its forerunners were. Original title: "The Wheel Was Once a Three-Legged Stool," by Ray King from the January 1975 issue of NavLog.

<http://www.navigators.org/us/resources/illustrations/items/The%20Wheel%20-%20History>

Navigators: The Wheel - Illustration with Bible Verses (PDF)

Just as any wheel in balance must have the *hub directly in the *center (established), any life in balance must be centered [established] on Christ. He is the power source for a dynamic Christian life just as the wheel is driven forward by the power of the hub. The direction of any wheel also comes from the hub and so every mature believer follows the Lordship of Christ. He sets the direction for their lives. ... • The *rim [surrounding outer area - that holds everything together] on a wheel is where the rubber meets the road. This is living the daily life of following Christ by being *obedient to His commands. • The *spokes represent the basics of walking with Christ. Every believer must have these elements in their life in order to grow consistently and fruitfully. The **vertical spokes depict our relationship with God. The foundational spoke is the *Word (Holy Bible). In His Word God speaks to us and we get direction from Him. Through *Prayer we speak to God sharing with Him our needs, we praise His greatness and confess our sins. • The **horizontal spokes depict our relationships with people - *Fellowship (being served) is our relationship with believers [and also with non-believers]. We share the love of Christ with one another. *Witnessing (Serving) is our relationship with those who don't know Christ [and also with those who do know Jesus]. We share the reality of Christ and His gospel by our words and our lifestyle.

<http://www.navresources.com/navresources/page6/files/TheWheel.pdf>

Warning: Amazon.com Recommends Henri Nouwen to Lighthouse Trails Readers - A Lighthouse Trails reader who had purchased a copy of Castles in the Sand from Amazon - The customer received the notice below from Amazon telling them that since they liked Castles in the Sand, they might also like Henri Nouwen's book, Spiritual formation: Following the Movements of the Spirit - We want to issue this warning that Henri Nouwen was a proponent of contemplative mysticism, the kind that Castles in the Sand so clearly warns against - {Note: I would at the least flip 2 and 3 of 'The five classical stages' - the illumination (light) of God (John 1:4-5) first causes within us the desires and ability to purge our sinful behavior from our own lives. It's backward for us to attempt to purge [work out of ourselves] the darkness in the often vain and false (Matthew 12:43-45) hope that God's light will then suddenly enter into us having used our own works [methods] that are actually counter to the Biblical principles of a personal, trusting, meaningful and intimate relationship with God in Jesus Christ. Biblically we are to have God's light (Bible, Prayer, Fellowship, Service all surrounded (encompassed) by obedience to God - i.e. the Navigators.org 'wheel' illustration) enter into us first and then with the light of God in Jesus Christ in us, His life in us automatically removes the darkness from us and with it our doubts and the fears of this world.}**

Today, we received an email from a Lighthouse Trails reader who had purchased a copy of Castles in the Sand from Amazon. The customer received the notice below from Amazon telling them that since they liked Castles in the Sand, they might also like Henri Nouwen's book, Spiritual formation: Following the Movements of the Spirit. We want to issue this warning that Henri Nouwen was a proponent of contemplative mysticism, the kind that Castles in the Sand so clearly warns against. At the end of Nouwen's life, after years of following the mystical path, in the last book he wrote, he said these words: "Today I personally believe that while Jesus came to open the door to God's house, all human beings can walk through that door, whether they know about Jesus or not. Today I see it as my call to help every person claim his or her own way to God." -From Sabbatical Journey, page 51, 1998 Hardcover Edition. To understand Nouwen's Buddhist/Eastern spiritual outlook, read Ray Yungen's article, "Henri Nouwen and Buddhism." You will then understand why we feel compelled to post this warning regarding Amazon's recommendation to Lighthouse Trails readers. -- Dear Amazon.com Customer, As someone who has purchased or rated Castles in the Sand by Carolyn A. Greene, you might like to know that Spiritual Formation: Following the Movements of the Spirit will be released on June 29, 2010. From Back Cover: Henri Nouwen, the world-renowned spiritual guide and counselor, understood the spiritual life as a journey of faith and transformation that is deepened by accountability, community, and relationships. Though he counseled many people during his lifetime, his principles of spiritual direction and formation were never written down. Two of Nouwen's longtime students, Michael Christensen and Rebecca Laird, have taken his famous course in spiritual direction and supplemented it with his unpublished writings to create the definitive series on Nouwen's thoughts on the Christian life. The first book in the series, Spiritual Direction, introduced readers to the core concepts of Nouwen's approach to the spiritual life. Book two, Spiritual Formation, showcases Nouwen's life-long effort to re-construct the five classical stages of spiritual development as movements in the journey of faith. The five classical stages are these: 1. Awakening (our desire) 2. Purgation (purifying our passions) 3. Illumination (of God) 4. Dark Night (of the Soul) 5. Unification (with God) Readings, stories, questions for personal reflection, and guided journal inquiry as articulated by Nouwen will provide readers with an experience in spiritual formation with the well-known author, priest, and guide. The third and final book in the series, Spiritual Discernment, is planned to release in 2012. - {**Note: I would at the least flip 2 and 3 of 'The five classical stages' - the illumination (light) of God (John 1:4-5) first causes within us the desires and ability to purge our sinful behavior from our own lives. It's backward for us to attempt to purge [work out of ourselves] the darkness in the often vain and false (Matthew 12:43-45) hope that God's light will then suddenly enter into us having used our own works [methods] that are actually counter to the Biblical principles of a personal, trusting, meaningful and intimate relationship with God in Jesus Christ. Biblically we are to have God's light (Bible, Prayer, Fellowship, Service all surrounded (encompassed) by obedience to God - i.e. the Navigators.org 'wheel' illustration) enter into us first and then with the light of God in Jesus Christ in us, His life in us automatically removes the darkness from us and with it our doubts and the fears of this world.}

<http://www.lighthouse trailsresearch.com/blog/?p=4604>

Mormon Coffee blog: In his (YouTube) critique, FlackerMan disputes the frequently asserted LDS claim that [LDS founder] Joseph Smith knew he was going to die at Carthage [jail] - Comments: falcon on June 24th, 2010 - Man, the [LDS] Mormons are writing fast and furious today! Usually it only gets this hot when something about the faux priesthood is posted - Let's not forget, Joseph Smith ended up in jail for ordering the destruction of a printing press - Spin away Mormons but it was this lawless deed that sent him to jail and eventually to his death - Yea, I know and [LDS President] Brigham Young wasn't complicit in the Mountain Meadows Massacre [9-11-1857, in Utah the LDS ambush and murder of 120 American settlers on their way from Missouri to California] either - Smith wasn't interested in buying the farm when he went to jail - He had every reason to want to live - **He [Joseph Smith] had power, money and sex **the three things that corrupt men and he was corrupt - We're not talking about a flawed prophet here - We're talking about [Joseph Smith] a religious charlatan who armed himself [with 1 of 2 pistols smuggled into his jail cell by a fellow Mormon] in order to shoot his way out of jail if necessary - I for one wished the guy had lived - The whole deal would have eventually crumbled around him - He would have been the author of his own destruction

which I guess he was any way

I have edited and listed many of FlackerMan's questions here for your consideration. Joseph removed his temple garments before going to Carthage and told others to do the same {It's likely that Joseph Smith had everyone removed their LDS 'temple underwear garments' prior to getting to Carthage because once in town and especially once in jail it could easily be discovered that Joseph Smith had stolen the Freemasonry concepts from the Freemasons and was using them in his own LDS rituals [temple rituals] including using the two main Freemason symbols [compass and square] markings on their own LDS underwear and certainly the local Freemasons would not approve of it.} (D. Michael Quinn, *The Mormon Hierarchy: Origins of Power*, 146). Why would he do this if he were about to die a martyr's death for his testimony? Joseph, Hyrum and others drank wine while singing songs in Carthage Jail (*History of the Church*, 7:101). Why would Joseph disobey the [LDS] Word of Wisdom, a direct [LDS] revelation from God, if he knew he was very soon to stand before that God for judgment and be required to give an account of his behavior? **Joseph sent an order to the [LDS-Mormon] Nauvoo Legion instructing an [LDS] attack on Carthage Jail to free the prisoners. When the mob approached, Joseph mistook them for his [Mormon Legion] liberators and told the frightened jailer, "Don't trouble yourself, they have come to rescue me" (Quinn, 141). Why would Joseph have made plans for, and expected, his escape if he knew he was going to die? Joseph had and used a gun defensively during the attack (*History of the Church*, 7:101-103). Why would he bother to fend off his attackers if he was going "like a lamb to the slaughter" and knew he was about to die? When Joseph's gun ran out of ammunition {jammed - approximately 3 of six shots were fired by Joseph Smith from one of two smuggled pistols - by most accounts hitting three people from the mob eventually killing two one who died from his wound in the arm and another after being seriously wounded in the face while less seriously wounding a third person in the shoulder - source: <http://www.i4m.com/think/history/carthage-jail-smith.htm>} he [Joseph Smith] ran to the [second story] window [in back of the jail] and, using the Masonic distress code ["O Lord My God! Is there no help for the widow's son?"], called for help from fellow Masons who might have been in the mob (see E. Cecil McGavin, *Mormonism and Masonry*, 16-17). Why would he call for help if he knew his destiny was to die that day? Indeed, if Joseph knew his death was imminent, why did he not just give himself up for the safety of his friends who were with him? After the deaths of Joseph and Hyrum, the LDS Church was in crisis. No clear direction for succession in leadership had been set in place. This lack of direction resulted in many schisms and breakaway Mormon groups all claiming to be God's only true church. If Joseph knew he was never to return from Carthage Jail, why didn't he definitively name a successor before his death? Did Joseph Smith know he was going to Carthage to die? The circumstances and Joseph's behavior surrounding his death make that seem highly unlikely. This is yet another faith-promoting Mormon myth employed to persuade people to pin their eternal hopes to what is ultimately a lie. ... Comments: David on June 24th, 2010 - Sharon, Let me play a little Devil's Advocate. I think it is fairly obvious that Joseph and company had a good idea that they might die if they went to jail. Is anyone disputing this? This was possibly a reason, or even the reason, why they were about to flee into the rocky mountains. Even if Joseph was interested in clearing his name at trial, he was not obliged to turn himself in as his safety was far from guaranteed as the historical record demonstrates. Granted, I think Joseph was engaged in at least one, and possibly multiple illegal activities (the destruction of the printing press {extensive bank-money fraud (Joseph Smith's Kirtland Bank Failure - "An illegal bank created by Joseph Smith")}) being the foremost), but the state is supposed to be better than mere criminals and on that day it was not. ... Sharon on June 24th, 2010 - David, I'm on the road so this will be quick, but I'm gonna push back a little on this. I do not believe Joseph and Hyrum thought they were going to die at Carthage. I think there is plenty of evidence that suggests they thought they would either be liberated by the Nauvoo Legion, or, by Habeas Corpus which had worked so well for Joseph many times before. As for the WoW, true it was not yet a commandment, yet God did allegedly give specific directions regarding alcohol which Joseph disregarded in that situation. And last quick point, I think the context of the frontier is important to keep in mind, yet we need to be careful to not go too far. Yes, there was mob justice, but even so, history shows that the people *generally* wanted to solve things within the law (demonstrated, perhaps, by your surprise that the violence was not worse than it was).

<http://blog.mrm.org/2010/06/imminent-martyrdom/>

{Flashback} HOTM: Heart of the Matter a Live One Hour Call-in Show - 06/23/2009 Episode 171 Mountain Meadows Pt VII - at about 27 minutes into the show during the call-in portion Danny from Georgia calls in and among other things comments that "he is believing for the Lord to change millions of lives" [Danny is in a sense prophesying that millions of people are about to come out of the LDS organization and into true Christianity. Is the LDS about to come crashing down as a failed, bankrupt organization? I hope so and I certainly agree with Danny and Heart of the Matter on this one!] {Though the Basic Christian ministry is not a part of the ministry to the LDS movement it does join in prayer and in the hope that millions of people will be delivered from the LDS and into the glorious light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Note: Basic Christian is a Theology, Bible Study and Current Events ministry and sometimes the current events involve LDS issues. Above all the Basic Christian ministry is a Servant Ministry serving people by providing Links, Information and Resources to Christian material. - The Basic Christian ministry is not a Leadership ministry, not a Teaching ministry and not a Counseling ministry. The Basic Christian ministry does seek to use the Spiritual gifts of Discernment, Word of Knowledge and Word of Wisdom in its ministry capacity.} (Online Video - Mp4 and Mp3 Downloads)

About Heart of the Matter: Started in early 2006, Heart of the Matter is a TV show produced in the Mecca of Mormonism, Salt Lake City. It's where Mormonism meets Biblical Christianity face to face! Shawn McCraney, the host of Heart of the Matter, provides great entertainment value and valuable knowledge of Mormonism and what it means to be a Born-Again Christian. Shawn is the author of "I Was a Born-Again Mormon" and the pastor of Calvary Campus. -- Live One Hour Call-in Show - Airs Tuesdays 8pm MST - Rebroadcasts Tuesdays 11am MST -Salt Lake City Channel 20 KTMW - Boise, Idaho Channel 18 KCLP.

<http://hotm.tv/shows/20090623.htm>

{Flashback} Basic Christian: Christianity and the Mormon (LDS) Cult are Very Different

Mormonism (LDS) practices and engages in the longtime deceitful and illegal marketing practice of "bait and switch" to offer - bait the customer with one product and then through excuses, deceit and manipulations to steer the customer into a different inferior product. In this case Mormons universally offer Jesus, the Bible and a "truer Christianity" and then in a dishonest way switching from the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Bible to the teachings of Joseph Smith and others. The Mormon Church is deliberately trying to avoid their true identity as a Mormon cult and is instead representing themselves as something they are not, which is true Christian followers of Jesus. Following are a few considerations as to why Mormonism is a cult and in no way resembles Christianity.

http://www.basicchristian.org/christian_mormon.html

Verse-by-Verse Commentary with Dr. Grant C. Richison exposes the mind of God to the mind of man by expounding individual books of God's Word verse-by-verse (PDFs)

Verse-by-Verse Commentary with Dr. Grant C. Richison exposes the mind of God to the mind of man by expounding individual books of God's Word verse-by-verse. Each study expounds a passage, forms a principle out of that passage, and shows how to apply that principle to your life. We recommend that you actively apply the principle to your life throughout each day to develop personal maturity. By applying principles of the Word daily, the believer will reach the status of edification construct (maturity).

Verse-by-Verse Commentary is a ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ. ... NEW EXPOSITION BOOK: We finished the exposition on Ruth (in the process editing). Matthew still in process of editing as well. Romans is our next book. Browse Studies by Book and Verse - 3000 studies and 6000 pages (PDFs) available free!

David Payne Drama - [Apostle Paul] Prisoner of Passion - Payne delivers a powerful and inspiring presentation as Paul the Apostle reflecting on his life in Christ - Preview (YouTube)

Who is David Payne? Born in London, England, David Payne discovered his calling as an actor portraying C. S. Lewis in the stage production of Shadowlands at Nashville's prestigious Tennessee Performing Arts Center. Acclaimed for the power, sensitivity, and authenticity of his portrayal of C. S. Lewis in the shows Shadowlands, In Search of Joy, and Weep for Joy, Payne now tours the U.S. performing his Lewis-inspired repertoire, which also includes his characterization of "Professor Daemon" in Target Practice - a show that found its inspiration from Lewis's The Screwtape Letters. More recently, he has starred as Aslan the Lion in U.S. tours of The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe and The Magician's Nephew. His latest stage production is Prisoner of Passion. Drawing from the Pauline epistles and using the text of the Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB) translation, Payne delivers a powerful and inspiring presentation as Paul the apostle reflecting on his life in Christ. For more information, visit Payne's Ministry, Rising Image. Visit DavidPayneDrama on YouTube.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/DavidPayneDrama#p/a>

Heartlight.org [Daily Devotions] Facebook App

We're excited to announce our new free Facebook application which lets you read, discuss, and share all of our daily devotionals and articles using your Facebook account. You can choose which of these resources are accessible to you in Facebook, including our daily graphics. You can find this free application here: <http://apps.facebook.com/heartlight> (email ben@heartlight.org if you have problems or questions). Please also take a moment to become a fan of heartlight and tell your friends and family about us: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/HeartlightR/121754564503401> - We have also released our new mobile version of Heartlight.org, so you can easily access our resources on iPhone, Android, BlackBerry, and other mobile devices. Take a look here: <http://www.heartlight.mobi>

<http://apps.facebook.com/heartlight>

Lighthouse Trails Interactive Forum - On June 22nd, 2010, Lighthouse Trails launched its first forum/message board

On June 22nd, 2010, Lighthouse Trails launched its first forum/message board. A great place to leave comments, talk to others, and learn more about defending the faith and understanding the look of spiritual deception. You can get to the forum by clicking here. If you want to post discussion there, you will need to register.

<http://www.lighthouse Trailsresearch.com/blog/?p=4636>

mobile-computing-news: SSD drives going mainstream - Best Buy retails two Intel SSD Drives - The X25-M available in 80GB in stores and the X25-V available in a 40GB variation {Note: These are Intel 2nd Generation (G2) [34nm] SSDs the even better with larger storage Intel 3rd Generation (G3) [25nm] SSDs will be out later this year.}

Over 800 Best Buy stores across the United States will begin carrying the award winning Intel X25-M, as well as the more 'affordable' Intel X25-V, with the X25-M available in 80GB in stores and the X25-V available in a 40GB variation. The reason these Intel SSD variations retailing in Best Buy is such a big deal is because this represents the very first time Best Buy has ever allocated shelf space to solid state drives by selling them in stores. This is an important step in the adoption of solid state drives, since a massive portion of computer components and hardware is still sold over the counter, and the mainstream presence Best Buy has may just be what this market segment needs to give it a boost.

<http://www.mobile-computing-news.co.uk/buyers-guide/5270/ssd-drives-going-mainstream-best-buy-retails-two-intel-ssd-drives.html>

Engadget: Intel swings 25nm [G3 SSD] factory doors open for a tour de fab

Intel and Micron's recent announcement that their collective superhero body, appropriately named IM Flash, is sampling 25nm flash chips has been accompanied with a whirlwind tour of their Utah production facilities for a few lucky journalists. PC Perspective bring us the atmospheric photo above, along with some videos, as they prance about one of the most hallowed (and cleanest) environments known to gadget lovers. Apart from the die shrink, the lads also discuss Intel's reputed plans for a G3 SSD refresh some time "later this year" with snappier controllers onboard, which apparently was echoed by Micron who also intend to pump out faster processors with their SSD products. While you wait for all that to happen, hit the source link to find out how and where the stuff that gets put inside SSDs is made.

<http://www.engadget.com/2010/02/03/intel-swings-25nm-factory-doors-open-for-a-tour-de-fab/>

Wikipedia: Microsoft Windows Live SkyDrive - Windows Live SkyDrive is part of Microsoft's Windows Live range of online [cloud computing - cloud storage] services - Publicly-shared files do not require a Windows Live ID to access (.docx file downloads)

Windows Live SkyDrive (initially Windows Live Folders) is part of Microsoft's Windows Live range of online services. SkyDrive is a file storage and sharing service that allows users to upload files to the computing cloud, then access them from a web browser. It uses Windows Live ID to control access to the user's files, allowing them to keep the files private, share with contacts, or make the files public. Publicly-shared files do not require a Windows Live ID to access. ... RSS feeds: It is possible to subscribe to RSS feeds of the content of public folders. The feeds contain preview images of the added files - either a thumbnail of an image or an icon representing the file type - and links to the file download pages. ... Download as .zip file: Entire directories can [also] be downloaded as a single .zip file with this feature. This feature is found in the "More" dropdown menu.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Windows_Live_SkyDrive

Basic Christian - via Microsoft Skydrive Online Storage | Share Files with Shared Folders | Windows Live SkyDrive - File Downloads Available (File - .docx - MS Word 2010) {Note: Select the blue File Tab then the Download Option to download. - Also Note: All the files download by default in Protected Mode and start in Protected Mode when first opened but can be edited after opening by selecting edit mode.}

Free 25 GB online storage means you can Store, access, and share your files online with friends or co-workers, from anywhere. ... Each folder on SkyDrive has a unique Web address, so you can save the link as a favorite or copy-and-paste it into e-mail or other documents for direct access.

Basic Christian - Windows Live SkyDrive - File Downloads Available (Folder - .docx - MS Word 2010)
{Note: All the files download by default in Protected Mode and start in Protected Mode when first opened but can be edited after opening by selecting edit mode.}

Free 25 GB online storage means you can Store, access, and share your files online with friends or co-workers, from anywhere. ... Each folder on SkyDrive has a unique Web address, so you can save the link as a favorite or copy-and-paste it into e-mail or other documents for direct access.

<http://cid-4d902fa26862aee3.office.live.com/browse.aspx/.Documents/Basic%20Christian>

***Update: Starting soon [now in effect] Basic Christian is uploading version 2010 .docx MS Word files and will [has] discontinued uploading the 2007 MS Word version**

Note: Currently Basic Christian files are uploaded to the internet in (MS Word format) .doc [MS Word 2003] and .docx [MS Word 2007 format]. With the current release of MS Word 2010 the .docx extension remains however the 2007 version and the 2010 version of MS Word are different and possibly incompatible. The .doc [MS Word 2003] version will continue to be uploaded and the new .docx [MS Word 2010] version will be uploaded replacing the .docx [MS Word 2007] version.

<http://basicchristian.org/>

Holiness (Mp3)

A Christian music with message compilation.

<http://www.basicchristian.info/comps/>

The Amber May Show - End Times Part 1 &2 (Mp3s)

This show looks at the End Times. Many people believe we are in the last days now and that God in all his glory will arrive on scene any day. May that is true but maybe it's not. Check this program out.

<http://theambermayshow.podbean.com/2010/06/08/the-amber-may-show-end-times-part-1/>

AnswersInGenesis.org: Counterfeit Reality with Bill Jack - Parts 1 & 2 (Online Video)

Shot live before 300 teens and embellished with cutting-edge comic book style animation, Demolishing Strongholds features four highly engaging speakers: Ken Ham, Bill Jack, Charles Ware, and Carl Kerby. Each will prepare your students to stand firm on the authority of God's Word, and each will equip and challenge them to activate their faith!

<http://www.answersingenesis.org/media/video/ondemand>

SPIRITUALITY WITHOUT BOUNDARIES (A Reformed View Commentary on Individual Holiness) - We

are saved [individual salvation] by grace, through faith [in Jesus Christ] (Ephesians 2:8) - We are [also] sanctified [our continuing individual holiness (Christian Maturity) in] the same way [by our faith in the completed and accomplished works of Jesus Christ (Hebrews 10:10)] - *The people who really do love God and want to please Him often feel that they do not [do enough,] give enough and likely do not love [Him] enough - [Rick Warren and] Whitney's message [takes advantage of our natural guilt of not doing enough to please God but] is only abusive to those that believe him-much as the (ancient practice of the) sale of indulgences only abused those that believed indulgences were effective in sanctifying the dead [in a made-up purgatory] - Reformed Theology [in theory] exists to resist the processes [of self guilt] that led Luther to despair as he tried every practice the church had to offer for achieving [his own personal] holiness [until Luther found a personal trust and relationship with Jesus Christ] - {Note: I find Reformed Theology to be excessively human focused, man exalting and man centered i.e. John Calvin, [John MacArthur, R. C. Sproul and many others] and not as focused on the presence, workings, gifting, reality, equality, leading and empowerment all freely given of God [the Father, Son Jesus, Holy Spirit] that the Bible directs us to be.}

Before I begin my critique, I want to place before you the areas where Whitney and I agree. Whitney has the gospel right and explains it (Whitney: 28). He is correct that it is the Holy Spirit who imparts a desire for holiness and does so for all Christians. He is correct that the purpose of sanctification is to conform us to the image of Christ. Some of the practices he endorses are valid means of grace (such as the Word of God and prayer). He cites in valid ways many orthodox teachers from church history. He understands that evangelism includes the call to repent and believe and that sharing the gospel constitutes "success" even if people refuse to listen (Whitney: 103). I appreciated his emphasis on the need to study the Bible in a scholarly way in his chapter about learning. And his thesis that we ought to make holiness a priority and take action to that end is a valid implication of his theme verse: "Discipline yourself for the purpose of "godliness" (1 Timothy 4:7). But I disagree with the manner in which Whitney uses Paul's athletic metaphor in his applications. Paul implies neither asceticism nor sanctification by human effort. Had Whitney's book been written when I was in Bible College, it would have proven toxic to me. I would have eaten up his ideas and embarked on a plan to put into practice everything he teaches. In fact, taken as a whole, the errors I pursued as a young Christian would be the most practical way to implement Whitney's approach to holiness: join a Christian commune or a monastery. I am very concerned that Whitney will harm young Christians who wish to be the best Christians they can be, just as I was. Because it contains the true gospel and begins with a respect for the scriptures, I believe Whitney's book to be even more seductive than were the teachers I was reading-like Watchman Nee. *Ordinary life [reality] does not lend itself to the [staged] high level practice of asceticism, pietism, and mysticism [emotions and feelings]. The problems with Whitney's book are these: serious category errors, a lack of boundaries, failure to understand the means of grace, pragmatism, the endorsement of false teachers such as Richard Foster and Dallas Willard without caveat, and his own toned-down version of mysticism. I shall proceed to show what I mean by interacting with his ideas. ... So Whitney is out of bounds to tell us we must do certain things that are not in the Bible if we want to achieve godliness on no other grounds than he said so. He provides arguments in order to justify some of his other practices, but shabby and weak arguments are not valid and should not be heeded. For example, when he teaches us to practice journaling he says this: "Though journaling is not commanded in Scripture, it is modeled" ... The writing of the Psalms and Lamentations was not done because God had made a general promise that if people of faith were to write a journal about their own feelings, experiences, and issues, that God would thereby sanctify them. David and Jeremiah were Holy Spirit-inspired Biblical authors, not people who "modeled" the practice of journaling so that others would do the same. The writers of Psalms and Lamentations wrote scripture that is binding and true. Despite Whitney's claims, our own journaling is a product of our imaginations-and not of scripture. Scripture is a valid means of sanctification and our own imaginative writings are not. ... We see the same problem in Whitney's claim that stewardship is a spiritual discipline. Yes, we are required to be stewards of all we have, including time and money, which Whitney discusses. True Christians are those who have died with Christ to the world and all its claims on us. But do we make ourselves stewards by spending more time in spiritual activities and giving away as much of our money as possible? Or do we put ourselves under God's means of grace, by faith, and as we study and believe the Bible, become stewards by God's grace? I consider Whitney's teaching on giving to be abusive. Paul refers to giving as a "gracious work" in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. That means that when God performs a work of grace, people become generous and eager to give. But Paul specifically says that giving is voluntary. Whitney says, "The proportion of your income that you give back to God is one distinct indication of how much you trust Him to provide for your needs. ... Donald Whitney is not teaching people to give everything away and move into a commune. He is, however, teaching Christians to think like those who give everything away and move into some equivalent of a monastery. As I read his book I thought about what happened to me when I thought that way. We have no way of being sure of how much we love and trust God. Only God knows. ... We are presumptuous when we create our own trials by asceticism supposedly to prove to ourselves that we trust Him. We should give and serve by His grace and not think that how much we give is a true indication that we trust God to provide for us. A person can give everything away and yet not trust God on His terms at all. ... When I met with Rick Warren at the end of his 2008 Summit for his PEACE plan, Chris Rosebrough was there as well. He had sat through every session for several days and told Warren that what he heard day after day was "do more, sacrifice more, give more, etc.," but that he did not hear about the forgiveness of sins. Chris told Warren that he admits that he fails, doesn't serve enough, lacks self-discipline in some ways, and certainly has guilt. But, he said, Warren's program apparently offers nothing in the way of the cleansing of sin and hope for those

who know they fall short. When I followed up and specifically asked Warren if he believed in the means of grace, he answered "Of course I do." If Whitney were asked, he likely would give the same answer. Chris had raised an important, pastoral consideration. The truly converted are constantly aware of their sinfulness. Ironically, the more sanctified a Christian becomes, the more he is aware of his sinfulness, and the more it troubles him. What would happen if the troubled Christian, perhaps having the "wretched man" thoughts that Paul expressed, picked up Whitney's book on spiritual disciplines looking for hope and believed what he read there? I see only two reasonable outcomes: hopelessness or self-righteousness. If he is totally honest, the outcome must be hopeless. Pastorally we must offer hope, not an illegitimate method. The hope is found [only] through the [eternal life] blood of Christ. The means of grace include the Lord's Supper because that reminds us of the reason for our hope. -- There are many similarities between Whitney's book and many portions of The Purpose Driven Life. Unless you start with a theology of innate human ability, neither book makes much sense. Whitney makes the analogy of a boy who wants to play a guitar. *The boy is given a vision by an angel [vs. the reality of God the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:10-13)] of an accomplished guitar player. The guitar playing dazzles the boy with amazement at its quality. Then the angel tells him that the person playing is him in a few years, but he must practice (Whitney: 15, 16). The idea is that if you have vision of what you will become, you will be motivated to put in all the effort. The analogy itself smacks of works righteousness. Whitney claims that Romans 8:29 supports his analogy. This is patently false because in context, **being conformed to the image of Christ is a certainty because of what God [Father, Son Jesus, Holy Spirit] does in every believer and not contingent on various levels of effort between believers. Furthermore, world-class guitar players begin with innate abilities that must be developed, and I agree that if that person works hard and has great teaching and is given opportunities he will do well. ***But we begin with no innate ability to be holy. ***Even as believers holiness does not come from innate ability plus practice, but from God's work [Father, Son Jesus, Holy Spirit] of grace. The analogy inculcates an attitude of works righteousness even if Whitney (like Rick Warren) denies believing such.

<http://apprising.org/2010/06/18/donald-whitney-and-spiritual-disciplines-spirituality-without-boundaries/>

Bible verse: Matthew 13:43 Then shall the Righteous shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of [God] their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. {The complete Bible is available at ChristianFaithDownloads.com}

Isaiah 10:27 And it shall come to pass in that day, that his [the oppressor - ultimately Satan] burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing [personal relationship with God in Jesus Christ]. - Isaiah 58:6-14 Is not this the fast that I [God] have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy [prayers] house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own [shortcomings] flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy Righteousness shall go before thee; the Glory of the LORD [Jesus Christ] shall be thy reward. Then shalt thou call [in prayer], and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and He shall say, Here I Am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke [coercion of others], the putting forth of the finger [manipulation of others], and speaking vanity [false and empty talk]; And if thou draw out thy soul [in compassion] to the hungry, and satisfy [attend to] the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in. If thou turn away thy foot [self ways] from [during] the Sabbath [rest and trust in God], from doing thy pleasure on My Holy Day [every day for the Christian]; and call the Sabbath [trust and rest in God] a delight, the Holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour Him [Jesus Christ], not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob {Jacob (stumbler) was renamed (Genesis 32:28) by God to Israel (submitted to God) - God knows that we are ALL stumblers just like Jacob but those who look to God and have a personal relationship with God [and even strive with God] as Jacob did we will be accepted by God and renamed by God (Revelation 2:17)} thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. - Matthew 13:43 Then shall the Righteous shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of [God] their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. -- Holy Bible

<http://www.ChristianFaithDownloads.com/>

VFTB: Sarah Leslie - Discernment Nazis! (Mp3)

CHRISTIANS WHO oppose dominion theology, the heretical idea that Christ isn't coming back until we take over the Earth (starting with America, of course), are no better than Nazi collaborators or Communist sympathizers. That's according to Janet Porter, who made those claims last week in her column at WorldNetDaily and an interview on KFAQ radio in San Francisco. Sarah Leslie of Discernment Ministries was the target of Porter's hit piece, which is odd considering that Sarah, far from being a closet Christian, is the former head of Iowa Right to Life and a pioneer of the homeschooling movement. We discussed where dominion theology deviates from scripture, why it's dangerous, and how Christians should engage and try to change the culture. Recommended listening: Sarah's interview with Ingrid Schlueter on the Crosstalk radio program.

<http://vftb.net/?p=3772>

Crosstalk: Ingrid Schlueter with Sarah Leslie - The Gospel is More Important than America (Mp3)

Sarah Leslie is an author and researcher, a member of the board of directors of Discernment Ministries and also a member of the Discernment Research Group. On May 3, Crosstalk aired a program dealing with the May Day event held at the Lincoln Memorial. Ingrid and Sarah brought to listener attention a movement known as the New Apostolic Reformation. The program exposed teachers such as Dutch Sheets, Chuck Pierce, and false "prophetesses" Cindy Jacobs and Stacey Campbell whose teachings revolve around the New Apostolic Reformation. It's a movement centered around a theology of dominionism that asks for a renewal of America based upon the idea that Christ's work on the cross wasn't finished. Janet Porter of Faith 2 Action was a key organizer of this event. Recently she wrote a piece called, "Christians" for the Separation of Church and State?" where she criticized Discernment Ministries and their herescope blogsite; falsely criticizing them for being "highly critical of any Christian group that engages in any type of political or cultural activity." Sarah explains that Porter not only brought in mainstream Christian leaders, but also some of the deceptive leaders from the New Apostolic Reformation, giving them the mainstream recognition they've been seeking.

http://www.crosstalkamerica.com/shows/2010/06/the_gospel_is_more_important_t.php

*****Highly Recommended - Bible versions Controversy EXPLAINED - find out the MAJOR differences (Mp3)**

Can you trust the new versions? before you say yes, you need to hear this message. learn where they came from, who is behind them, and HEAR ACTUAL AUDIO FROM CHUCK SWENDOL, DR. D.A.WAITE AND OTHERS... Learn what you need to know before you use that new [deceptive] bible version.

<http://www.christianfaithdownloads.com/mp3s/>

Verse by Verse with Mike and Chris - Chris and Mike begin a new study in the book of Galatians (Mp3)

Verse by Verse Bible Teaching Podcast and Links.

<http://versebyversebibleteaching.com>

The Berean Chronicles - Podcast Archive (Mp3's)

Our mission here at The Berean Chronicles is to expose the Apostate Church, to equip the Saints with Truth, Knowledge, and Wisdom to be the Salt and Light Christ Jesus has called us to be. With the TRUTH given out on this talk show, we pray it will lead all who listen who do not know the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior to the Saving knowledge.

<http://thebereanchronicles.podomatic.com/>

EPISODE 51 - Sword of the Spirit: Update from CJ (Mp3)

This is a show that I did to let everyone know what's been going on with me and why I haven't done a show in a while.

<http://revelationsradionetwork.com/podcasts/sword-of-the-spirit.html>

PREEMPTION BROADCAST with Russ Dizdar - REVELATION THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE (Mp3s)

FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE...THE RED HORSE....CHAOS and human slaughter.

<http://preemptionbroadcast.podomatic.com/>

DR. JOHN PIPER AND UNANSWERED QUESTIONS - Apprising Ministries now brings you a follow up to Questions Concerning Dr. John Piper where I told you that when Dr. Piper made the ill-advised decision to invite Leadership Network's propped-up Purpose Driven Pope Rick Warren to DG 2010 [Desiring God National Conference, October 1-3 in Minneapolis] as a keynote speaker it set off a rippling effect where people, and not merely discernment ministries, have started to look a little closer at his theology, educational background, and associations; e.g. his charismatic bent, Fuller Theological Seminary, and the late Ralph Winter - Unfortunately it got even worse when Dr. Piper decided to defend his decision: At root I think [Rick Warren] is theological and doctrinal and sound - There's also no doubt that Warren himself promotes CSM, e.g. Rick Warren, Saddleback Church, And Spiritual Disciplines, which now seems to shed some light on the DG 2010 invitation - This opposition to the Bible is SOP [Standard Operating Procedure] for mystics as I explained in Tony Campolo: "Christian Mysticism (Emotions and Feelings)" Trumps (goes one better than) The Bible [and presumably (Matthew 24:24, 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4) the coming false signs, wonders and miracles will then trump the individual mysticism]

As I've asked before, just how apostate do you have to be in order for apostates to consider you apostate? But here's an important point building upon what Fisher just told us concerning the rebirth of interest in mysticism during the 1960's and 70's; in *Root Of This New Downgrade* I told you that those of us who've studied mysticism and liberal theology know that this rebirth of mysticism-precisely the same neo-Gnosticism taught in Foster-Willardism-would spread into the ecumenical movement of mainline denominations, and then into evangelicalism with the charismatic revival as it then traveled through the Jesus People/Movement circa early 1970's, and also into what became the Fuller Theological Seminary School of World Mission, which launched the man-centered Church Growth Movement. Which brings us back around to unanswered questions concerning Dr. John Piper and books by false prophet C. Peter Wagner, as well as books by the main purveyors of spurious CSM Richard Foster and Dallas Willard in the library Online catalog of Bethlehem Baptist Church (BBC) where Dr. John Piper is listed as "Vocational Elder; Pastor for Preaching & Vision; Chancellor, Bethlehem College and Seminary." In the video below Dr. Piper is asked what he thinks about corrupt Contemplative/Centering Prayer (CCP); CCP is the crowing jewel of spurious CSM and a type of meditation in an altered state of consciousness, which itself is a form of neo-Gnosticism that flowered in the antibiblical monastic traditions of apostate Roman Catholicism. Considering what Dr. Piper has to say about CCP, although for me he seemed a bit evasive, the following books in the BBC library Online catalog would seem to sow some confusion as to what Dr. Piper's position actually is. Remember my question concerning apostates considering apostates apostate; well, here's Madame Guyon's ode to CCP, *Experiencing the Depths of Jesus Christ: ... This opposition to the Bible is SOP for mystics as I explained in Tony Campolo: "Christian Mysticism" Trumps The Bible*; and the leading online apologetics and discernment ministry Lighthouse Trails Research (LTR) points out that Manning "says that Dr. Beatrice Bruteau is a 'trustworthy guide to contemplative consciousness.'" ... Unfortunately, when Dr. Piper made his error of inviting Rick Warren to DG 2010, it has raised more unanswered questions, could Dr. Piper possibly have been more influenced by C. Peter Wagner, of the New Apostolic Reformation and formerly Fuller Theological Seminary, than we may have known? Perhaps all the more likely when we consider that both Dr. John Piper and C. Peter Wagner were both quite taken with the late "mission engineer" Ralph Winter; as was Rick Warren. There's also no doubt that Warren himself promotes CSM, e.g. Rick Warren, *Saddleback Church, And Spiritual Disciplines*, which now seems to shed some light on the DG 2010 invitation. As I said before, it's beginning to look like Dr. Piper has a lot more in common with Rick Warren already than we even knew. Again I point you to what Dr. Piper said in his defense of the Warren invitation, "I just think he could put me to shame with his aggressively, in-your-life, transformative discipling of his church." From my ongoing research into all of this, I'll tell you that our key to seeing a deeper connection with all of these men, and maybe even a motive as to why Dr. Piper made his invitation to invite Rick Warren into the Reformed camp, just might lie in the little phrase "transformative discipling of his church."

<http://apprising.org/2010/06/17/dr-john-piper-and-unanswered-questions/>

***UPDATE* [May 10, 2010] LIBERTY UNIVERSITY [LU] FORMS INQUIRY COMMITTEE ABOUT ERGUN CANER - "In light of the fact that several newspapers [alerted by two bloggers one Christian blogger (Dr. James White - Phoenix, AZ) and one Muslim blogger (Mohammad Khan - London, England)] have raised questions, we felt it necessary to initiate a formal inquiry" Chancellor Jerry Falwell, Jr. said - an official inquiry with a goal of issuing its conclusions by the end of June [30, 2010]**

This is a short follow up to Has Muslim Convert Dr. Ergun Caner Been Exposed As A Jihadi Fraud? here at Apprising Ministries. It's beginning to appear that we may actually find the answer to that question after all. *Update* Now here's the very latest from News & Events on Committee formed to investigate Caner statements at Liberty University itself: Liberty University's Provost Dr. Ron Godwin is forming a committee to investigate a series of accusations against Ergun Caner, president of Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary. The allegations have questioned public statements Caner has made regarding the details of his personal life story. Godwin is forming a committee to conduct an official inquiry with a goal of issuing its conclusions by the end of June. Following inquiries from several members of the mainstream media, Liberty decided to initiate its own investigation. "In light of the fact that several newspapers have raised questions, we felt it necessary to initiate a formal inquiry," Chancellor Jerry Falwell, Jr. said.

<http://apprising.org/2010/05/10/liberty-forms-inquiry-committee-about-ergun-caner/>

Pastor Bryant Wright elected SBC president - Wright wins runoff for SBC president {Congratulations to SBC President Pastor Bryant Wright (Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Marietta, GA) [second term - first term in 2005] and Congratulations to Executive Committee President Frank Page. The SBC will have good leadership in Pastor Bryant Wright and the SBC Executive Committee will have good oversight in Frank Page.}

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP)--Southern Baptist Convention messengers Tuesday afternoon elected Atlanta-area pastor Bryant Wright as their next president. Bryant Wright, senior pastor of the 7,600 member Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga., won the run-off election for president of the Southern Baptist Convention with 55 percent of the vote. More than 7,660 messengers voted during the June 15 election at the 153rd annual meeting of the SBC at the Orange Country Convention Center in Orlando, Fla.

<http://www.bpnews.net/BPnews.asp?ID=33149>

[SBC] Amended GCR report passes easily - [significant amendment] 'We affirm that designated giving to special causes is to be given *as a supplement to the Cooperative Program (CP) and *not as a substitute for Cooperative Program giving'

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP)--Southern Baptist Convention messengers overwhelmingly adopted the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force report Monday afternoon after it was amended twice to strengthen the language regarding the Cooperative Program. -- By an estimated 3-to-1 margin, the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force report was adopted June 15 by messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Orlando, Fla. After the historic vote, task force chairman Ronnie Floyd recalled the statement issued by northern and southern Baptists after the 1845 founding of the Southern Baptist Convention and told the assembly: "Following the pattern of our leaders of old, we also would say to the watching world that the differences between those who support the Great Commission Resurgence report and recommendations and those who do not should not be exaggerated. "We are still brothers and sisters in Christ. We differ on no article of faith. We are guided by our shared commitment to the Gospel itself and to the articles of faith identified in the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. The Southern Baptist Convention is a convention of churches that is committed to a missional vision of presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ to every person in the world and to make disciples of all the nations. We are a Great Commission people." The seven recommendations of the report were adopted on a show of ballots after about an hour and a half of debate, with one significant amendment. ... "Not to divide the body of Southern Baptists but to find some common ground on which we can stand for the sake of God's Kingdom, I would like to add this sentence that would state that 'We affirm that designated giving to special causes is to be given as a supplement to the Cooperative Program and not as a substitute for Cooperative Program giving.' "I would agree with this," Waters said, "and hope this could provide a pathway forward to finding us as people who love missions and evangelism, for the sake of Jesus Christ." Messengers adopted the proposed amendment with a show of ballots.

<http://www.bpnews.net/BPnews.asp?ID=33150>

**Open Letter to Southern Baptists about the GCRTF Recommendations by Dr. Morris H. Chapman
June 4, 2010 - The solution to our Convention's greatest need lies in multiple pockets [agendas] of personal repentance, evangelistic recommitment at the personal and local church level, and willing obedience to the commands of Christ - Real revival will not issue from a mere rewording of our mission statement**

An open letter to Southern Baptists has been released by Morris H. Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee, regarding issues to be decided at the convention's June 15-16 annual meeting in Orlando, Fla. The full text of Chapman's letter follows assessing the recommendations of the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force: ... I am concerned that if the Convention approves the task force recommendations, it will be embarking upon a harmful course. I, like the task force, believe that the Convention can and should do better. But unlike the task force, I do not believe the answer lies in the recommendations it proposes. The solution to our Convention's greatest need lies in multiple pockets of personal repentance, evangelistic recommitment at the personal and local church level, and willing obedience to the commands of Christ. Real revival will not issue from a mere rewording of our mission statement. Our core values, already recorded in Scripture, are God-breathed and sufficient. Our giving methods have proven their worth by providing for the largest mission forces (overseas and domestic) in history and the most expansive seminary system in the world. In fact, in the past our churches have produced twice the baptisms on half the revenue contributed to the SBC, so merely reallocating a few resources at the SBC level will not solve our underlying problems. We must concentrate on the only real solution. That solution is not structural, procedural, financial, or methodological. It is spiritual. And if we approve the task force report, we will be saying, as a Convention, that we believe our future performance lies in some realm other than the spiritual. ... It can be confusing when strongly expressed positions exist among people who love the Lord Jesus Christ with their whole hearts. But while I fully agree with the preamble of the task force's preliminary report, I cannot affirm their recommendations. I am firmly convinced that none of the recommendations will move us forward for the kind of spiritual renewal that must take place if we are to see an abundant harvest take place in our local churches. At most, they will merely make us feel as if we have done something, when we haven't. ... As I leave my post, my continued prayer until I go to see Jesus will be that God will blanket Southern Baptists with a spirit-empowered spiritual awakening that shall spread from coast to coast and beyond. If spiritual awakening of this magnitude were to come before I die, I will spend the rest of my years on earth praising God for answering the prayers of His people. Please read "A Better Way Ahead." Consider its contents and determine for yourself whether any or all of them seem better alternatives to those promoted by the task force. And if they do, as the Lord leads, feel free to offer one or more of them as substitute recommendations at the appropriate time. ~ Your brother in Christ, Morris H. Chapman

<http://baptist2baptist.net/gcr/articles/MHC-06-04b-10.asp>

Floyd: [SBC] GCRTF has changed wording of component three heading - "Encouraging Cooperative Program and Other Great Commission Giving" rather than its previous heading, "Celebrating and Empowering Great Commission Giving"

ORLANDO (FBW) - On the eve of the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force's report to the Southern Baptist Convention, Chairman Ronnie Floyd announced to state Baptist newspaper editors a change in the heading of component three to reflect the committee's support of the Cooperative Program. Floyd told the Association of State Baptist Papers June 14 that component three will now carry the heading, "Encouraging Cooperative Program and Other Great Commission Giving," rather than its previous heading, "Celebrating and Empowering Great Commission Giving." ... Commenting on opposition to the report, Floyd said that some confusion resulted from unclear communication by the task force while other confusion occurred because people misunderstood the committee's intentions. Yet meetings with state convention leaders helped the task force communicate its vision more clearly and end some of the strife, according to Floyd. He acknowledged that opposition from the Executive Committee proved challenging but said all the discussion and dissent ultimately contributed to refining the report. "This is not a perfect report," he said. "Nobody has ever stood up and said it's a perfect report. We're going to find out tomorrow how imperfect it is in some ways, and that's OK. We've been willing to change along the way. We have never dug our feet in the ground and said, 'No.' We have tried our very best to be willing. And if the Lord so chooses to do something to change it tomorrow to be better, then so be it." Floyd said the presentation of the report will last approximately 30 minutes with the remainder of the task force's hour and forty-five minute time slot allotted for discussion.

[SBC] Real change requires a 'different spirit' - Later during the meeting this week, [outgoing SBC President] Hunt will present findings from the Great Commission Resurgence (GCR) Task force to messengers [delegates] and will encourage them to adopt the recommendations, which call for more resources [leaving traditional churches and] targeting [pseudo] evangelism around the nation and around the world {Note: There seems to be no shortage of a 'different spirit' at the 2010 SBC - There is a spirit of deceptive closed door committee elections along with a spirit of manipulation, coercion, public peer pressure and vague misrepresentations bordering on outright deception.}

The [outgoing] president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) exhorted delegates [at] the denomination's annual business meeting to step out in faith and not allow unbelief or manmade obstacles to squelch God-sized dreams. Dr. Johnny Hunt delivered the annual president's address Tuesday morning to thousands of SBC "messengers" (delegates) gathered in Orlando. He preached from the Old Testament book of Numbers and used the characters Caleb and Joshua as examples of two people who stood against popular opinion and encouraged Israel to take the Promised Land. "Isn't that amazing?" asked Hunt. "God placed in this leader a different spirit. I'm telling you, in the name of Jesus, if things are going to change, it can't be the same. Somebody's got to have a different spirit; somebody's got to say we can go, we can take, we can overcome." Later during the meeting this week, Hunt will present findings from the Great Commission Resurgence Task force to messengers and will encourage them to adopt the recommendations, which call for more resources targeting evangelism around the nation and around the world.

<http://www.onenewsnow.com/Church/Default.aspx?id=1051210>

[SBC] Executive Committee elects Frank Page president [president/CEO - SBC Executive Committee] in closed session - Outside the meeting, rumors spread that some Executive Committee members objected to the process used to select Chapman's replacement and questioned Page's involvement as a member of the SBC's {Ponzi Scheme like in appearance} Great Commission Resurgence (GCR) Task Force

ORLANDO, Fla. (ABP) - The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention voted in a closed session June 14 to elect former SBC president Frank Page as the organization's next president and CEO, replacing Morris Chapman, who retires Sept. 30 after 18 years. Page, 57, becomes president/CEO-elect July 1 and takes office Oct. 1. He currently serves as vice president of evangelization for the SBC North American Mission Board, a post he took in October 2009 after serving as a local-church pastor for more than 30 years. Randall James, chairman of the Executive Committee, requested deliberation about Page's election be discussed in executive session as a "personnel matter." He said that several members of the committee expressed a desire to close the session. One member, Stephen Wilson of Kentucky, objected that the Executive Committee should conduct its business in the open, but a large majority supported the recommendation to ask observers of the meeting, including media, to leave. Executive Committee members questioned Page, who as SBC president in 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 was an ex-officio member of the committee, in private for more than an hour before dismissing him for prayer and the vote. Outside the meeting, rumors spread that some Executive Committee members objected to the process used to select Chapman's replacement and questioned Page's involvement as a member of the SBC's Great Commission Resurgence (GCR) Task Force. The blue-ribbon panel is bringing recommendations to the SBC's annual meeting that include reducing the Executive Committee's budget by nearly a third. Page told reporters outside the meeting room that various members of the Executive Committee saw his involvement on the task force as both a positive and a negative. "Some said I wasn't supportive enough of the GCR," he said. "Others said 'I can't believe you support any of it.'" Page also said he believes both his brief tenure at NAMB [North American Mission Board], after eight years as pastor of First Baptist Church in Taylors, S.C., and appointment to the Great Commission Task Force were providential. "I think God gave me that time to see the inside of a denomination better than I would have as a pastor," he said. "I think he let me go to NAMB to see some of the inside. I like some of it. Some of it I don't, as I've looked on the inside of the denomination. "Secondly, I think being part of the GCR at the same time helped me to provide a perspective to say NAMB has a unique missiological need. I think that was an encouragement to some on the committee to see that NAMB does have a place separately than the International Mission Board." Page said he believes the biggest reason God brought him to NAMB was to draw attention to a 10-year effort nicknamed GPS, short for "God's Plan for Sharing" the gospel message.

<http://www.abpnews.com/content/view/5236/53/>

The [SBC] Great Commission Resurgence Debate - Celebrating and Empowering Great Commission Giving (GCR) - The Task Force also encourages Southern Baptists to celebrate the total dollar amount given to Southern Baptist causes (such as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for international missionaries and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American missionaries). Churches will report "Great Commission Giving" by recording their gifts through the Cooperative Program as well as their gifts to other Southern Baptist causes - Those who oppose this recommendation believe that the sum total of "Great Commission Giving" will dilute the value of the Cooperative Program (CP) - churches will have less reason to support the (CP) program, leading to the dismantling of the current structure and the rise of special interests {Note: even if this kind of exploitive and coercive giving [and the accompanying bait and switch fundraising tactics] wasn't unbiblical it would still be sickening by normal societal standards that prohibit exploiting vulnerable (uninformed) and underprivileged people.}

It's easy to be confused about the recommendations of the Southern Baptist Convention's Great Commission Task Force (GCR). Through state papers, blogs, and websites, the conversation about the future of the SBC has been moving at a furious pace. Hype can eventually obscure reality, leading to misunderstandings and miscommunication on the part of both camps. GCR supporters have sometimes spoken as if this resolution will be the spark of a worldwide revival that will send renewal through the SBC. GCR detractors have sometimes spoken as if these resolutions would end the SBC as we know it and destroy all our cooperative efforts. Today, the Convention will consider the Task Force's recommendations. If the pastor's conference has been any indication, it appears that there is widespread support for these recommendations. Final attendance numbers are not in yet, but to anyone who has been to the Convention's annual meetings in recent years, it is clear that the crowd is much bigger, much younger, and much more diverse. Most of the speakers at the pastor's conference on Sunday and Monday called pastors and messengers to center their churches upon the gospel and the Great Commission. Several young pastors, such as Matt Chandler (pastor of The Village in Dallas, Texas) and David Platt (pastor of The Church at Brook Hills in Birmingham, Alabama), addressed Convention attendees. Today, Southern Baptists will vote on the recommendations of the Great Commission Task Force. Here is a summary of the report and the subsequent debate: ... 3. Celebrating and Empowering Great Commission Giving Summary: The Task Force affirms the Cooperative Program (the churches' undesignated gifts for supporting the various ministries and entities of the state and national conventions) as the central means of mobilizing our churches and extending our reach. The Task Force also encourages Southern Baptists to celebrate the total dollar amount given to Southern Baptist causes (such as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for international missionaries and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American missionaries). Churches will report "Great Commission Giving" by recording their gifts through the Cooperative Program as well as their gifts to other Southern Baptist causes. Debate: • Those who oppose this recommendation believe that the sum total of "Great Commission Giving" will dilute the value of the Cooperative Program by elevating designated gifts for specific ministries. The result will be a return to societal giving, in which various entities will be forced to go from church to church, asking for funds. By celebrating designated giving, churches will have less reason to support the program, leading to the dismantling of the current structure and the rise of special interests. • Those who support this recommendation believe that the program is already weakened and needs to be strengthened, not by chastising churches for giving designated gifts, but by celebrating all Great Commission giving. Once churches become convinced [deceived enough] that the ministries funded by the program are worth their Great Commission dollars, they will rise to the occasion and increase giving in all areas. ... Summary: The (GTRF) Task Force recommends that the responsibility of promoting the Cooperative Program (CP) among local churches be transferred from the executive committee to the state conventions. The Executive Committee would work with the state conventions in developing a strategy for encouraging churches to increase participation and giving to the program.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2010/juneweb-only/34-21.0.html>

Christian Living - Can I take communion at home like the disciples did? YES! - Communion brings you closer to the Lord as it is to be a proclamation of what Jesus did for you - your mind and heart become saturated with the truth of who Jesus is and all that His blood purchased for you - We pay tribute and honor to Jesus when we remember Him via administering communion to [ourselves and or] one another

"Can I take communion at home like the disciples did?" YES! I will give you the scriptures that support my answer. I am familiar with the practices that surround the modern day observance of the Lord's Supper...taking communion during special times of the year, taking communion to signify the beginning of certain seasons & celebrations...and the administering of communion just before one passes from this world. I'd like to start by telling you a few important things concerning communion..the Lord's Supper..the meal that heals. Communion brings healing to your body..wholeness to your life. Communion brings you closer to the Lord as it is to be a proclamation of what Jesus did for you..your mind and heart become saturated with the truth of who Jesus is and all that His blood purchased for you. We pay tribute and honor to Jesus when we remember Him via administering communion to [ourselves and or] one another..our family, our friends, our brothers and sisters in the Lord. Quite often I have wondered (other Christian's have as well) why the modern Church doesn't seem to have all that which the early Church had..the power of God on their lives, the stick-to-it-ness or longevity when it comes to serving the Lord. I mean, we pray, we fast, we worship, we read the Bible..and yet, something seems to be missing. The answer? Daily communion [or weekly, or occasional communion]. The New Testament believers (who were the Body of Christ..as we are today) met in one another's home daily and did what Paul (in 1 Cor. 11:26) instructed them to do: "For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord's death until He comes again. While it is common practice to take communion in a church (like you mentioned having done) we know that the Church is really the Body of Christ Jesus...the New Testament believers gathered daily..ate together daily..observed the Lord's Supper daily. Keeping Jesus (and everything Jesus did) in the forefront of their lives made them strong as a family..communion, prayer, worship & the teaching of Jesus' words became the glue that held the early Church together...and it is no different for us today.

<http://en.allexperts.com/q/Christianity-Christian-Living-1401/communion-home-disciples.htm>

Communion Bread Recipe

Communion Bread Recipe Ingredients: 1/2 cup Water (cold), 1/2 teaspoon Salt, 6 tablespoons Olive Oil, 2 cups Whole Wheat Bread Flour [unleavened - no yeast]. -- Directions: Blend first three ingredients (water, salt, oil) in blender or beat vigorously in a bowl until white. Pour into flour and mix. Turn out onto floured board and knead for 5 minutes. Roll out to 1/4-inch thick {or thinner}, mark {a cross and or squares} lightly with a pizza cutter {or a knife}, cutting most squares almost through, but leaving some to be broken {off later - if necessary for Church} by {Church} Elders {also make pierce marks or holes with a fork}. -- Bake at 275:F degrees until nicely browned; (about 45 minutes to 1 hour). Note: Leftovers are traditionally burned or buried [it's not necessary and some or all of the bread can also be eaten by itself apart from Communion as a regular flatbread and also as a bread in a fellowship with God (break bread with God) meal/snack i.e. with cheese, smoked fish, sausage, olives, artichokes or other items and snacks, possibly including (unwatered) regular grape juice {juice can of course be watered down (and probably should) but not mingled like Communion wine just watered down to taste} or wine (if preferred) to drink]. Source: Adapted from Eat for Strength - Agatha M. Thrash, M.D. This recipe from CDKitchen for Communion Bread serves/makes 200.

http://www.cdkitchen.com/recipes/recs/2/Communion_Bread16829.shtml

Baking Stone - Do you have a stone oven? We don't - But we make "stone oven" pizzas, *flatbreads [Communion Bread], and hearth breads with this pizza baking stone

For the absolutely crispiest-crust pizza and bread. Do you have a stone oven? We don't. But we make "stone oven" pizzas, flatbreads, and hearth breads with this pizza baking stone. Brick-oven baking stone absorbs the oven's heat, then transfers it to bread. Moisture disperses out through the crust, making terrific, light-textured breads and pizzas with an incredible crackly-crunchy crust. ... Cook's Illustrated Top Choice! "We tested 10 baking stones and came to prefer a fairly large one (16 by 14 inches is ideal) with smooth edges. The Baker's Catalogue Baking Stone's moderate weight and ample size make it our favorite."

<http://www.kingarthurflour.com/shop/items/pizza-baking-stone>

Baptists, combating malaise ["out of sorts" feeling], preoccupied by numbers - [Compromising (straying) from Biblical standards] Churches in America are losing ground with each successive generation - "I think the hand-wringing is driven by an angst of do we [SBC] want to join so many other [Protestant] denominations in decline?" said Ed Stetzer, president of SBC-affiliated LifeWay Research, which compiles and analyzes statistics - "In our history as Southern Baptists, we've never had the kind of malaise statistically we've had in the last five years" said Alvin Reid, professor of evangelism at Southeastern

Ask a Southern Baptist about the state of the denomination, and you'll probably get an answer with numbers in it. Numbers of baptisms in particular. And recently, declining numbers of baptisms. As members of the nation's largest Protestant denomination ready for their annual meeting next week in Orlando, Fla., statistics loom large in their plans to chart a new direction after years of malaise. "In 2008 we baptized only 75,000 teenagers," reads a new Southern Baptist report, Penetrating the Lostness. "In 1970 we baptized 140,000. Why? ... Churches in America are losing ground with each successive generation." Why are Southern Baptists so focused on statistics? Simply put, they view them as a tangible way of tracking how well they are reaching those they call the "lost" - people without Jesus Christ. "I think the hand-wringing is driven by an angst of do we want to join so many other denominations in decline?" said Ed Stetzer, president of SBC-affiliated LifeWay Research, which compiles and analyzes statistics. Stetzer has issued blunt assessments of the denomination's baptism rates and membership decline - a reversal of fortunes that some Baptists have had trouble acknowledging. In a May commentary, he reviewed the ups and downs of baptism rates over the past six decades and declared that membership has probably peaked at 16.1 million. "Blips, untended, become dips ... and dips, untended, become crypts," he warned in the commentary that appeared on Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary's Between the Times blog. Other observers look at the numbers with worry. "In our history as Southern Baptists, we've never had the kind of malaise statistically we've had in the last five years," said Alvin Reid, professor of evangelism at Southeastern.

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/life/religion/7046843.html>

SBC must build its Great Commission legacy [through humble individual service to Jesus Christ and not by donations or money tithed or given to SBC principals especially in the form of thinly veiled pleas and slightly disguised threats (i.e. pastors will be laid off) in requesting additional finances 'In difficult economic times' as Pastor David Uth seems to be doing], Uth says {Note: Money, pride and paid (professional) Charity work seldom mix very well and Christianity in the image of Jesus Christ is the essence of Humble Servant Charity Work. We need to be humble and be about the true reconciliation work of Jesus Christ and often that means being only in charge of ourselves and having authority only over ourselves and not having a staff, an expense account and not even having status within society all while we individually and collectively labor lovingly in God's Kingdom the True and Eternal Kingdom of Jesus Christ.}

ORLANDO (FBW)-The Southern Baptist Convention sits at a crucial point in history when it must recommit to building a legacy of obedience to the Great Commission, David Uth, senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Orlando, said June 13 at the SBC Pastor's Conference. "There comes a point where we say, 'This is where we want to go. This is what we want life to look like. This is what we want our legacy to be,'" Uth said. "And I really believe this convention is the defining moment for us that will determine that legacy." Preaching from Acts 20, Uth said a godly denominational legacy must include living out the Great Commission rather than merely discussing it. "As Southern Baptists, we have been saying a lot about the Great Commission all of our history," he said. "We have been saying a lot about this kind of a legacy. But at some point, saying is not enough." Uth listed three steps Southern Baptists must take in order to build a legacy that glorifies God. First, they must walk with humility. "Southern Baptists, we're not all that. We need to honor and glorify the One from whom all blessings flow. We are not all that," Uth said. "One of the things that has broken my heart is to hear people talk about their ministry and people talk about their church. People talk about this and that, 'We did this. We did that. We did this.' Let me tell you, if you've done anything worthwhile of eternal value, you didn't do it. Your Father granted it from heaven. Give Him glory." Second, they must shed tears over the lostness in the world. While Southern Baptists cry over votes that don't go their way and derailed personal ambitions, many have stopped crying over non-Christians who are on the path to hell, Uth said. Yet the multitudes who do not know Jesus should be among the greatest causes of tears, he said. ... Third, Southern Baptists must fulfill their ministry despite trials. In difficult economic times, churches and denominational entities are being forced to cut budgets, he said. In fact, First Baptist Orlando recently cut six pastoral staff members. But fulfilling the Great Commission is worth the pain of budget cuts, he said. "The church does not exist to employ people. It exists to reach the nations for God's glory. And if I could just be so bold to say, the Southern Baptist Convention does not exist to employ people. It exists to reach the nations for the glory of God. And it just might be we have to do hard things," he said. Through any trial, Jesus is enough to sustain those who are following Him, Uth said.

<http://www.gofbw.com/news.asp?ID=11850>

Criteria for Christian Communion

Criteria for Christian Communion: 1. First the 'body' (of Jesus Christ) bread [wafer] is to be unleavened (sinless), unsweetened (reality), salt (preserved), holes (pierced) and browned (bruised). 2. Second the 'blood' (of Jesus Christ) cup [grape juice, wine] is to be mingled (combined) 1/3 water with 2/3 grape [fruit of the vine]. Use three separate glasses or containers, 1 with water, 1 with grape, 1 empty. Then pour [mingle] at the same time both the grape and the water into the empty cup creating the cup of 2/3 grape mingled with 1/3 water. 3. Reading a Bible verse or passage provides the 3rd element of Communion the element of the Word of God being the Spirit of God. - Note: When the Communion bread is lifted up blessed, exalted and broken it represents the physical body of Jesus Christ on the cross then when the bread is eaten (consumed, eternalized) it represents the Spiritual [resurrection] body of Jesus Christ. Likewise when the Communion blood is mingled [grape, water] it represents the physical blood and water of Jesus Christ that was shed on the cross [after His death - by the spear wound (John 19:34-35)] for the remission of our sins and then when the blood is drink (consumed, eternalized) it represents the resurrection eternal life Spiritual blood of Jesus Christ. Both [the one body] the physical (earthly) body of Jesus Christ and His eternal Spiritual Resurrection [bodily resurrection] of Jesus Christ [along with our new eternal spiritual body in Jesus Christ] are represented in the one Communion of bread and wine (grape).

<http://www.basicchristian.org/iamachristian.html>

Criteria for Christian Baptism

Criteria for Christian Baptism: 1. The person being baptized confesses a personal individual faith in Jesus Christ [the Apostles' Creed, a Psalm or a Bible verse can be read or recited]. Acknowledging the sinless Divine life, sacrificial atoning death on the cross and three days later the resurrection [eternal life] of Jesus Christ. 2. The person administering the baptism is to baptize in the Name of God the Father, the Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit [not in the name of any individual, group or denomination] i.e. (Matthew 28:18-20) "I baptize you in the Name of God the Father, the beloved Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit." 3. The water baptism event [submerging into water] signifies our (dying) death and burial to this world (sin and death) while then [emerging from the water] signifies our own personal resurrection with eternal life in Jesus Christ entering into a new life in the eternal Kingdom of God. - Note: The water baptism [and accompanying confession of faith] is the Biblical public confession of faith for each individual Christian and is not to be confused with an alter call that although being a public stand it is not in its entirety the Biblical confession of faith.

<http://www.basicchristian.org/iamachristian.html>

Bible verse: 1 John 5:1-21 ... For whatsoever is [Spiritually] born [again] of God overcometh the world: and *this is the victory that overcometh the world, even **our faith ... {Note: it is 'our faith' in the completed and accomplished works of Jesus Christ, His works, His sinless life, His cross and His everlasting resurrection life that overcomes this fallen and sinful world. Our faith in Jesus overcomes the fallen world because Jesus overcame the sin and death of the world and it is not our works (good, bad or otherwise) that overcome the world but exclusively our faith in Jesus Christ and what He has accomplished for us to freely receive of from His eternal life. - Also Note: some new teachings now insist that God as assigned evil works or necessary evil in works of death and destruction for some [chosen or appointed] people to carry out i.e. 'messengers of destruction and death' or 'death angels' and it's simply another deception (Romans 3:8) and lie from Satan as the True God [the Holy God of Israel] is the God of everlasting life in Jesus Christ. The Holy God is not the god of human schemes of murder and mayhem. God is the God of forgiveness of sins, reconciliation for mankind and eternal life all in Jesus Christ.} The complete Bible is available at ChristianFaithDownloads.com

1 John 5:1-21 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ (having and giving eternal life) is [Spiritually] born [again] of God: and every one that loveth Him [God the Father] that begat [sent Jesus into the world] loveth Him [Jesus] also that is begotten [was physically manifested in the world] of [in the exact Spiritual image of] Him [God the Father]. By this we know that we love the Children of God [Christians], when we love God, and keep His commandments [Love God, love your neighbor (Matthew 22:37-39)]. For this is the love of God, that we keep His Commandments: and His Commandments [of Love] are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and *this is the victory that overcometh the world, even **our faith [in love for God]. Who is he [worshiper] that overcometh the world, but he [Christian] that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? This is He [Jesus] that came by water [womb] and blood [cross], even Jesus Christ; not by water [O.T. judgment upon the entire earth (Genesis 6:7, Numbers 31:23)] only, but by water and {now also} blood [N.T. judgment upon the entire earth (Matthew 26:28)]. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness [of the global judgments of water (O.T.), blood of Jesus (N.T.), the judgment of fire (2 Peter 3:12) yet to come and of the only Eternal Life through Jesus Christ], because the [Holy] Spirit is Truth. **For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word [Jesus Christ], and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. **And there are three that bear [judgment and eternal life] witness in earth, the Spirit [of Jesus Christ (Luke 23:46)], and the water [from the cross of Jesus Christ (John 19:34-35)], and the blood [from the cross of Jesus Christ (John 19:34-35)]: and these three agree in one. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which He hath testified of His Son [Jesus Christ]. He [person] that believeth on the Son of God hath the [Holy Spirit] witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made Him [God] a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of His Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is [only] in His Son [Jesus Christ]. He that hath the Son hath [eternal] life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not [reconciled to God] life. These things have I written unto you that believe [faith] on the Name [Jesus] of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the Name of the Son of God. And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us: And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him. If any man see his brother sin a sin [mistakes] which is not [unbelief] unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin [unbelief] unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. All [mistakes] unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin [of mistakes] not unto death. We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not [by not denying that Jesus is God]; but he that is begotten of God (born again) keepeth himself, and that wicked [Satan] one toucheth him not. And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. And we know that the Son of God is come [personally], and hath given us an [Holy Spirit] understanding, that we may know Him [God] that is True, and we are in Him that is True, even in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the True God, and eternal life. Little children [Christians - not yet adopted as Sons of God], keep yourselves from idols [unholy desires]. Amen. -- Holy Bible

<http://www.ChristianFaithDownloads.com/>

Note: The Basic Christian Info Feed will be on a short pause and will continue in about a week continuing with a brief Bible study (and hopefully at a later time a much more in-depth study) looking into the Biblical triune (3 in 1) nature [testimony, salvation, judgment] of the water, blood and Spirit (also represented in breath, wind, fire) that are each freely offered and given from God to all of mankind globally as a witness of sin (and eventually as a judgment against sin), a testimony of the once physical presence of Jesus Christ and as an eternal remedy for our own individual Salvation

Where the Apostle Peter's significant life changing event during his time with Jesus seemed to be at the Mount of Transfiguration (Mark 9:1-8, 2 Peter 1:16-18) the Apostle John's significant life changing event with Jesus seems to have been at the cross (John 19:34-35, 1 John 5:7-9) when Jesus was pierced by the Roman spear and the blood and water poured out from the wound in Jesus' side. The Apostle John then regards the presence of the Spirit and the separation of the blood and water coming out from Jesus as a witness, a judgment, and a testimony of salvation for all of mankind. When the Basic Christian blog History study returns in about a week we will Biblically look into the blood, water and fire (spirit), testimonies and judgments of the Bible from throughout the Old Testament starting in Genesis and continuing consistently throughout the entire Bible then concluding in book of Revelation [the sin of Adam and Eve and the shedding of blood, the Aaronic Priesthood, the Last Supper Communion, the atoning cross of Jesus Christ, the Resurrection of Jesus and birth (Alpha) of the Christian Church, the Pentecost global Spirit empowerment and witness, the calling home into heaven by Jesus the rapture (Omega) of the Christian Church, Revelation-Tribulation]. -- "John 19:34-35 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced His [Jesus'] side, and forthwith came there out {the global Judgment, global Testimony and global Salvation of} *blood and *water. And he (Disciple John) *that saw it bare record [testimony], and his [testimony] record is true: **and he knoweth that he saith true, ***that ye [individuals] might believe [salvation]." -- "1 John 5:7-9 For there are *three (triune) that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word [Jesus Christ], and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear *witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. If we receive the witness of men, *the witness [Spirit, water, blood] of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which He hath testified of His Son [Jesus Christ]."

http://www.basicchristian.org/blog_historystudy.html

ABP Opinion: 1st reaction to Great Commission Resurgence, 2nd verse - My strategy to encourage churches to higher CP (Cooperative Program) giving is this: Demonstrated commitment to CP from those who lead the Southern Baptist Convention - SBC president Johnny Hunt, who has pledged to double his church's CP (Cooperative Program) giving this year to about \$900,000 {Note: This is a deliberate plan to take money away from the local Church authority [and local Church work] by donating it upstream [instead of downstream to needier Churches and causes] to some vague, vapid [non-Christian] national-international (secular) and fraudulent causes i.e. Rick Warren's purpose driven agendas and the New Apostolic Reformation and their upstream donations to their main church offices and to a select few (possibly non-Christian, infiltrated) directors, presidents and staff members.}

If the SBC is to adopt a new mission statement -- and such adoption should be considered a huge undertaking -- what is the statement it replaces? The SBC was formed in 1845, according to our founding documents, for the "purpose of carrying into effect the benevolent intention of our constituents by organizing a plan for eliciting, combining, and directing the energies of the denomination for the propagation of the gospel." The purpose of our convention, according to Article II of our bylaws, is "to provide a general organization for Baptists in the United States and its territories for the promotion of Christian missions at home and abroad and any other objects such as Christian education, benevolent enterprises, and social services which it may deem proper and advisable for the furtherance of the Kingdom of God." Are a "purpose" and a "mission statement" the same thing? If the proposed mission statement is an add-on, it can be enthusiastically endorsed. If it is to change the purpose statement of the convention, it needs far more serious consideration than to be the first of seven recommendations from a task force formed for a different purpose entirely. The task force still wants to dilute the Cooperative Program by making it the "first and primary component" of something they would call Great Commission Giving. The progress report in February basically would have taken any responsibility for Cooperative Program promotion and "returned" it to the state conventions. The new version still doesn't recognize that the states have always had primary responsibility for CP promotion and it urges the SBC Executive Committee to work with state conventions to form a "unified strategy with clearly established goals" by 2013. My strategy to encourage churches to higher CP giving is this: Demonstrated commitment to CP from those who lead the Southern Baptist Convention. SBC president Johnny Hunt, who has pledged to double his church's CP giving this year to about \$900,000, rightly reminded the editors that no one responds positively to criticism. You can't get someone to do more of something by emphasizing how little of it they currently do. He reminded us that "thousands" of churches that claim SBC affiliation give nothing to CP -- and the six-percent average church CP commitment would be much smaller if not for the large dollar amounts churches like his provide.

<http://www.abpnews.com/content/view/5117/9/>

The [Four] 2010 SBC presidential candidates share views - The annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention will be held June 15-16 [2010] in Orlando, Fla. The following is a summary of each of the four announced presidential candidates' views on issues, including the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force (GTRF) report and the Cooperative Program (CP) {Note: It looks like plans for lots of manipulation, hiding, transferring, switching and just plain funny business in general going on with SBC pooled and shared (CP) finances and resources.}

Endel's strongest concern was that "the GCRTF may accelerate the crumbling of the CP funding system that holds our mission work together." Endel expressed his concerns about "Great Commission Giving" using the hypothetical that churches couldn't operate on a system that celebrated designated giving over unrestricted tithing to the general budget. In such a system, he said, funding falls apart such that bake sales would be needed to pay the bills, but there would be more than enough people wanting to contribute to the youth pastor's salary. "Conflict and competition will soon kill a church funded like that," Endel said. Endel also took issue with the final report recommendation that would result in the elimination of funding for Cooperative Program promotion and stewardship education by the SBC Executive Committee. "It is my opinion that the assistance of the Executive Committee has saved all Southern Baptists millions of dollars by helping us collectively develop materials rather than forcing every state convention to separately develop these materials," Endel said. "Videos and printed materials are much cheaper when developed together and produced from one centralized source." Endel said the loss of this partnership "will be far more than the money saved by cutting the work of the Executive Committee." ... Jackson also expressed this point in terms of leadership representation. "While I applaud our megachurches and their very capable leadership, most of whom are longtime friends and acquaintances of mine, I do believe that we need a more representative balance of input and leadership from all of the churches in the convention." Jackson said his greatest concern with the GCRTF report has to do with CP giving. "Although the GCRTF report calls for a renewed emphasis in the giving to the CP," he said, "it also places it under the heading 'Great Commission Giving.' The CP becomes a way to give, not 'the' way. Such a change is risky at best." ... Traylor said the most pressing need is for spiritual awakening and leaders who are "deeply committed servants of Christ" as well as "resolute in their commitment to the Baptist Faith & Message 2000." As a way to move Southern Baptists toward spiritual awakening, Traylor said he would seek to call Southern Baptists to solemn assembly in January 2011 and "explore the possibility of incorporating the solemn assembly model in our SBC annual meeting" and that he would promote the use of NAMB's evangelism initiative, God's Plan for Sharing. He also indicated leadership is important to this end in that "the SBC president sets a direction with appointments. ... Individuals within the churches must return to Christ as their first love, Wright said in naming the most critical need in the Southern Baptist Convention. The lack of tithing reveals the idolatries of materialism and hedonism among evangelicals, he said, adding that the epidemic of sexual immorality has weakened the church. Wright proposes greater direct missions involvement to galvanize individuals and churches, and advocates that state conventions "keep less in the state and send more dollars to the IMB and to other areas of the country where lostness is so prevalent." He supports the work of the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force, but sees their efforts as a first step. "As a former church planter here at Johnson Ferry," he wrote to Baptist Press, "I am encouraged that the Task Force sees the importance of church planting in the areas of greatest need in the United States - particularly our pioneer states and our large cities. Also, I agree with the Task Force that every church should be a 'missional center.'" He would challenge local churches to participate on a mission trip as well as focusing on the immediate community as their mission field. Wright also expressed his desire that leaders be appointed who have a passion for Christ, commitment to the Word and a vision for seeing the Great Commission fulfilled. "I would seek to nominate folks that represent a broad spectrum of SBC life: pastors, church staff, laypeople, mainline states, pioneer states, larger churches, smaller churches, seasoned veterans and young leaders," he said.

<http://www.tnbaptist.org/BRARticle.asp?ID=3386>

[Four] Pastors [Bryant Wright, Leo Endel, Jimmy Jackson, Ted Traylor] nominated for 2010 Southern Baptist Convention presidency - The presidency will be decided by thousands of delegates - called "messengers" - who will attend the annual conference, representing more than 45,000 Southern Baptist churches throughout the country and their more than 16 million members - Unlike the top-down approach of Roman Catholicism, from Pope to priest, Southern Baptist churches are [were once in theory] autonomous (self governing) - The selection will be made at the Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting in Orlando, Fla., on Tuesday and Wednesday [June 15 and 16, 2010] - current SBC President Johnny Hunt (two terms of one year each), pastor of First Baptist Church in Woodstock, Ga., is ineligible for re-election

Bryant Wright, senior pastor of Johnson Ferry Baptist Church and founder of Right From The Heart Ministries, is one of four nominees for the presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention when that organization meets in Orlando on Tuesday. Wright's nomination was made by Dr. David Uth, senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Orlando. "Bryant has been a consistent leader among Southern Baptists who acknowledges and appreciates our traditional heritage while embracing some of the creative and innovative methods of reaching today's generation for Christ," Uth said. The presidency will be decided by thousands of delegates - called "messengers" - who will attend the annual conference, representing more than 45,000 Southern Baptist churches throughout the country and their more than 16 million members, Wright said. Attendance is expected to be between 12,000 to 18,000, with up to 14,000 being messengers. Unlike the top-down approach of Roman Catholicism, from Pope to priest, Southern Baptist churches are autonomous. The term Southern Baptist Convention refers to both the denomination and its annual meeting. Working through 1,200 local associations and 41 state conventions and fellowships, Southern Baptists share a common bond of basic biblical beliefs and a commitment to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Convention attendees are called messengers rather than delegates because they are not instructed how to vote. Churches have up to 10 messengers they get to send to the convention, depending on their size. Since all 10 messengers from any one church may vote differently on the candidate of their choice, there's no way to predict who will be elected president.

http://www.chokeetribune.com/view/full_story/7916914/article-Local-pastor-nominated-for-Southern-Baptist-Convention-presidency

SBC seminaries send forth [2010] graduates - The work of the six seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention is showcased with each spring's commencement - Reports from the seminaries' services follow - Such faithfulness will ensure that the world knows "you are exactly what you claim to be" Paige Patterson, Southwestern's president, said during his commissioning message **"And if you will be faithful to the assignment you have [from SBC members?], then God will maintain your work, whatever His purpose for you" {Note: This is a very strange, unbiblical and even highly blasphemous comment from Paige Patterson. Does Paige Patterson wrongly believe that being loyal to and serving the SBC is the same thing as being loyal to and serving God if so this is very mistaken and very unbiblical. - Also Note: God does not uphold our work, God ONLY upholds His works (Joshua 5:13-15, Romans 8:4, Hebrews 1:1-3).}

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--The work of the six seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention is showcased with each spring's commencement. Reports from the seminaries' services follow. ... SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY -- One hundred years after the institution moved from Waco to Fort Worth, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary graduates were exhorted to continue to walk in integrity through life and ministry regardless of the result during spring commencement May 8. Such faithfulness will ensure that the world knows "you are exactly what you claim to be," Paige Patterson, Southwestern's president, said during his commissioning message. "And if you will be faithful to the assignment you have, then God will maintain your work, whatever His purpose for you." Preaching about the apostles' imprisonment in Acts 5, Patterson cautioned the graduates that there is no guarantee life will continue as it has for them in the same circumstances that they have enjoyed. "And many of you will not be serving in this country anyway," Patterson told the diverse group, which represented eight countries as well as those wishing to serve overseas. "Many of you will go to places where your life will be in jeopardy." Regardless, Patterson used Scripture to remind the students that the presence of God will be with them wherever they may serve -- something that enabled the early church to continue their ministry, "rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name" (Acts 5:41). "Rejoicing that they could suffer. Aren't those words in strange proximity to one another?" Patterson said. "That is the key to the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. You will suffer, not only possibly physically, but you will certainly, every one of you, suffer misunderstanding, misrepresentation, abuse and attack of various kinds in the ministry to which you go. "It will come," he assured them. "You have a choice at that point. You may either become bitter and resent what has happened to you, and that bitterness will permeate everything about you and everything around you to the point that there will be no joy at all, or you can choose to rejoice that you, too, are counted worthy to suffer for the name of the Lord Jesus Christ." Southwestern administrators conferred 214 degrees, including 21 undergraduate, 172 master's and 19 doctorates.

<http://www.bpnews.net/BPnews.asp?ID=33084>

Wikipedia: Paige Patterson - Role in the [supposed] Southern Baptist Convention SBC Conservative Resurgence

Role in the SBC Conservative Resurgence: Patterson is best known for his prominent role in a conservative resurgence within the SBC starting in 1979 with the election of Adrian Rogers as Convention President. Believing SBC seminaries and other SBC institutions had drifted away from their conservative Biblical roots, Patterson joined with Judge Paul Pressler of Houston, TX to carry out a plan that included exposing the liberal theology taught and practiced by the leadership in SBC institutions. The most important issue was the nature of scripture, particularly, whether or not it is inerrant. Patterson, Pressler, and a host of pastors and laymen began to spread the word that the teaching of SBC leadership was not reflective of their constituents who were paying their salaries. Patterson and the conservatives won the support of hundreds of like-minded churches, and as many as 40,000 messengers (church members willing to travel to the annual Southern Baptist Convention to vote). Patterson's influence has been felt at all levels of Southern Baptist life. The seminaries have for the most part returned to their conservative moorings. Local churches are hiring pastors educated at schools led by conservatives. Missionaries are being influenced by Patterson's leadership. By the time Patterson was appointed president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, the conservative leadership required that all faculty sign documents stating their allegiance to Southern Baptist theology, most notably, the Baptist Faith and Message.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paige_Patterson

Ergun Caner and brother Emir Caner - visit with *longtime mentor and Southwestern Seminary President Paige Patterson (Photo)

Ergun Caner, left, president of Liberty Theological Seminary and brother to Emir Caner, right, visit with longtime mentor and Southwestern Seminary President Paige Patterson, center, before the ceremony.

<http://www.christianindex.org/3604.imgpre>

[LU's] Ergun Caner: Lynchburg paper gives backgrounder - Also listed beside Caner's name, in Liberty University's online catalog of graduate courses and faculty, is a doctor of ministry degree - On his website, Caner says the doctor of ministry was an honorary degree, one of two that he has been given - It's so honorary that it's described this way in a 2003 Baptist Press article - "completed a D.Min. at Emmanuel Baptist University and a D. Theol. at the University of South Africa" - You do not describe an honorary degree as "completed" - "Completed" implies some sort of coursework was done - Ergun just needs to come clean, and the sooner, the better - Preferably before the SBC (Southern Baptist Convention) meets in Orlando, FL. in a month [June 13-16, 2010]

... and, more to the point of something I've been all over on this blog: Also listed beside Caner's name, in Liberty University's online catalog of graduate courses and faculty, is a doctor of ministry degree [D.Min.]. On his website, Caner says the doctor of ministry was an honorary degree, one of two that he has been given. That's been Ergun's excuse every time he's been questioned about it. I brought this up last August 2 in a blog post. Scroll down to "Is It Butter or Parkay? (Ergun's Allegedly Honorary Degree)" for the full scoop, but here's the pertinent detail. Ergun claims that his D.Min from "Emmanuel Baptist University" is honorary. It's so honorary that it's described this way in a 2003 Baptist Press article talking about his move from Criswell College to Liberty University: After receiving a B.A. from Cumberland College, Caner received the M.A. from The Criswell College, M.Div. and Th.M. from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and completed a D.Min. at Emmanuel Baptist University and a D. Theol. at the University of South Africa. Erm. No. You do not describe an honorary degree as "completed." "Completed" implies some sort of coursework was done. It's the same word used to describe his earned Th.D from the University of South Africa. Now, I don't know if Ergun completed any coursework for the D.Min beyond writing a check, addressing an envelope, putting a stamp on the envelope and walking it down to the post office. But it can't be an "honorary" degree if he purchased it. Ergun just needs to come clean, and the sooner, the better. Preferably before the SBC meets in Orlando in a month, maybe? -- COMMENTS: It's an odd comment to begin with, because a D.Min [Doctor of Ministry] is not usually an honorary degree, but a completed one. As a professional degree it does not entitle one to the honorific "Dr." Nevertheless *it is awarded upon completion of a course of study and ***the production of a professional paper [In some United States doctoral programs, the term "dissertation" can refer to the major part of the student's total time spent along with two or three years of classes, and may take years of full-time work to complete. At most universities, *dissertation is the term for the **required submission [paper] for the doctorate [degree], and thesis refers only to the master's degree requirement. - Wiki.com]. I've never heard of an honorary one. This is extremely "hinky." ... The whole question of honorary degrees, whether they should be awarded, whether they are something to be proud of, listed as accomplishments, etc. is kind of murky, and I might gently suggest that on this particular issue there's smoke but not much fire. [Sr.] Jerry Falwell's only doctorate was honorary [three honorary doctorates - Wiki.com], but people who thought highly of him often referred to him as "Dr Falwell" rather than "Jerry." If you look at the "About the Authors" section at the end of some of the Left Behind books you may see that Jerry Jenkins claims to "hold" two honorary degrees while Tim LaHaye distinguishes between his earned degree and his honorary degrees. Jerry Falwell Jr. earned a JD [Juris Doctor], but you will occasionally see him referred to as "Dr Falwell," even though that is not the typical mode of address for a lawyer. Finally, some schools only address medical doctors (MDs, not dentists or PhDs in community health) as "Doctor" and all other doctoral degree recipients as "Mister." That's how it was where I got mine. Anyway, I'd suggest that there's smoke but no fire here; if he earned a doctorate in South Africa then he's Dr Caner, regardless of whether he got another honorary doctorate.

<http://mmmirele.blogspot.com/2010/05/ergun-caner-lynchburg-paper-gives.html>

Apprising Ministries: The Emerging church - Three voices from the "emergent church" will explore this capacity of postmodern Christianity *to embrace and redefine tradition, ... Who should attend: Any futurist who feels that everything must change about [traditional Christian] religion and is curious about how progressive [New Age] Christianity is a leading indicator of change - What you'll learn: Attendees will learn how to ground [embed and saturate] their leadership and foresight in the concerns of tomorrow's [New World Order] spiritualities and relate religious concepts to futures thinking through a theology of (false and deceptive) hope - How can this *new knowledge be applied: Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of how postmodern spiritualities are **reshaping conservative theologies and communities

Back in November of 2005 the online apologetics and discernment work Apprising Ministries warned you about what is now a full blown cult of neo-liberalism operating within mainstream evangelicalism, the sinfully ecumenical Emerging Church. These past few years this EC has been busy forging together its new form of postmodern liberal theology, a Liberalism 2.0 many call Emergence Christianity, which Emergent Church guru Brian McLaren begins laying out in his latest book A New Kind of Christianity. ... Three voices from the "emergent church" will explore this capacity of postmodern Christianity to embrace and redefine tradition, ... Who should attend: Any futurist who feels that everything must change about religion and is curious about how progressive Christianity is a leading indicator of change. What you'll learn: Attendees will learn how to ground their leadership and foresight in the concerns of tomorrow's spiritualities and relate religious concepts to futures thinking through a theology of hope. How can this new knowledge be applied: Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of how postmodern spiritualities are reshaping conservative theologies and communities.

<http://apprising.org/2010/06/05/mike-morrell-on-matthew-fox-john-wimber-and-the-emergent-church/>

[Modern] Pietism - Pietism was a movement within Lutheranism, lasting from the late 17th century to the mid-18th century and later - It proved to be very influential throughout Protestantism and Anabaptism, inspiring not only Anglican priest John Wesley to begin the Methodist movement, but also Alexander Mack to begin the Brethren movement - The Pietist movement combined the Lutheranism of the time with the Reformed, and especially Puritan, emphasis on individual piety, and a vigorous Christian life

History: Although pietism surely had roots prior to the Reformation and to some extent the cause of it, as a distinct movement within Protestantism pietism became identifiable in the 17th century. The Lutheran Church had continued Philipp Melanchthon's attempt to construct an intellectual backbone for the Evangelical Lutheran faith. By the 17th century the denomination remained a confessional theological and sacramental institution, influenced by orthodox Lutheran theologians such as Johann Gerhard of Jena (d. 1637), and keeping with the liturgical traditions of the Roman Catholicism of which it saw itself as a reformed variation. In the Reformed Church, on the other hand, John Calvin had not only influenced doctrine, but for a particular formation of Christian life. The Presbyterian constitution gave the people a share in church life which the Lutherans lacked, but it appeared to some to degenerate into a dogmatic legalism which, the Lutherans believed, imperiled Christian freedom and fostered self-righteousness. However, in the pietist view, ritualistic elements which Luther wanted to remove were captivating the mainstream of the Lutheran church, squeezing the pietists into fellowships with which they were comfortable. ... In Pia desideria "Pious Desires" (1675), Spener made six proposals as the best means of restoring the life of the Church: 1. The earnest and thorough study of the Bible in private meetings, ecclesiolae in ecclesia ("little churches within the church"). 2. The Christian priesthood being universal, the laity [people] should share in the spiritual government of the Church. 3. A knowledge of Christianity must be attended by the practice of it as its indispensable sign and supplement. 4. Instead of merely didactic, and often bitter, attacks on the heterodox [variant views] and unbelievers, a sympathetic and kindly treatment of them. 5. A reorganization of the theological training of the universities, giving more prominence to the devotional life. 6. A different style of preaching, namely, in the place of pleasing rhetoric [examples directed from news, events and stories], the implanting of [Biblical] Christianity in the inner or new man [spiritual man], the soul of which is faith, and its effects the fruits of life. - This work produced a great impression throughout Germany, and although large numbers of the orthodox Lutheran theologians and pastors were deeply offended by Spener's book, its complaints and its demands were both too well justified to admit of their being point-blank denied. A large number of pastors immediately adopted Spener's proposals. ... In modern societies where Pietism has had a profound impact its religious foundations are no longer apparent. Atheistic pietism is a term used by Asgeir Helgason to describe a pietistic (moralistic) approach to life without religion. "We have denied the existence of God but kept the pietistic rules". Atheistic pietism has been suggested to be one of the characteristics (traits) of the modern day Swedish national spirit. The term is first known to have been used by W.H. Mallock in 1879.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pietism>

[Modern] Anabaptist - Anabaptists "re-baptizers" or "adult baptism" [believer's baptism - credobaptism (reciting the well-known "Apostles' Creed" or a personal Bible verse or a Psalm at baptism)] are Christians of the Radical Reformation - Puritans of England and their Baptist branch arose independently, but were influenced by the Anabaptist movement - Where men believe in the freedom of religion, supported by a guarantee of separation of church and state [government], they have entered into that [Anabaptist] heritage - Where men have caught the Anabaptist vision of [N.T.] discipleship, they have become worthy of that heritage - Where corporate discipleship submits itself to the New Testament pattern of the church, the heir has then entered full possession of his [N.T. - Anabaptist] legacy

[Some] Anabaptists rejected *conventional [common and Biblically acceptable] Christian practices such as wearing wedding rings, taking oaths, and participating in civil government. They adhered to a literal interpretation of the Sermon on the Mount and Believer's baptism. The name Anabaptist is derived from this, because credobaptism ('Believer's baptism' - adult baptism) was considered heresy by all other major Christian denominations at the time of the reformation period (specifically, all major Christian denominations saw [infant] baptism as necessary for salvation and necessary for infants, and held that it was wrong to delay baptism until the child had reached a certain age; they did, however, require that those who converted later in life should confess a baptismal creed [the Apostles' Creed] at baptism (credobaptism). Anabaptists required that candidates be able to make their own confessions of faith and so refused baptism to infants). As a result, Anabaptists were heavily persecuted during the 16th century and into the 17th by both Roman Catholics and other Protestants. ... Somewhat related to this is the theory that the Anabaptists are of Waldensian origin. Some hold the idea that the Waldenses are part of the apostolic succession, while others simply believe they were an independent group out of whom the Anabaptists arose. Estep asserts "the Waldenses disappeared in Switzerland a century before the rise of the Anabaptist movement." Ludwig Keller, Thomas M. Lindsay, H. C. Vedder, Delbert Grätz, and Thieleman J. van Braght all held, in varying degrees, the position that the Anabaptists were of Waldensian origin. ... The Anabaptists were early promoters of a free church and freedom of religion (sometimes associated with separation of church and state). When it was introduced by the Anabaptists in the 15th and 16th centuries, religious freedom independent of the state was unthinkable to both clerical and governmental leaders. Religious liberty was equated with anarchy; Kropotkin traces the birth of anarchist thought in Europe to these early Anabaptist communities. According to Estep: Where men believe in the freedom of religion, supported by a guarantee of separation of church and state, they have entered into that heritage. Where men have caught the Anabaptist vision of discipleship, they have become worthy of that heritage. Where corporate discipleship submits itself to the New Testament pattern of the church, the heir has then entered full possession of his legacy.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anabaptist>

Apprising Ministries: MYSTICISM PART 5 - Pietism [personal righteousness] & Subjective [my version of self-righteousness] Christianity - Where Did Pietism Go Wrong? Of course that is a loaded question and presupposes that Pietism did go wrong - Given the fact that Pietism, to some degree, lives on in church related groups as diverse as Amish, Methodist, Baptist, Pentecostal and the Amana Society it is hard to be precise - But, wherever experience and subjectivity reigns supreme over Scripture in the lives and churches of twenty-first century believers there is something wrong {Note: The Basic Christian ministry at its core is really a remnant of the Anabaptist - Pietism movement. In about 2001 the Basic Christian: Statement of Faith was re-written and expanded including the phrase "while to the *righteous He [Jesus Christ] will give of His life, His gifts, and His glory" this was added with much consideration and what it means is that the purpose of the Basic Christian ministry at its core is a Ministry of Righteousness in Jesus Christ. Righteousness is an extremely loaded word and it should be but it is so loaded that after that one small phrase [and a few more words] were added to the Basic Christian: Statement of Faith that article went from among the most popular articles on the website to one of the least popular articles on the site yet Righteousness (our righteousness only in Jesus Christ) is such an important Biblical concept that I decided to leave that phrase in the Statement of Faith just to help us keep our goals and ambitions on track and in a proper order. - The coming Millennial 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ on earth is going to be His Kingdom of Righteousness [Isaiah 5:16, Isaiah 26:9, Isaiah 45:8, 19, Romans 1:17, 1 Corinthians 15:34, 2 Corinthians 3:9, 5:21, Galatians 5:5, Revelation 22:11] and in order for us as individuals to be able to inhabit properly within the Kingdom of God we need to have a concept of the Righteousness of Jesus Christ in our own lives. - Starting in about 2012 the Basic Christian Ministry is hoping to transition into more Biblical exploration of just what is the Righteousness of Jesus Christ and how does it apply to each Christian in our own personal life and really the Righteousness of Jesus Christ functions and is displayed through the Holy Spirit and in the eternal Melchizedek, Righteous High Priesthood of Jesus Christ.}

Although Pietists adhered to the inspiration of the Bible, they advocated individual feeling as being of primary importance. That may have been an adequate method for avoiding cold orthodoxy of "Protestant scholasticism," it opened the door for the equally dangerous enemy of "subjective experientialism." The first generation of Pietists could recall and reflect on its grounding in Scripture while validly advocating the need for individual experience. A second generation would stress the need for individual experience, but often without a proper Biblical or catechetical basis. This would leave a third generation that would question individual experience with no Biblical or doctrinal "standard" to serve as an objective criterion. In turn, their unanswered questions would tend to demand an authority. When Scriptures were neglected, human reason or subjective experience would fill the need as the required "standard." Thus while not causing other movements Pietism gave impetus to three other movements in the post-Reformation church: deism [reason and logic used apart from the Bible to get to know God], skepticism [doubting Biblical passages that don't seem to relate to the physical realm] and rationalism [placing personal human physical reasoning and understanding as a higher authority than the scriptures of the Holy Bible]. ... The great-grandchildren of Pietism live on in modern evangelicalism. On the positive side, much like original Pietists there is a great hunger today for spirituality. People want a spirituality that works in the trenches of life. They want a faith that is relevant, provides answers and draws them closer to God. There is little interest in "dead orthodoxy." People want to feel something - experience something. George Gallup documents this spiritual hunger in his book, *The Next American Spirituality*. Unfortunately much of the spirituality that he observes is without biblical foundation leading him to warn, "Contemporary spirituality can resemble a grab bag of random experiences that does little more than promise to make our eyes mist up or our heart warm. We need perspective to separate the junk food from the wholesome, the faddish from the truly transforming." But perspective is hard to come by due to the massive level of biblical illiteracy, not only in America but among Christians as well. Half, he says, "Of those describing themselves as Christians are unable to name who delivered the Sermon on the Mount. Many Americans cannot name the reason for celebrating Easter or what the Ten Commandments are. People think the name of Noah's wife was Joan, as in Joan of Ark." Then there is what some have called "the great disconnect." That is, there is a wide chasm between what Americans in general, and self-proclaimed Christians in particular, claim to believe and how they live. While the general populace claim to have a great interest in spirituality, and Christians claim to be followers of Christ, our societies, homes and churches are inundated with corruption, violence, substance abuse, racism, divorce and materialism. This "cluster of moral and theological shortcomings seemingly throws into question the transforming power of religious beliefs," Gallup admits, leading him to state, "Just because Americans claim they are more spiritual does not make them so." That leans into an excellent question, "Is the church really rediscovering its spiritual moorings - or just engaging in retreat from seemingly insoluble problems?" ... Such [emotional self-experience] "piety" is changing every facet of Christian and church life. Take worship for example. Monte E. Wilson has noted, "For the modern evangelical, worship is defined exclusively in terms of the individual's experience. Worship, then, is not about adoring God but about being nourished with religious feelings, so much so that the worshiper has become the object of worship." The cause for this type of worship, Wilson believes, is the loss of devotion to Scriptures. He writes in pejorative terms, "Others-probably the majority in modern American evangelicalism-have utterly neglected any commitment to the content of the Word and have ended with narcissistic 'worship' services where everyone drowns in a sea of subjectivism and calls it 'being bathed in the presence of the Holy Spirit.' These people come to church exclusively to 'feel' God." Pietistic leanings, of course, are not limited to worship and the gathered church. Where they are most evident, and most concerning is in the area of "God's leading." How does God speak to and lead His people according to Scripture? And how has Pietistic understanding of these things affected the way we interpret both Scripture and our subject feelings? This will be the topic of our next paper.

<http://apprising.org/2010/06/04/mysticism%e2%80%94part-5/>

Apologetics Training Videos - Shepherd's Fellowship of Greensboro - In part I of our series on apologetic and evangelistic methods, Dustin S. Segers defines the problems inherent in modern evangelistic and apologetic methods and then goes on to discuss biblical methods of apologetics and evangelism {Apologetics Training from a Reformed, Calvinistic Theology - Good material but with

the patented Reformed biased view. Charles Finney (1792 -1875) one of the greatest men of the Christian faith is referenced in the teaching as a heretic but it's not true. [Finney was a primary influence on the "revival" style of theology which emerged in the 19th century (1800's). Though coming from a Calvinistic background, Finney rejected (Shepherding) tenets of "Old Divinity" Calvinism which he felt were unbiblical and counter to evangelism and Christian mission. - Wiki.com]. Many of the Reformed theologies and Apologetics teachings in this series are excellent it is just that a heavily biased Reformed Only (Shepherding) view is never that excellent of a way to share, teach or preach the Holy Bible to fellow Christians.} (YouTube)

Why Do We Exist? - 5. Restoring (Shepherding) Biblical Pastoral Oversight [vs. body of Jesus Christ fellowship, individuality (grace), freedom, ability and equality in Jesus Christ]. Many church leaders have neglected the duties of overseeing the spiritual welfare of individuals and families. Programs, facilities, and finances are managed and promoted by many pastors. If pastors and elders fail to care for souls, they fail to obey God to the great detriment of the church (1Pet. 5:1-2; Acts 20:28). We desire to see each individual in Shepherd's Fellowship mature to the glory of God so that each life produces a great harvest in the kingdom of God. While we want to purpose to be diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Eph. 4:3), we wish to see continually good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ (Col. 2:5). Obey your leaders, and submit to them; for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you. (Heb 13:17) In conclusion, our desire is to glorify God in all that we do through proper preaching, teaching, ministering and evangelizing (Matthew 28:18-20, 1 Cor. 12:31). We pray that God will cause His gospel to spread quickly through our local area to bring honor and glory to Christ and to seek and save those who are lost (Eph. 3:21).

<http://www.youtube.com/SFofGSO#p/u/23/9-FnMvJH0a0>

Basic Christian: Statement of Faith and Beliefs - Updated: Now Includes 'The Chicago Statement on Biblical Application' from The Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals

Basic Christian: Statement of Faith • We believe that God is the creator of the universe creating both of the seen (physical) and the unseen (spiritual) realms and that God the creator is also the giver of life. • We believe the Holy Bible is God's word Personally spoken by God for mankind for the purpose of revealing who He is and it is without error in all issues to which it speaks. • We believe in the Triunity (Trinity), one God in three Persons, consisting of Father, Son Jesus, and Holy Spirit. • We Believe Jesus Christ is Divine God who came from Heaven to mankind as a man yet retaining the Divinity of God and who while living a sinless life was rejected and betrayed by man to be crucified and die on the cross yet not to remain dead but to Resurrect the third day in accordance with His Everlasting Divine life. • We believe that the death of Jesus on the cross provided complete atonement for all the sins of the world therefore cleansing those who choose to be cleansed from their sin to then receive the Holy Spirit and by receiving the Holy Spirit becoming "Born Again" and being Born Again becoming children of God. Children in the family of God and as children in a personal relationship with their Father who is God above all and as children also inheritors in the Heavenly Kingdom of Jesus the kingdom that is without end. • We believe that Jesus is the judge of all of mankind's thoughts, intentions and actions and that He is just and wise in His judgment. As judge, Jesus will judge the unjust to everlasting condemnation while to the righteous He will give of His life, His gifts, and His glory. • We believe Jesus physically rose from the dead, was seen by and interacted with many eyewitnesses including the Disciples and Apostles and that Jesus has now ascended back into Heaven where He originally came from. Jesus is currently seated in Majesty, Power and Authority alongside the Father and He is now accessible to us in both Prayer and Fellowship. ~ God Bless you, David Anson Brown

<http://www.basicchristian.org/statement.html>

1689 Baptist Confession of Faith - "The Baptist Confession of Faith adopted by the ministers and messengers of the General Assembly which met in London in 1689" the Second London Confession, originally composed in 1677, has ever since been called "The 1689 Confession"

This became the most popular confession of Calvinistic Baptists in the English speaking world. It enjoyed editions in Britain in 1693, 1699, 1719, 1720, 1791, 1809. In 1855 C. H. Spurgeon issued a new edition. It was only the second year of his ministry at the New Park Street Chapel. Spurgeon wrote, "I have thought it right to reprint in a cheap form this excellent list of doctrines, which were subscribed to by the Baptist Ministers in the year 1689. We need a banner because of the truth; it may be that this small volume may aid the cause of the glorious gospel by testifying plainly what are its leading doctrines ... May the Lord soon restore unto Zion a pure language, and may her watchmen see eye to eye." He addressed these remarks to "all the Household of Faith, who rejoice in the glorious doctrines of Free Grace." Other British editions have appeared in 1958, 1963, 1966, 1970, 1972, 1974. -- In the later 1600's Benjamin Keach and another minister of London published the 1689 Confession with two articles added, one on "the laying on of hands" and another "the singing of psalms". When Elias Keach, son of Benjamin, became a Baptist minister in America in 1688, he became a part of the Calvinistic Baptists who formed the Philadelphia Baptist Association in 1707. Through him the Second London Confession with his father's addenda was adopted by the Philadelphia Association. For years the association appealed to the confession, formally adopting it in 1742. The first edition of the "Philadelphia Confession of Faith" was printed by Benjamin Franklin in 1743. Under this name the 1689 confession became the definitive doctrinal statement of Calvinistic Baptists throughout the colonial and early United States periods. Associations in Virginia (1766) Rhode Island (1767), South Carolina (1767), Kentucky (1785), and Tennessee (1788) adopted the confession. It came to be known in America as "The Baptist Confession". Familiarity with the Confession and its doctrines declined in the latter half of the 19th and first half of the 20th centuries. But since God has remarkably revived Biblical Calvinism among Baptists in recent days, interest in this historic confession has been renewed.

<http://www.dominionbaptist.org/confession/>

Historic Baptist Documents - Confessions, Catechisms, Creeds

Many contemporaries have a deep-seated suspicion of catechisms. In our own Baptist denomination, many would consider the words "Baptist catechism" as mutually exclusive. A popular misconception is that catechisms are used in times and places where inadequate views of conversion predominate or the fires of evangelism have long since turned to white ash. If the Bible is preached, they continue, no catechism is necessary; catechisms tend to produce mere intellectual assent where true heart religion is absent. This concern reflects a healthy interest for the experiential side of true Christianity. Concern for conversion and fervor, however, should never diminish one's commitment to the individual truths of Christianity nor the necessity of teaching them in a full and coherent manner. An Encouragement to Use Catechisms, Tom Nettles -- I am persuaded that the use of a good Catechism in all our families will be a great safeguard against the increasing errors of the times, and therefore I have compiled this little manual from the Westminster Assembly's and Baptist Catechisms, for the use of my own church and congregation. Those who use it in their families or classes must labour to explain the sense; but the words should be carefully learned by heart, for they will be understood better as years pass. ~ C. H. Spurgeon -- "There never was a man in the world without a creed. What is a creed? A creed is what you believe. What is a confession? It is a declaration of what you believe. That declaration may be oral or it may be committed to writing, but the creed is there either expressed or implied." ~ B.H. Carroll

<http://www.reformedreader.org/cc/hbd.htm>

Note: Just a reminder that the pace of the Basic Christian blog History Study is going to slowdown

throughout the Summer

The Basic Christian Study of The Christian Apostles is going to continue at a slower pace as we spend the Summer leisurely looking into the early formation that began the Christian Church and at the original Church structure that continues to hold the Christian Church together today.

<http://basicchristian.info/wordpress/>

Starting Soon - A Basic Christian Study: The Christian Apostles {Note: To say that the Christian Church only started at Pentecost [50 days after the resurrection of Jesus Christ] and not on the Resurrection Sunday of Jesus (Luke 24:45, John 20:22) is to say that the Apostles were not Christians [the entire 40 days that Jesus met with them after His resurrection and before His ascension] it wipes out the [True] Christian Apostolic dispensation [lasting only 40 days] and with it a great part of the foundation that the Christian Church is founded and based upon.}

Matthew 10:2-4 Now the names of the Twelve Apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. -- Matthew 28:18-20 And [40 days after the resurrection] Jesus came and spake unto them [Apostles], saying, All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all Nations [the Christian Apostles' doctrine], baptizing them [converts to Christianity] in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them [fellow Christians] to observe all things whatsoever I [Jesus Christ] have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you [Disciples] alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. -- Acts 2:42 And they [Pentecost converts to Christianity] continued stedfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. -- 1 Corinthians 15:7-9 After that [first resurrection days of Jesus - being seen by Peter and the {remaining} 12 Apostles {at that time only 11 Apostles} and then over 500 resurrection witnesses at one time], He [resurrected Jesus] was seen of James [Gospel of James - son of Joseph and half-brother of Jesus]; then of all the Apostles [who witnessed the resurrection of Jesus Christ]. **And last of all He [Jesus] was seen of me [Apostle Paul - The 12th Apostle, Judas' replacement - chosen by God (Romans 1:1, 1 Corinthians 1:1, etc.) not by the casting of lots (Acts 1:26)] also, *as of one born out of due time [missing the 40 days of the Apostle dispensation]. For I [Apostle Paul/Saul] am the least of the Apostles, that am not meet to be called an Apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God. -- Ephesians 2:19-22 Now therefore ye [Gentiles] are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the [Jewish] Saints, and of the Household of God; And are built upon *the foundation of the [N.T.] Apostles and [O.T.] Prophets, **Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief [foundation] Corner Stone; In [Jesus Christ] whom all the [Temple] building fitly framed together groweth unto an Holy Temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation [living place] of God through the [Holy] Spirit.

http://www.basicchristian.org/blog_historystudy.html

The Nicene Creed (325 A.D.): ... And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic [universal] and **[A]postolic Church [based on the foundation of the Apostles] - I acknowledge one Baptism [personal - individual identity (cross and resurrection) with Jesus Christ] for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come - Amen

The Three Ecumenical or Universal Creeds -- The Apostles' Creed [The title, *Symbolum Apostolicum* (Symbol or Creed of the Apostles), appears for the first time in a letter from a Council in Milan (probably written by Ambrose himself) to Pope Siricius in about 390 A.D. - Wiki.com]: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic [universal] Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. -- The Nicene Creed [adopted in the city of Nicaea by the first (second) ecumenical council (Jerusalem Acts 15:6 was the first ecumenical Church council), which met there in 325 A.D. - Wiki.com]: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic [universal] and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen. -- The Athanasian Creed [The use of the Creed in a sermon by Caesarius of Arles, as well as a theological resemblance to works by Vincent of Lérins, point to Southern Gaul as its origin. The most likely time frame is in the late fifth or early sixth century A.D. (475-525 A.D.) at least 100 years after Athanasius (293 A.D. - May 2, 373 A.D.) - Wiki.com]: Whosoever will be saved, before all things it is necessary that he hold the catholic [universal] faith. Which faith except every one do keep whole and undefiled, without doubt he shall perish everlastingly. And the catholic [universal] faith is this, that we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity; Neither confounding the Persons, nor dividing the Substance. For there is one Person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the Holy Ghost. But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost is all one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal. Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Ghost. The Father uncreate, the Son uncreate, and the Holy Ghost uncreate. The Father incomprehensible, the Son incomprehensible, and the Holy Ghost incomprehensible. The Father eternal, the Son eternal, and the Holy Ghost eternal. And yet they are not three Eternals, but one Eternal. As there are not three Uncreated nor three Incomprehensibles, but one Uncreated and one Incomprehensible. So likewise the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, and the Holy Ghost almighty. And yet they are not three Almighty, but one Almighty. So the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Ghost is God. And yet they are not three Gods, but one God. So likewise the Father is Lord, the Son Lord, and the Holy Ghost Lord. And yet not three Lords, but one Lord. For like as we are compelled by the Christian verity to acknowledge every Person by Himself to be God and Lord, So are we forbidden by the catholic [universal] religion to say, There be three Gods, or three Lords. The Father is made of none: neither created nor begotten. The Son is of the Father alone; not made, nor created, but begotten. The Holy Ghost is of the Father and of the Son: neither made, nor created, nor begotten, but proceeding. So there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Ghost, not three Holy Ghosts. And in this Trinity none is before or after other; none is greater or less than another; But the whole three Persons are coeternal together, and coequal: so that in all things, as is aforesaid, the Unity in Trinity and the Trinity in Unity is to be worshiped. He, therefore, that will be saved must thus think of the Trinity. Furthermore, it is necessary to everlasting salvation that he also believe faithfully the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. For the right faith is, that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and Man; God of the Substance of the Father, begotten before the worlds; and Man of the substance of His mother, born in the world; Perfect God and perfect Man, of a reasonable soul and human flesh subsisting. Equal to the Father as touching His Godhead, and inferior to the Father as touching His manhood; Who, although He be God and Man, yet He is not two, but one Christ: One, not by conversion of the Godhead into flesh, but by taking the manhood into God; One altogether; not by confusion of Substance, but by unity of Person. For as

the reasonable soul and flesh is one man, so God and Man is one Christ; Who suffered for our salvation; descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead; He ascended into heaven; He sitteth on the right hand of the Father, God Almighty; from whence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. At whose coming all men shall rise again with their bodies, and shall give an account of their own works. And they that have done good shall go into life everlasting; and they that have done evil, into everlasting fire. This is the catholic [universal] faith; which except a man believe faithfully and firmly, he cannot be saved.

<http://www.bookofconcord.org/creeds.php>

Creating Your Own Way To Worship God - Mark Driscoll [pastor of Mars Hill Fellowship in Seattle Washington] and Neo-Reformed New-Calvinist [once saved always saved] Contemplative [New Age - altered state of consciousness i.e. transcendental meditation] Spirituality - Dr. John Piper, who's seen as a "pioneer" of this New Calvinism - back in February of this year [2010] Driscoll was a featured speaker, along with CSM teacher Peter Scazzero, at the Radicalis conference put on by Purpose Driven Pope [exercising excessive authority] Rick Warren at his Saddleback Church {Really as others have noted the contemplative meditative spirituality movement is the new circumcision of modern Christianity. In the ancient Church early Christians attempted to focus on circumcision in order to avoid the seemingly unpopular cross and teachings of Jesus Christ. Today modern Christians are contemplating anything and everything in another attempt to distance themselves from the cross (sin nature of mankind) and what they perceive to be unpopular teachings of Jesus Christ all the while neglecting the true Majesty and Glory of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.}

Creating Your Own Way To Worship God - Apprising Ministries has shared some concern about this New Calvinism as expressed e.g. by Matt Chandler and particularly Mark Driscoll, founder of Acts 29 Network, in recent posts such as Acts 29 Network And Reformed Counter Reformation Spirituality? and Acts 29 Pastor Matt Chandler On Being A Reformed Charismatic. In my assessment there's very good reason for concern as these people are rapidly growing in popularity and influence within the younger sector of the Reformed Camp; being blessed as they are by Dr. John Piper, who's seen as a "pioneer" of this New Calvinism. Then in Spiritual Disciplines According To Martin Luther I connected some more of the dots for you concerning the Acts 29 Church Planting Network itself where you heard from Darren Patrick, its own Vice President, that they are a "neo-Reformed" section of the Emerging Church. Let me be perfectly clear: Acts 29 is most certainly not heretical in its basic theological beliefs. The concern here is the recommendation of a key component that was hidden within the Trojan Horse of the sinfully ecumenical Emergent Church (EC) and its new "big tent" progressive/liberal de-formation of the Christian faith they call Emergence Christianity. This EC-a neo-liberal cult now firmly entrenched within the walls of mainstream evangelicalism-has long been busy now blurring doctrinal lines through their core doctrine of Contemplative Spirituality/Mysticism (CSM) as taught by Living Spiritual Teacher and Quaker mystic Richard Foster along with his spiritual twin and Southern Baptist minister Dallas Willard. ... Although Driscoll, pastor of Mars Hill Fellowship in Seattle Washington, is said to have denounced certain aspects of the emergent church, Driscoll is a proponent of the main element behind the emerging church - contemplative prayer. ... I previously pointed out in Who Is John Main? this form of "mantra meditation" encouraged by Thomas, and apparently also recommended by Driscoll, is traced to Dom (father) John Main (1926-1982). Main was a Roman Catholic priest and monk of the Order of Saint Benedict (OSB); he's also universally known by those in the so-called "contemplative tradition" as the man who rediscovered "the practice of pure prayer, or Christian meditation," using a "holy phrase" also known as a mantra. In 1975 Main "began the first meditation groups at his monastery in London and, later, in Montreal." ... In closing this out, for now, you should understand that what this CSM ends up producing is a sappy, centered on the self, psycho-babble form of Christianity as these mystics "go within" themselves in search of "an authentic self" aka some supposed "true self." However, at its very core, it ends up a denial of the doctrine of original sin. I find it rather odd that people, who would tell us they are Protestants in line with Reformation theology, would be so quick to recommend this kind of Counter Reformation spirituality to their church planters and to the younger section of evangelicals influenced by this New Calvinism.

John Piper - More Details About Our 2010 National Conference - The conference theme is Think: The Life of the Mind & the Love of God - A number of people have asked about John Piper's decision to invite [purpose driven] Rick Warren - Below is a 12 minute clip from last night's Ask Pastor John session where he addresses that question and explains why he thinks it will be good for Rick [Warren] to come (Video)

The 2010 Desiring God National Conference will take place, Lord willing, October 1-3 in Minneapolis. The conference theme is Think: The Life of the Mind & the Love of God, and the speakers and message titles are as follows: Al Mohler - "The Way the World Thinks: Meeting the Natural Mind in the Mirror and in the Market Place"; Rick Warren - "Thinking Purposefully for the Glory of Christ: The Life of the Mind and Global Reality"; R. C. Sproul (via video) - "Thinking Deeply in the Ocean of Revelation: The Bible and the Life of the Mind"; Thabiti Anyabwile - "Thinking for the Sake of Global Faithfulness: Confronting Islam with the Mind of Christ"; Francis Chan - "Think Hard, Stay Humble: The Life of the Mind and the Peril of Pride"; John Piper - "Thinking for the Sake of Joy: The Life of the Mind and the Love of God" -- John Piper's Upcoming Leave - By John Piper March 28, 2010 - As you may have already heard in the sermon from March 27-28, the elders graciously approved on March 22 a leave of absence that will take me away from Bethlehem from May 1 through December 31, 2010. We thought it might be helpful to put an explanation in a letter to go along with the sermon. I asked the elders to consider this leave [without pay - but possibly with perks (Per diem - travel, living expences) that can far exceed the regular salary] because of a growing sense that my soul, my marriage, my family, and my ministry-pattern need a reality check from the Holy Spirit. On the one hand, I love my Lord, my wife, my five children and their families first and foremost; and I love my work of preaching and writing and leading Bethlehem. I hope the Lord gives me at least five more years as the pastor for preaching and vision at Bethlehem. But on the other hand, I see several species of pride in my soul that, while they may not rise to the level of disqualifying me for ministry, grieve me, and have taken a toll on my relationship with Noël and others who are dear to me. How do I apologize to you, not for a specific deed, but for ongoing character flaws, and their effects on everybody? I'll say it now, and no doubt will say it again, I'm sorry. Since I don't have just one deed to point to, I simply ask for a spirit of forgiveness; and I give you as much assurance as I can that I am not making peace, but war, with my own sins. ... Personally, I view these months as a kind of relaunch of what I hope will be the most humble, happy, fruitful five years of our 35 years at Bethlehem and 46 years of marriage. Would you pray with me to that end? And would you stand by your church with all your might? May God make these eight months the best Bethlehem has ever known. It would be just like God to do the greatest things when I am not there. "Neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth" (1 Corinthians 3:7). I love you and promise to pray for you every day. Pastor John.

http://www.desiringgod.org/Blog/2323_more_details_about_our_national_conference/

Coming Soon: blog History Study - Church History (RSS)

A.D. 0 - 100 A.D., A.D. 100 - 200 A.D., A.D. 200 - 300 A.D., A.D. 300 - 400 A.D., etc.

http://www.basicchristian.org/blog_History_Study_12_Church_History.rss

The blog Bible Study has concluded the Bible study portion! - Sometime after Holy Week and Resurrection Day (Easter) the study will continue with some ancient history and Church history segments - Thanks to everyone for your participation and especially for your prayers!

The blog Bible Study concluded fairly quickly - I had looked at the website visitor logs a couple of weeks ago and saw that people were scattered all throughout the study though primarily in the New Testament while the study was blogging O.T. studies at the time and that's a good thing because the material is designed to be a self-help service but with people so scattered [though many people were current] I decided to move along and if at all possible conclude the study and the study has been concluded. The material is now available as a complete resource for the convenience of anyone who wants to use it. The study really turned into an amazing, fascinating study! I learned a lot during the study and I mostly learned that I need to spend more time reading the Bible and being in prayer, and in fellowship and just in general being in a Christian life. We serve a Great God!!! Thanks to everyone especially for your prayers - the study truly encountered the heights of Heaven and the depths of other things unmentionable and through it all it was the prayers of the Saints in fellowship that gave us a tremendous victory! After Holy Week we will continue with the history portion of the study but in the time before Holy Week it seems like a good opportunity to look at some areas and aspects of the events of Holy Week as we prepare ourselves for Holy Week 2010. Then after Holy Week and some history segments the blog will continue with some basic Topical Bible studies and devotions. -- God bless everyone! ~ David Anson Brown

http://www.basicchristian.org/blog_biblestudy.html

-- The Bible study is dedicated in the name of Jesus, Christ, God, Son, and Savior

The Bible study is dedicated in the name of Jesus, Christ, God, Son, and Savior. May the Lord Jesus Christ be honored by our devotions, our study and in our fellowship. May all the people be blessed and grow in the grace and knowledge of the love and presence of God our creator and our savior. Amen!

<http://basicchristian.info/wordpress/>

Basic Christian - Monthly Memo: Fall 2009: Bible Study, Prayer, Devotions and Fellowship

Monthly Memo: Fall 2009: Bible Study, Prayer, Devotions and Fellowship - 1. The Basic Christian info/news feed is probably going to transition this fall from the conspiracy, headline news events of the day into a more Bible, Christian doctrine and current Christian seminar-events centered info/news feed. 2. I'm thankful for the patience that everyone had while we covered so many difficult topics in such a short period of time. I always try to maintain a focus that people are looking at the material and I defiantly try to spread the material out not putting too much of a burden on people at any one time. When Basic Christian started as a discussion forum it was basically all interaction all the time but now without a forum the website has little or no interaction though I still keep in mind the interaction of the past forum and do try not to overload everyone. 3. The Summer 2009 links to other websites and particularly to the Podcast Shows have been some of the best links that the Basic Christian website has been able to provide and I'm very grateful to all of the Podcast ministries for providing such a great and challenging time of Christian growth for everyone involved. 4. There are more Mp3s and now Video downloads available via Basic Christian. Some of the material tends towards conspiracy topics and some of it is a bit on the fire and brimstone side and it isn't necessarily what I would normally provide however these are materials that are increasingly being removed from the internet and becoming harder to locate so they are the files being provided in order to give others an additional chance to obtain them. In other words Hill Song videos are not disappearing from the internet but the conspiracy, hidden news materials and mature preaching topics are harder to locate and obtain so therefore those are the materials that are being provided. -- Thanks again to everyone for sticking it out through so much material and through so much unplanned controversy. I personally look forward to spending much more time in Bible study, in personal prayer time, in devotions and in fellowship this fall and into next spring. I'm really looking forward to [Edit: Studying through the Bible in the past it has] changed my life for the better so I'm very much looking forward to spending some daily [Edit: in Bible study, devotions, prayer, fellowship and Christian service]. All the very best! God Bless you, David Anson Brown.

<http://www.basicchristian.org/update.html>

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