

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

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

The Vanishing Gospel

Dave Hunt—First published February 1, 2004

ONE OF THE greatest sorrows for lovers of God is the fact that the vast majority of mankind selfishly and ungratefully lives day after day without even thinking of the Creator to whom they owe their existence and who holds their eternal destiny in His hands. So it is even with many who claim to know Him. How often do *you* tell God you love Him, and thank Him for His love and grace and the salvation He has given you in Christ? When was the last time?

The miracle of our bodies, with their trillions of unfathomable cells and chance-defying organs such as the eye and brain, the ingenious design displayed in nature, and the mystery of soul and spirit, loudly declare: “[I]n the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” (Genesis 1:1) and He made man “in his image” (1:26-28). Yet most people embrace the outrageous fraud of evolution.

This world’s contemptuous disregard of its Creator makes me weep for His sake; and, as the old song says, “causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble” for the judgment that is coming upon mankind! “The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God” (Psalm 9:17). And *forget God* they surely have.

Paul declared: “. . . even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind...[to] all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness.... [They are] haters of God...inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents...without natural affection...who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death... do the same, [and] have pleasure in them that do them” (Romans 1:28-32). The connection is undeniable between the evil foretold for “the last days” (2 Timothy 3:1-7) and the godless “lifestyles” popularized on trendy TV shows.

Hollywood has long glorified and exported all manner of ungodliness. The marketing of evil provides billions of dollars in profits through promoting youth rebellion; sexual “freedom” and wanton perversion; mutilation of the body; obscene, suicidal, and murderous lyrics, gangland, and satanic clothing. Could Sodom and Gomorrah have been much worse?

Homes are invaded and families destroyed by immoral, corrupting media, leaving consciences “seared with a hot iron” (1 Timothy 4:2). Many Christians enjoy what would have shamed and embarrassed them a few years ago. An estimated 50 percent of professing Christians have been attracted to internet pornography.

And to attract those thus corrupted, many of the largest and fastest-growing churches mimic the world in “seeker-friendly” and “youth-oriented” services that exploit sensuality and compromise the truth. *The Christian Science Monitor* (12/30/03) reported that “megachurches are good at reaching young people raised in an entertainment-saturated culture.... Many have...a rock-concert feel to them.... [At the] largest congregation in the United States, with more than 25,000 attendants each weekend... Victoria Osteen steps to the podium in front of 16,000 cheering Sunday worshipers and proclaims: ‘We’re going to rock today!’”

And *Worship Leader* (Nov-Dec ’03) reported, “. . . the Jesus People erected [a] worship ritual...from the preeminent communal ceremony of their generation—the rock concert.”

Through “contemporary Christian music” and “contemporary worship,” the church has been converted to the “religion” of the world! Some of the largest presumably evangelical churches have designed their Sunday morning services based upon what the ungodly want. Missing are the fear of a holy God’s wrath against sin, trembling repentance, and grateful faith in Christ, the eternal God, who became man through the virgin birth to suffer the full penalty of God’s judgment in our place. Seeker-friendly churches must not “offend” with the Truth but pamper with the flattering “gospel” of self-esteem, self-love, and positive thinking—a “gospel” that cannot save. As Paul foretold, “they will not endure sound doctrine...” (2 Timothy 4:3).

Creating large, rich churches is not new. In *A Woman Rides the Beast*, we show that the Roman Catholic Church—the world’s largest and wealthiest—grew out of a marriage between the Roman world and the church, making “Christianity” the state religion. Historian Will Durant explains, “. . . the world converted Christianity.... [Paganism] passed like maternal blood into the new religion, and captive Rome captured her conqueror” (*Caesar and Christ*, 657, 672).

Roman Catholicism grew by wedding itself to the dominant pagan religion in Italy, Spain, Latin America, Africa, the Philippines, etc. Haiti is said to be 85 percent Catholic and 110 percent Vodoun. New Orleans, “the most Catholic city in America” (*Our Sunday Visitor*, 10/15/95), is its voodoo capital.

And now, “Protestantism” is creating megachurches by merging with the “new paganism” in today’s culture—a culture that is becoming ever more anti-Christian and anti-Israel. In blatant defiance of God and His Word, the nations have robbed Israel of most of the land God gave His chosen people as “an everlasting possession” (Genesis 17:8). In further insolence, and sadly under the leadership of America’s [then] Christian president, the world is determined to give more of Israel’s land to Arabs/Muslims as a reward for their hatred of Christ and religious vows to exterminate the Jews. And Islam intends to take all.

Today’s world doesn’t need more entertainment and “positive” messages assuring the “hurting” that God loves, forgives, “accepts them as they are,” heals their “inner child,” and has an exciting plan for their lives. Mankind needs the changeless convicting truth that leads sinners to repentance and salvation. God’s holy character has not changed; the separation between man and God caused by sin—and the judgment to come—have not changed; nor has God’s remedy in Christ been outdated and revised. On these basic facts the Bible is clear and uncompromising.

Like the father with the “prodigal son” (Luke 15:11-32), a gracious God is ever eager to embrace repentant sinners. But His holiness and justice allow pardon only for those who accept the blood of Christ poured out upon the Cross on their behalf.

We must preach the gospel *everywhere* to *everyone* (Mark 16:15). It must be believed for *anyone* to be saved from eternal separation from God: “the gospel of Christ...is the power of

God unto salvation to everyone that believeth” (Romans 1:16); “[T]here is none other name...whereby we *must* be saved (Acts 4:12); “[W]hat *must* I do to be saved? Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ...” (Acts 16:30,31). The warning is solemn and clear: “[H]e that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” (John 3:36).

Yet Robert Schuller (whose *Hour of Power* reaches 20 million viewers weekly) once declared, “We have to find God in our own way...” (*Larry King Live*, 12/19/98).

Rewriting the Bible, Schuller turned God’s solemn warning, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me,” into *Believe in the God Who Believes in You* (Thomas Nelson Publishers). Paul had “no confidence in the flesh” (Philippians 3:3)—but God believes in us?

“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners...” (1 Timothy 1:15). Yet Schuller, self-proclaimed “founder of the church growth movement” (his annual Institute for Successful Church Leadership attracted tens of thousands of pastors from around the world), claimed that “attempting to make people aware of their lost and sinful condition” is an “unchristian strategy,” which is “destructive [and] counterproductive to the evangelism enterprise...” (*Christianity Today*, 10/5/84)!

David F. Wells writes, “In another age, Robert Schuller’s ministry...might well have been viewed...as comedy.... ‘Sin,’ he says with a cherubic smile, ‘is not what shatters our relationship to God [but] that we do not esteem ourselves enough. In the Crystal Cathedral, therefore, let the word ‘sin’ be banished.... Christ was not drawing a profound moral compass in the Sermon on the Mount; He was just giving us a set of ‘be (happy) attitudes’...” (*No Place for Truth*, p. 175).

We are commanded to “preach the word...reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine” (2 Timothy 4:2). God’s Word is the foundation of our faith—yet that foundation is being undermined. “Christian psychology” takes the theories of atheists such as Freud, Jung, Rogers, Maslow, et al., and repackages their lies as “truth that improves” God’s holy and perfect Word.

Bruce Narramore, following in his uncle Clyde’s footsteps, admits, “Under the influence of humanistic psychologists like Carl Rogers and Abraham Maslow, many of us Christians have begun to see our need for self-love and self-esteem. This is a good and necessary focus” (*You’re Someone Special*, Zondervan, p. 22). Yet Paul warned *against* thinking too highly of oneself (Romans 12:3) and urged, “[L]et each esteem other[s] better than themselves” (Philippians 2:3)! But that was before today’s church surrendered to the surrounding culture.

Attempting to build large and successful churches, many of today’s pastors draw upon secular motivational speakers’ advice designed to foster worldly success. Tragically, this is the basis of much that is offered by Rick Warren (a graduate of Schuller’s Institute), the most popular and influential “church growth” guru today, whose methods and example are being followed by literally tens of thousands of fellow pastors worldwide—and by millions of lay readers of his books.

Warren does offer much sound advice in *The Purpose Driven Church* and *The Purpose Driven Life*. Commendably, he attempts to support most points with “nearly a thousand quotations from Scripture” (*Life*, p. 325). But the “scriptures” he quotes are speculative paraphrases such as *The Message* (see *TBC Q&A* Oct. ’95) by Eugene H. Peterson (NavPress).

“Every word of God is pure” (Proverbs 30:5), we “live...by every word of God” (Luke 4:4), and are “born again...by the word of God...which by the gospel is preached...” (1 Peter 1:23-25). Yet *The Message*, like other paraphrases, substitutes man’s words for God’s words! In his introduction, Peterson says that *The Message* is “not...a word-for-word conversion” of God’s Holy Word into modern language but *what he thinks God’s Word means*—not a

translation but an *interpretation*. What audacity, to rewrite the Bible! Yet such shameless perversions of God’s Word are Warren’s major support for his thesis.

Paraphrases based upon “dynamic equivalency” partake of two destructive errors: 1) instead of translating the words of Scripture, they interpret in modern language what they believe are the ideas presented; and 2) they dumb down the language to make it “understandable.”

Interpretation is proper in sermons and commentaries, which listeners/readers can compare to the Word of God. *The Message*, however, is offered as “This *version* of the New Testament...” (p. 7), misleading readers into thinking they have the *Scriptures* in their hands. Even J. I. Packer and Warren W. Wiersbe praise *The Message* as Scripture (on back cover)—which it is not.

John 3:17, for example, “that the world through him might be saved,” reads, “He came to help, to put the world right again.” “Saved” means redeemed from the judgment we deserve for our sins, and fitted for heaven—but “to help” merely assists our efforts. And “to put the world right again” sounds like social or political reform! Such flagrant perversion of God’s Word permeates *The Message*—and Warren turns to it for support.

Such paraphrases rewrite Scripture in simple language to make the *ideas* understandable. But there is much depth in God’s Word that even the most mature Christian finds difficult. The “deep things of God” are revealed by the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:10), not by simplifying God’s words. Peter said that in Paul’s epistles were “some things hard to be understood...” (2 Peter 3:16). Obviously, the depth of Scripture is lost in *simplifying* it.

The Purpose Driven Life never presents the biblical gospel that alone saves. Readers are told to “learn to love and trust God’s Son, Jesus” (p. 37); that if they “have a relationship with God through Jesus,” they needn’t fear death (p. 40); that “your identity is in eternity, and your homeland is heaven” (p. 48); and that “Real life begins by committing yourself completely to Jesus Christ. If you are not sure you have done this, all you need to do is *receive* and *believe*” (p. 58).

None of the essential elements of the gospel—that man is a sinner under God’s judgment, that Christ is God and man through a virgin birth, that He paid the penalty for our sins, that He resurrected the third day—is given (see 1 Corinthians 15:1-4). Readers are offered “friendship” with God through believing in a “Christ” who went to the cross because He “would rather die than live without us” (p. 79)! That is *not* the gospel!

The reader is told that his genetic makeup, physical features, talents, personality, the details of his daily life, etc., are exactly what God has foreordained: “God prescribed every single detail of your body.... He planned it all for *his* purpose...” (pp. 22, 23). “You’re just what he wanted to make” (p. 25). Not so! The cumulative effects of man’s rebellion have created a pool of genetic distortions in humanity resulting in a deformed world with distorted beings that God never intended.

Warren justifies this fatalistic view from *The Living Bible*: “You [God]...scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe” (Psalms 139:16)—not even close to what that verse actually says, which is: “Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.” Is every *sinful* thought and deed exactly what God has planned?! Men are not sinners but puppets if everything is exactly what God has decreed.

Let us be careful to “preach the word” and “obey the word” and allow Christ, the “living word,” to live through us as we offer sinners the biblical “gospel of God” (Romans 1:1) that truly saves. And let us “earnestly contend” for this unchangeable faith (Jude 3).

TBC

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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

or e-mail: editorial@theberean.org

QUESTION: What's your view of extraterrestrials?

RESPONSE: There are many biblical reasons for not accepting the idea of intelligent life beyond earth other than angels and demons. First of all, it would be impossible for morally responsible humanoids anywhere in the universe to keep from sin. If they had the genuine right of choice, it must inevitably have been used to disobey God. Thus they would require salvation.

Second, Jesus Christ is the only Savior, and His death is the one-and-only perfect sacrifice for sins ever offered in the universe (Hebrews 9:23-28; 10:12-14). If there are morally free agents on other planets, they would have to believe in Christ for salvation.

Third, God has gone to great lengths to give us a historically verifiable eyewitness record of His Son's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and this message is contained in a Bible that can be verified in many ways by the inhabitants of earth (geographically, archaeologically, historically, etc.), and which would not be available to ETIs. It would seem both unfair and a violation of God's way of dealing with mankind for beings elsewhere in space to be required to believe in a Savior who was crucified on a distant planet.

Fourth, the Bible seems to indicate that this earth is the only such place in the universe. When Satan is cast out of heaven, he comes to Earth; it is on this planet that the battle will be fought that results in Satan's defeat and imprisonment in the abyss; it is on this Earth that Christ will reign for 1,000 years while Satan is locked up; it is to this planet that Satan will return when he is released, and it is on this planet that Satan will meet his final defeat and where his eternal doom will be sealed.

Finally, if life happened by chance on this Earth and evolved upward, then it could seemingly happen elsewhere in the universe. But if, as we believe, human life resulted from a purposeful act of God, and if sin is inevitable for such beings, and if the human soul is the prize for which Satan and God do battle, then it hardly makes sense to have this same process repeated on countless other planets throughout the cosmos. That would imply that God didn't know all that would happen, felt that His "experiment" had failed on earth, and "tried again" elsewhere, which denies His omniscience.

QUESTION: I keep encountering the teaching that water baptism has no place in this dispensation; that the entire subject of water baptism is Jewish;...that all mention of "baptism" in the Pauline epistles is baptism of the Holy Spirit;...[and that] baptism in the gospels and the Acts applies to Jewish believers only.... Can you help me?

RESPONSE: Testing this theory against the Scriptures quickly disproves it. In the Great Commission, Jesus very clearly tells the disciples (and us today) to "preach the gospel to every creature [i.e., to every race, tribe, and individual, not only to the Jews]. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:15-16). It is clear that although failure to be baptized does not damn the soul (not one verse says so!), and although it is not part of the gospel ("Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel"—1 Corinthians 1:17; see also 1 Corinthians 15:1-4). Yet all who believe the gospel are to be baptized.

Christ told the disciples to teach or disciple "all nations, [i.e., not only Jews but every nationality], baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 28:19).

The Great Commission required the disciples to teach their converts to obey everything Christ had commanded them (v. 20). Thus each new convert was also to make disciples and teach them to obey all that Christ had taught the original twelve—which included, then and today, baptizing converts from every nation. We have the record that every Gentile convert was baptized. The Corinthians, who were surely not all Jews but mostly Gentiles, were baptized (1 Corinthians 1:14-17), as was an Ethiopian when he believed the gospel (Acts 8:35-39). So were the Roman centurion, Cornelius, and his relatives when they believed (Acts 10:47-48). Likewise the Philippian jailor (a Gentile) and his house were baptized after they believed on Christ (Acts 16:30-33). There are other scriptures, but these should be sufficient to show that baptism is for today and for all (not just Jews) who believe the gospel. If this generation is to preach the gospel, which it is commanded to do, then it must continue to baptize all who believe it. If only Jews are to be baptized, then the gospel must be only for them. But that is not biblical and would leave the rest of us unsaved. The gospel is "to the Jew first, and also to the Greek [non-Jew]" (Romans 1:16).

Although baptism doesn't save, it is an act of obedience on the part of believers who are saved, a declaration to the world that they have been saved not by their good works but by the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, of which baptism is a symbol: "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). Baptism is therefore not appropriate for infants who cannot understand the gospel and therefore have made no choice to believe on Christ. Paul makes it clear in 1 Corinthians 1:14-17 that baptism is not part of the gospel; one is saved without being baptized. But those who believe are baptized, and since salvation is for all, baptism is for all, Gentiles as well as Jews.

QUESTION: Would you please comment on the following statement by Dr. A. W. Tozer in his *Renewal Day by Day*: "The man who is seriously convinced that he deserves to go to hell is not likely to go there, while the man who believes that he is worthy of heaven will certainly never enter that place."

RESPONSE: The only certainty of heaven that we have is based upon faith in Christ and His Word, both of which promise eternal life as a free gift of God's grace. Heaven is the believer's sure destination not because he merits it but because of the redemption which is in Christ Jesus: "I give [my sheep] eternal life; and they shall never perish" (John 10:27-28); "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life" (1 John 5:13); etc. Although confident of heaven because of what Christ has done, the believer is at the same time very conscious of his own unworthiness. It is, in fact, the realization that he deserves hell that has caused him to turn to Christ. In contrast, Tozer is referring to "the man who believes that he is worthy [in himself] of heaven." That person is lost because obviously he has not believed in the gospel and is not trusting in Christ alone for his salvation.

TBC NOTES

Still Anxious? Read and Believe This Entire Chapter:

PSALM 34

- I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- 2 My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.
 - 3 O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.
 - 4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.
 - 5 They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.
 - 6 This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.
 - 7 The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.
 - 8 O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
 - 9 O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him.
 - 10 The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.
 - 11 Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
 - 12 What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?
 - 13 Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.
 - 14 Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.
 - 15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.
 - 16 The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.
 - 17 The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.
 - 18 The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.
 - 19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.
 - 20 He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken.
 - 21 Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.
 - 22 The LORD redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

T. A. McMAHON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To Everyone at TBC,

God bless you, and I hope and pray that this letter finds everyone in good health. I feel it is necessary to respond to your January 2021 “The Necessity of ‘Being a Berean’ Revisited.” About a month into being here [at the facility] I prayed, “God, how can you use me here?” I learned very quickly that the Christians here did not want to hear anything that did not align with their favorite TV preacher or their own interpretation of Scripture....

This was a problem for me, because if I teach about what the Scriptures say, it must be the truth. I’m not saying I’m always right and that there are no Christian brothers here. There are a few very solid Christians here, and one of these sent me a letter asking me about this very same topic. I went up to his cell and we talked about how he felt that people teaching the Gospel on TV, in churches—outside of prison and in—are not teaching the truth.

[In your newsletter] you wrote, “Some have complained...that The Berean Call corrects too much...that it hurts individuals and their ministries by mentioning names.” No! These ministries must be held accountable. “Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness” (James 3:1). I must be open to correction! I am not always right, and I will never be, as hard as I may try. [We need to point out] name recognition if they are leading the Lord’s flock in the wrong direction, either unintentionally or intentionally. Anon (CA, prisoner)

Dear TBC,

Before I saw the copy of the December 2020 newsletter, I had a dream of a “tsunami-type flood” sweeping things away, and I was searching for my belongings. I awoke and simply logged it in my daily journal. Then two days later I went online to view some of the [articles on the] tragedy of the *Titanic*. To me, it felt like I was watching the USA as it is likewise currently being divided and “going down.” I could not help but relate each stage to the current USA condition.

Then, on Christmas Day, I briefly looked through my latest copy of *The Berean Call* and turned the page to see “New! *The Titanic and Today’s Church: A Tale of Two Shipwrecks*” by Warren Smith on page 6! Needless to say, I was stunned and am anxiously looking forward to receiving my copy to see how the church, too, has followed the path of the *Titanic*. DY (NY)

Dear Brother Tom,

Keep on teaching and preaching. The Lord has given a “true voice” from Him to you. All three of my preacher brothers are in heaven along with my missionary brother-in-law. My ministry was music—not like the garbage music of today—strictly hymns of the faith. The churches are so full of the world today. TV is full of junk that is supposed to be Christian. [Instead], Hillsong music has filled the churches. JB (OK)

Dear TBC,

I love your ministry. I also am enjoying the weekly *Apostasy Updates*. Carl [Teichrib] is a blessing. Thank you for your service in the Lord’s unending work. MF (RI)

QUOTABLE

I will seek the will of the Spirit of God through, or in connection with, the Word of God. The Spirit and the Word must be combined. If I look to the Spirit alone without the Word, I lay myself open to great delusions also. If the Holy Ghost guides us at all, He will do it according to the Scriptures and never contrary to them.

—GEORGE MÜLLER

NEWSWATCH

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

AN AGE OF THEOLOGICAL UNCERTAINTY

MIDWESTOUTREACH.ORG, 1/14/20, "THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF THEOLOGICAL UNCERTAINTY" [EXCERPTS]: For most of my life since I became a Christian over 45 years ago, the church in general was concerned about sound biblical teaching and developing a biblical worldview. There are essential issues of the faith which all biblically informed Christians agree. Exhibiting grace even in disagreement should be a hallmark of the faithful. With a shift from God-centered/Christocentric theology to human-centered theology also comes embracing of Eastern mysticism as noted above or Progressivism and CRT. These reshape our worldview and how we interact with believers and unbelievers alike as well as social issues. Larry Alex Taunton gives these issues some consideration in *The American Spectator* article, "The Salt That Has Lost Its Savor: The Woke Church and the Undoing of America."

A generation ago, pop star Bonnie Tyler famously asked the question, "Where have all the good men gone?" Since then, the situation has only gotten worse, Bonnie. Men in the Western world have largely been emasculated, and men in the Church are seldom an exception to this decades-long trend. To stand strong for one's faith in Jesus Christ and push back at a culture that, in the words of Isaiah 5:20, "call[s] evil good and good evil" is today seen to be "divisive," "unloving," "bigoted," and "intolerant."

(<http://bit.ly/2YQO1K8>)

LESSONS FROM THE LEAST OF THESE

FRONTPAGEMAG.COM, 1/26/21, "LESSONS FROM THE LEAST OF THESE" [EXCERPTS]: At the heart of charity lies a great deal of moral sadism. For many left-liberals who stake the moral meaning and purpose of their lives on relieving black suffering in order for their own lives to have continued meaning and purpose, they not only must see black people suffer, but they must also create policies that perpetuate black poverty and block the initiatives of blacks in their efforts towards self-reliance.

In his book *Lessons From The Least of These: The Woodson Principles*, civil rights leader and founder of the Woodson Center, Robert L. Woodson, Sr., has developed such a philosophy for blacks, poor whites, or any racial or ethnic group that has been on the receiving end of state welfare and

liberal white dependency. Woodson's book is a detailed study of the resilience and grit of former drug addicts, gang members, prison convicts and residents of derelict neighborhoods who today, through faith-based initiatives and community building, are living thriving and enterprising lives.

Woodson develops ten time-tested principles ranging from integrity, grace, agency, inspiration and innovation to transparency in order to inoculate anyone, regardless of racial or ethnic lineage, from surrendering their dignity as a condition for receiving help.

The book is filled with myriad case studies of people who have been written out of history—and deemed casualties of life. But Woodson reveals via a universal Christian ethic of love, grace and forgiveness, that no human being who shows a willingness to recover his or her compromised agency should ever be expelled from the pantheon of the human community.

(<http://bit.ly/2MDd9S0>)

HUMAN GENOME RADICALLY DIFFERENT FROM CHIMP

ICR.ORG, 1/7/21, "3-D HUMAN GENOME RADICALLY DIFFERENT FROM CHIMP" [EXCERPTS]: All plant and animal genomes studied so far exhibit complex and distinct three-dimensional (3-D) structures in their chromosome configurations depending on the type of cell (e.g., heart, liver, brain, etc.). Given the incredible variability among genome configurations within a single type of creature, let alone that which exists between creatures (e.g., human vs. chimpanzee), this area of evolutionary comparison has been difficult for secular researchers. Now a new study published in *Trends in Genetics* evaluates research in this emerging field that shows the human 3-D genome is distinctly unique to humans, confirming previous research that showed it is as different compared to chimp as it is to mouse.

This new study, along with many others, is continuing to debunk evolution and confirm the uniqueness of the human genome. For example, previous research by this author has shown that the human and chimp genomes are no more than 85 percent similar, and it's likely the final findings will be far less than that. The Bible clearly states that humans were created uniquely in the image of God. Modern genetics research increasingly confirms this profound truth.

(<http://bit.ly/3j1KA7q>)

THE BEREAN CALL

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Executive Director: T. A. McMahon

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NEW! APOSTASY UPDATE DVD_s FEATURING T. A. McMAHON AND GUESTS

T. A. McMahon and Carl Teichrib talk about many different topics including: science, history, psychology, eschatology, and more! Carl gives this warning: "Romans 12:1-2 is so important: that we conform ourselves to Him, and that we experience the transformation of our mind through Him, because if its being transformed by the way the world wants to transform us, we're stuck. We're stuck in a rut."



Apostasy Update #6

McMahon/Teichrib—This DVD features three programs titled "Earning a Psychological Degree in Witchdoctoring," "Has Meditation Replaced Naps for Kindergarten Children?," and "Does the U.N Plan to Rule the World?" The Berean Call, 1 DVD, 104 min.

DVDA6

wt .1 \$5.00



Apostasy Update #8

McMahon/Teichrib—This DVD features three programs titled "Is Socialism All That Social?," "An Introduction to Demons Through Drugs," and "Contacting Spirit Entities: Who Are They, and What Do They Want?" The Berean Call, 1 DVD, 104 min.

DVDA8

wt .1 \$5.00



Apostasy Update #7

McMahon/Teichrib—This DVD features three programs titled "Are We Becoming A Drug Culture?," "Are Humans God? Seriously?," and "Making a Wager on God?" The Berean Call, 1 DVD, 104 min.

DVDA7

wt .1 \$5.00



Apostasy Update #9

McMahon/Teichrib—This DVD features three programs titled "Does Making Believe We are God Make it So?," "Are Some Dancing With Demons?," and "Do You know the God of Prophecy?" The Berean Call, 1 DVD, 104 min.

DVDA9

wt .1 \$5.00



Apostasy Update #10

McMahon/James—This DVD features two programs titled "Does Our Country Have A Prayer?," and "Can A Religious, Pluralistic Society Please God?" The Berean Call, 1 DVD, 104 min.

DVDA10

wt .1 \$5.00

RESOURCES ON THE GOSPEL "...WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US."



Getting the Gospel Wrong

Hixson—The good news of salvation in Jesus Christ that the world must hear is being muddled by the influence of postmodernism within the evangelical church. *Getting the Gospel Wrong* sets forth the unchanging biblical standard of the gospel and then proceeds to analyze six aberrations of the gospel prevalent in evangelicalism today. These include the Purpose-Driven Gospel, the Prosperity Gospel, the Pluralistic Gospel, the works-based Performance Gospel, and the Promise-Only (crossless) Gospel. Grace Gospel Press, 320 pp.

B27797 wt 1.0 \$19.50 SALE \$15.00



The Gospel in Bonds

Vins—Pastor Georgi Vins spent eight years in the gulags. But in the pages of this book, you won't read about a man who felt sorry for himself. Rather, you will hear the true stories of believers whose faith in Jesus Christ took preeminence in their lives and who allowed nothing, not even Communism, to take away their faith and their hope. Lighthouse Trails Publishing, 211 pp.

B09367 wt .7 \$13.00



Gospel Transformation

Ratzlaff—The first seven chapters of *Gospel Transformation* are a study of the "big words" of the gospel: righteousness, justification, redemption, propitiation, reconciliation, and substitution.

The gospel is like a diamond with each of these facets flashing a fire of a different color. When studied together they reveal the brilliant rainbow of God's grace, mercy, and love. When we take our eyes off our own personal behavior—the Romans 7:14-25 experience of defeat and failure—and focus on who we are "in" and "with" Christ,—the Romans 8 experience of victory and joy—then the Holy Spirit will work out the fruit of the Spirit in our lives! LAM Publications, 179 pp.

B55061 wt .4 \$12.50



The Gospel that Saves

Hunt—This is Dave's heartfelt and passionate exposition of the true gospel of Jesus Christ.

Listeners will find this message both edifying and convicting. 1 CD, 60 min.

CD069 wt .1 \$5.00



The Gospel of John

Hunt/McMahon—These discussions were compiled from nearly four years of *Search the Scriptures Daily* radio programs. Dave and Tom engage in an in-depth, verse-by-verse examination of the Gospel of John. You will be challenged and convicted as you listen to these insightful, exegetical discussions. 3 MP3-discs, 35.5 hrs.

MP3075 wt .3 \$26.00 SALE \$15.00



What Is the Gospel? Understanding What It Is and What It Is Not

Ironside—The Gospel is God's good news for sinners. The Bible contains the Gospel, but there is a great deal in the Bible which is not Gospel. H. A. Ironside presents clearly and in detail what the Gospel of Jesus Christ is and what it isn't. Lighthouse Trails, 15 pp.

LTP39 wt .1 \$1.95

WITNESSING MATERIALS TRACTS FROM MARK CAHILL MINISTRIES



Freedom

Cahill—Many have said the best things in life are free, but what is real freedom? One definition of freedom is “the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint.” Freedom is something everyone hopes for, but

does living however you want really make you free? Sinners need a Savior to set them free. The One who never sinned is the only One who can give you true freedom. Full-color glossy cardstock, 100 tracts per pack.

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What If?

Cahill—People wonder about the “what ifs” in their earthly lives, but are they wondering about what will happen to them in eternity? This tract will get their minds moving in the eternal direction by engaging them with simple questions that lead them to the right answers! Visit our website for a full description of the tract. Full-color glossy cardstock, 100 tracts per pack.

TR203 1 pack (100 tracts) wt .6 **\$8.00**



The Prize

Cahill—What is the best prize you could ever win? A million dollars? A trip around the world? Having your debts paid off? Or would erasing your sin debt with God be a better deal than all the wealth on earth? (Matthew 16:26) Let’s see! Visit our website for a full description of the tract. Full-color glossy cardstock, 100 tracts per pack.

TR204 1 pack (100 tracts) wt .6 **\$8.00**



Infinity

Cahill—The symbol on this tract means “infinity” or “forever” and is a perfect conversation starter about eternal matters! Are there answers for our eternal questions? If there are wrong answers, then there must be right answers that can be found before it’s too late! Visit our website for a full description of the tract. Full-color glossy cardstock, 100 tracts per pack.

TR205 1 pack (100 tracts) wt .6 **\$8.00**

SET174 MARK CAHILL TRACT SET All five tract packs (500 tracts in total!) wt 2.8 **\$35.00**



MARK CAHILL is an author, speaker, and evangelist. He is the founder of Mark Cahill Ministries and has written five books. Mark’s passion is for the entire world to know Jesus Christ! He lives to spread the gospel far and wide. To find out more about Mark go to his website at www.markcahill.org.

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God of Wonders

Eternal Productions—This amazing DVD takes us through the creation story and the Gospel with spectacular photography and exciting facts about God’s marvelous handiwork. Join us on a remarkable journey of discovery as we explore the Creator’s handiwork and what His creation reveals about His character. 1 DVD, 85 min.

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Countdown to Eternity

Eternal Productions—Bible teacher Bil Gallatin hosts this provocative look at the “Signs of the Times” with Dave Hunt, Chuck Missler, Roger Oakland, and Chuck Smith. Join Bil and his guests as they examine Bible prophecies that are currently being fulfilled, including moral decay, advances in technology, events in Israel, and more! 1 DVD, 74 min.

QS030 wt .1 **\$5.00**



Messages from Heaven

Eternal Productions—Reports of paranormal and supernatural activity are on the rise worldwide. Tens of millions visit apparition sites hoping to encounter the Virgin Mary. Those who follow the apparitions believe Mary has come to turn us back to God, while others insist that these events are either fabrications or the working of Satan. Does the Bible anticipate apparitions, signs, and wonders in the last days? 1 DVD, 79 min.

QS048 wt .1 **\$5.00**



A Question of Origins

Eternal Productions—This popular and much-requested DVD is a visually rich production revealing strong evidence that the universe and all life were created by a supernatural being—and that the God of the Bible is that Creator. This video dramatically exposes the blind speculation and evolutionary bias in cosmology, chemistry, and biology. 1 DVD, 61 min.

QS035 wt .1 **\$5.00**

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NEW! "Apostasy Update" DVDs inside—see page 6.

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The Power of the Spirit

Law—This special commemorative edition of *The Power of the Spirit* by William Law was compiled and edited by Dave Hunt nearly 50 years ago while he was living in Lausanne, Switzerland. Readers will appreciate the introduction, which communicates Dave's gratitude for classic Christian literature—writings that powerfully impacted his

faith and served as inspiration for his own persuasive way of thinking, writing, and speaking biblically. As Dave notes in the introduction, "Law's writings declare with an irresistible power and logic that Christianity is indeed founded upon unchangeable truth." *The Berean Call*, 185 pp.

- B81982** Regular Print wt .5 **\$12.00**
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