

# NEW WINE®

SEPTEMBER 1971



"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you:  
not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not  
your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

(John 14:27)

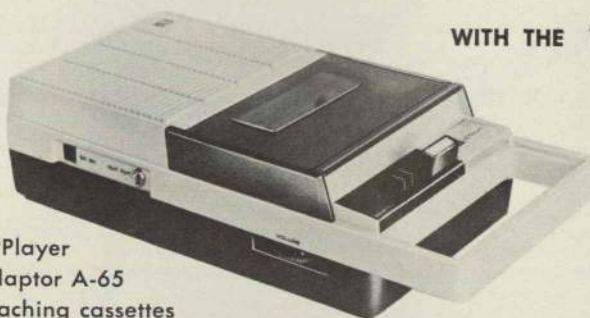
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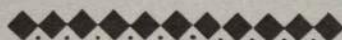
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# NEWS BRIEF

## CHRISTIAN TEACHING CONFERENCE

December 4 - 12, 1971

A teaching conference with Derek Prince, Don Basham, Ken Lawrence and other ministries will be held in the Tampa, Florida area, December 4 - 12, 1971. This meeting will be open to the public. Interested individuals may contact Harold Kent at (813) 949-1467 for reservations and additional information.



### MY JESUS

Oh, gracious Master and my God,  
To you I humbly bow;  
And now confess  
To you address  
My need for you right now.

Every moment of every day  
It's you that I adore;  
To sing your praise  
In varied ways  
For now and evermore.

Praising you from dawn to dusk  
And on into the night;  
Oh for your grace  
Your shining face  
That is gentler than moonlight.

In your presence I stand amazed  
Not knowing how to praise;  
Your grace, your love  
Are far above  
I can only stand and gaze.

Enfolded by your loving arms  
Is where I long to be;  
Never to stray  
From You away  
For now and all eternity.

— Judy Shears  
February 9, 1971

*(Can be sung to the tune of "O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing").*

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# TRUTH or CONSEQUENCE!

By WINKIE PRATNEY

It had lasted many weary years, but finally the war was over.

People were determined it must never happen again. A better world must be built; a brave, new world, worthy of the sacrifice made by those who had died and their survivors. Hope was born for a Golden Age; poets wrote about it, actors dramatized this dream, bards filled their songs with expectancy. Mankind had learned his lesson. Now he would form a Utopia!

The years passed. The dream died. People knew it was not happening, and never would. Society was still torn between extremes of poverty and gluttony. Government was still corrupted. Universal moral decline began to eat like a cancer at the fiber of the nations. Hope began to fade. The gods of civilization had failed, and were

utterly unworthy of worship; although some people put in a token appearance at a place of worship, most were virtual atheists. In the place of religion, thousands turned to magic, horoscopes, astrology and soothsaying, all of which became commonplace. Others, scorning witchcraft, turned to philosophy for answers, but the schools of thought were barren. Mankind began to settle into the darkness of despair.

It was a world with unique advancements in technology. There was one world government; a world communications system; universal transportation; a universal language. But in all of this progress, fear stalked men. They were afraid of exposure; they were afraid of life; but above all, they feared death. Death was a subject nobody cared to talk about and people rarely tried to think



about. There was very little hope of life beyond the grave.

The time: 25 A.D. Or perhaps the year 2000 A.D. !

### **CRY — YOU'RE IN THE NEW GENERATION!**

There has never been a generation like this one. Its uniqueness does not merely come from the fact that there have been technological advances in the past fifty years than in all of previous history, but from a totally **new way of thinking and looking at life**. Unless this is understood, the church will be unable to speak to modern man in a way that he will understand the Good News of the Word of God. This new concept fills the modern

world in every basic discipline — philosophy, art, music, theology and is even affecting the sciences. Modern communications media channel it to the general culture through radio, television, films, records and newspapers. It is sung about by rock idols and dramatized in modern theatre. Dr. Francis Schaeffer, one of the foremost Christian analysts in California, calls it the most **crucial problem** facing the church of Jesus Christ today. This article is an attempt to simplify this concept as developed by Dr. Schaeffer and others to help you understand just what is happening to the thought-forms of your world in the light of Bible revelation.

Christians have forgotten a vital command — “You shall love the Lord . . . with all your MIND.” God is reasonable in His approach to man (Isaiah 41:20; 43:26; Jeremiah 29:11–13; Micah 6:2–3; 6:8). He writes His laws on the heart and the mind (Hebrews 8:10; 10:10). The Lord Jesus, our example, was marked by His wisdom while He walked our earth (Luke 2:47; Mark 12:33). To combat the non-Christian thought of our day, it is imperative that Christians give their MINDS to God. The early Christian church knew how to use the understanding and knowledge of God in their preaching and teaching to men who did not know Christ, and their simplicity and child-likeness was not stupidity or childishness (Acts 17:2; 18:4; 17:17; 18:19; 24:25; 26:25, 28; 28:23). As men saw their wisdom they knew they had been with the Master Teacher, for their words were with profound understanding deeper than mere human speculation that could only have come from Divine revelation (Acts 4:13; 6:10; I Corinthians 2:12). To be saved is to come into the “knowledge of truth” and “understand” the Word of God (I Timothy 2:4; Matthew 13:3). To be a true child of God is to be a thinking person.

God puts no premiums on ignorance (Romans 12:2; 14:5). To reach our generation requires two keys — knowing God and knowing people. Our vision of God gives us a message; our understanding of people gives us a language with which we can speak to our world. To know how men think requires determination and discipline as well as devotion to the Lord Jesus, for God has called us to understand our generation's needs and meet them with Himself. It will be costly to understand; it will require toil and tears; it will ask exposure to non-Christian thought and culture; it will demand our utmost. But the price of failure to

*(Continued on next page)*

## TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCE

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honour God in knowing our generation's thought-forms will be a total communication breakdown between the church and the world that cries for its message.

### A NEW WAY OF LOOKING AT LIFE

There are multitudes of ideas abroad in our world. At first glance it seems an almost hopeless task to try to categorize them for the Christian to understand so he can speak intelligently to his generation. But the exciting fact is this — almost all philosophies or ways of looking at the world can be unified by a single common concept. Once this concept is understood, the problem of communication with our generation is vastly simplified. This basic idea concerns the **WAY IN WHICH PEOPLE COME TO LOOK AT FACTS AND TRUTH**. Before 1890 in Europe, or 1935 in America, this was not an important issue. Everyone in the Western world, whether Christian or non-Christian, thought with the same basic framework, around which they built their ways of looking at life. The most fundamental idea of this framework was the idea of absolutes; that there was such a thing as absolute truth and that therefore, if one thing connected with this absolute was “true” the opposite of this must have therefore been “false.” When you think of an absolute, you can think on the basis of opposites. If there is a true absolute and we can know some things about this absolute, then we have a foundation for saying some things are true and those which are not “true” must therefore be “false.” (If this is “X” then its opposite must be “non-X”.) Christianity is based on the idea of absolutes, rooted of course in the fact of the reality of God and His created Universe and the things He has revealed to us about our being and our world in the Bible.

For centuries, men hoped to find a non-Christian universal which would allow them to find an explanation for everything in the Universe and personal meaning as well. But God has so designed His Universe and our own human make-up to testify against every non-Bible concept.

Man thinks and he feels; whenever he tries to invent non-Christian systems and then attempts to live rationally and meaningfully in them, he just cannot do it. The entire harmony of man and his universe is based on the acceptance of the reality of a Personal-Infinite God and His revelation in Scripture and nature. When God is rejected, man is then forced into thought-patterns that leave him not only religiously foolish, but also intellectually foolish.

Paul understood this and used this as his basis of preaching to the modern man of his time who did not have a background knowledge of the Scriptures (Romans 1:18–32; Acts 17:16–31). Understand, God has two witnesses to His reality besides the revelation of Scripture — the design and order, harmony and beauty of the Universe and the fact that man feels and experiences personality and has the ideas and concepts of awareness and being. God is thus the linking factor between man and his universe. With Him as the center and basis of understanding and experience, man becomes free to explore himself and his world. Without God, man has not found any universal that will tie these two witnesses together. Now the non-Christian thinker has given up hope of finding this link outside of God and has done something totally different from all non-Christian thinkers before our time. And our era is the first generation that has been raised under this totally non-Christian concept!

Today's modern thinker has come to the logical end of his non-Christian thinking; if there is no God, then there are no absolutes and if there are no absolutes there are no opposites. The German philosopher Hegel (1770–1831) first put forward the idea that has altered the thinking of the whole world. He said in effect, “Instead of thinking in terms of cause and effect, let us think in terms of one fact opposed to another fact and the result being a new fact.” In this philosophy, two things may be opposed but not necessarily opposite! The idea of opposites (antithesis) is removed and replaced with the idea of combination (synthesis). Modern man thus has rejected the idea of opposites and now finds no strange thing in accepting two contradictory ideas at once. To do this, he cannot use his mind, so following the lead by Soren Kierkegaard, a Danish philosopher (1813–55) he arrives at this fusion of contradictions by a mindless “leap of faith,” a blind, non-rational acceptance.

This death of absolutes and opposites fills

the thought-forms of the world we live in. It is difficult to stress just how totally modern man has been affected. Without these two basic ideas, man has no guidelines to direct his life in any area. No longer is there a clear picture of darkness and light; everything is "shades of grey." Morality must begin to totally dissolve, as nothing then IS "right" or "bad."

Any form of restrictions on individual freedom can no longer be tolerated and thousands of young people are now in full revolt from all kinds of authority from home to the governments of their countries. Every difference in nature comes under attack; every opposite God has placed in the world as a testimony to absolutes comes under fire. Even the difference in the sexes has begun to disappear; if there are no absolutes or opposites, why shouldn't a person be both a man and a woman at the same time as much as possible? Clothes reflect this increasingly.

The denial of absolutes and opposites has given man the most terrifying dilemma of all time. Decades of philosophy based on absolute/opposite thought have not produced a satisfactory philosophy of life to explain the Universe and give man meaning WITHOUT including God and His creative work. Rationalism, an idea framework that, beginning with man only and rejecting God, attempts to find a universal explanation for man and the universe still runs into the problem Plato put forward thousands of years ago that no finite point can have real meaning unless it is understood in terms of a fixed universal point. In other words, you can have no true understanding of a part until you first have a true understanding of the whole. How CAN a finite, limited man be sure of ANYTHING he knows as "truth" if he does not know ALL existing facts in the Universe? Since his knowledge must be imperfect, all he can say at the most is that he knows more about some things than someone else does. But unless he is SHOWN something by Someone who DOES know all things and CAN reveal true "truth" he has nowhere to begin with. He cannot even be sure that he exists himself!

Consider a thinking non-Christian of this decade. If he does not accept the revealed fact of God's reality (by the testimony of nature, Scripture and the personality of his own being) he must find, by reason, another explanation of his personality and the complexity of the Universe. He has no other answer than the possibility of time, matter and chance combining to make man and the

world around him. These are all impersonal; thus he must conclude that all he is and sees is wholly accidental, without meaning, purpose or destiny.

Not only does the Universe have no purpose, but he, as merely the result of a series of chemical accidents has completely no significance either. This is frightening. Besides this, however, when he honestly uses his mind, he is going to run into some serious intellectual difficulties in being a rationalist. (See preceding definition under Rationalism). Chief of these is that on the basis of all recent evidence there is just NOT ENOUGH TIME in the Universe to make any being approaching the complexity of man by chance. The scientific method of study confirms, rather than denies the fact of intelligent Creation.

The modern scientific method is a child of Christian concepts: that creation is the orderly product of a Personal-Infinite God and that man can discover the secrets of the Universe since he is made in the rational, finite image of his marvellous Maker. Eastern thinking would never have produced modern technology. As to this thought-form, the Universe is simply an EXTENSION of the essence of God; everything IS God, including man and his world and as whatever is has been determined, nothing can or will change. To the Eastern mind, the use of logic in worship or the search for meaning is impossible. Experience without verifiable content is the only acceptable key to religion and reality. To the Christian thinker however, the Universe was created by God outside Himself, marked with the evidences of His wisdom and love, but NOT an extension of His Being. Since God is rational and has made man in His own image, science and worship are not incompatible; men could be fully scientists and just as wholly Christians, like Newton, Kepler, Galileo and Bacon. Today, all too often, the East spend time mastering the fruit of Western technology without thinking of the Biblical-concept roots that formed this scientific tree, while people of the West study the religions of the East with great diligence, avoiding with embarrassment any reference to the Scriptural revelation that gave them the key to developing their technology!

"Modern" science differs in one key way from the early Biblically-orientated scientists. They believed that although the Universe was run by the force laws of cause-and-effect that God had set up for its direction MAN HIMSELF was not programmed. He could, by a creative act of choice

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# A SPIRITUAL CHECKUP

By WINKIE PRATNEY

**B**illy Sunday once said, "Some people take so many pills their joints look like ball-bearings." It's a sick, sick world.

With such a lot of medical problems around, it is always a good idea to get a physical check-up at least a couple of times a year. These physical check-ups cost a little time and little more inconvenience, but if the beginnings of a dangerous illness are discovered, the cost is well worth it.

Now, something is very wrong with the world. The Christian is supposed to have the answer to the moral plague sweeping the nations. But something is very wrong with the average Christian church.

There is supposed to be love, but there is mostly envyings, strife and division. There is supposed to be holiness, but there is instead often downright ungodliness. There is supposed to be power, but there is largely only weakness and spiritual sickness. We are supposed to have revival, but on the whole we have still not seen any great awakening. "My brethren, these things ought not to be."

What is wrong with the church must be the sum total of what is wrong with each individual Christian. If men can have medical check-ups for their bodies, why shouldn't there be spiritual check-ups to examine the state of our souls? If a physician can prescribe pills for bodily ailments, does not the Master Physician have one for the diseased soul? And of course, He does — the "Gos - pill," which means "Good News."

However, before we can be given the Good News we should thoroughly understand the Bad News. Before a cure can be accepted and applied, there must be diagnosis and verdict. To do this, some sort of spiritual check-up is needed for us all, which is precisely what this article is all about.

One caution — like any check-up, this is going to cost you time and inconvenience. However, unlike the physical check-up it may also

hurt somewhat. Of course, a sore spot shows that infection is present.

When you go through this, remember it is designed to expose and that exposure might hurt! Be assured however, that a little pain now may save an awful lot of trouble later. If it is any consolation before you begin, this check-up is absolutely free. It will only cost you on the diagnosis of your sin. Of all things, you can afford to lose that, can't you? Nobody in their right mind wants to keep a killer cancer.

## READY?

To take this spiritual check-up you will need only pencil, paper, some time and complete honesty. Are you ready? Take a deep breath and . . .

## TAKE A SEAT!

For the next hour or so let the Holy Spirit turn His searchlight on your spiritual life. Let Him probe, X-Ray and test your soul! And let Him start by opening the closets of your memory.

Memory is highly efficient at remembering wrong. Although it easily forgets merely unpleasant or worthless things, it NEVER really forgets unrighted SIN. Much mental illness today can be traced to GUILT never wiped from the mind by the twin tools of confession and restoration and receiving forgiveness. Shock, drugs and other medical and psychiatric treatment may try to take guilt memories from the mind, but God's method is the only fully effective one. Face each wrong with its full load of guilt, admit it to God and others who are involved as wrong, then ask and receive healing forgiveness (Psalm 32:1-5; I John 1:5-9).

Use the following three lists as check-up charts to examine your life before the Lord. Take each one slowly and carefully. Check each area that is a "sore spot" and on your own paper write out what you will have to do to get it right. Confess them to the Lord one by one as He shows you them. When you have finished, re-read your list again, and add any others that come to mind. Don't give in to the temptation to pass quickly over any area that hurts. Take your courage in your bare hands and face your sin. This first part will be painful. Let God furrow your heart and break up all the hardness that has formed from unconfessed sin. If tears begin to come, let them. "Godly sorrow works repentance" and tears may soften your heart for God to work with it (II Corinthians 7:10; Psalm 38:18; 34:6, 18; 51:17; Ecclesiastes 7:3; Proverbs 15:13; Psalm 147:3; Ezekiel 34:16; Luke 4:18).

## MEMORY CHECK

(1) **STEALING** — Can you remember taking money or property that was not yours? Did you steal from neighbors, relatives, shops or stores, school or home? (Exodus 20:15; Ephesians 4:28).

(2) **CHEATING** — Did you get anything from anyone unfairly? Does someone know or suspect that you cheated to pass an important test? Did you rob someone of their fair share of praise or pay for a job? (James 5:1-4; Malachi 3:5; Deuteronomy 24:14-15; Jeremiah 22:13; Job 31:13).

(3) **LYING** — "Any designed form of deception for selfish reasons." If you design to make an impression contrary to the naked truth, you have lied. Have you been deceitful? (Revelation 21:8).

(4) **SLANDER** — Speaking evil of someone. You do not have to lie to slander. Have you talked about someone behind their back in a way you would not be willing to before their face? Malicious gossip — telling the truth with intent to hurt or injure is slander. Are you guilty of backbiting or criticism? (Matthew 7:1-5; I Corinthians 5:12; Colossians 3:8; Matthew 5:21-24).

(5) **IMMORALITY** — Are you guilty of stirring up desires that you could not righteously feed? In outings with the opposite sex have you failed to keep your body and mind clean and pure

and bartered your integrity for pleasure? (Matthew 5:28; Job 31:1; II Peter 2:14; I Corinthians 6:18).

(6) **CENSORIOUSNESS** — Have you spoken about others without love? Did you judge, think or say the worst thing about a person in a situation you knew? (John 7:24; I Corinthians 4:1-7; Galatians 6:1).

## ACTIONS TEST

(1) **ENVY** — Behind talk of others' failures and faults usually lurk envy. Did you gossip and boast to exalt yourself at another's expense? Does it hurt to hear certain people praised? If you have nursed this spirit of Hell, repent **DEEPLY**. (Job 5:2; Proverbs 14:30; 27:4; Galatians 5:25).

(2) **PRIDE** — Pretending in thought or life to be more or less than you really are. Do you pay more attention to your looks than your soul? Is there a trouble-stirring spirit in your life? These are the signs of pride. (Proverbs 16:5, 12, 18; 21:4; 29:23; Titus 3:9; I Corinthians 1:26-31; I Peter 5:1).

(3) **INGRATITUDE** — How many times have had others gone out of their way for you, perhaps really sacrificed to help you — and you took this all for granted? (II Timothy 3:2; Malachi 3:8-11).

(4) **ANGER** — Have you been bad-tempered? Do you shrug off self-control and lose patience or gentleness with someone? (Proverbs 14:29; 15:8; 21:9; 22:24; Ecclesiastes 7:9; Ephesians 4:26; Colossians 3:8).

(5) **CURSING** — Have you used gutter language? Swearing has no place in the life of a child of God. Never use exclamations beginning with "G," "J" or "C;" they are usually substitutes for curses against God. Have you failed to guard your speech? (Deuteronomy 5:11; Matthew 5:33-37).

(6) **LEVITY** — "Needless frivolity, silly talk — talking and acting like a moron." Jests that tend to undermine the sacred and precious standards of life; "Bible" jokes that make light of the Holy Word of God; unprofitable, empty and often stupid foolishness achieves nothing but a dangerous devaluation of the Christian's word. Real humor is a gift of God, and will always edify or prepare the way for the Holy Spirit; foolish

*(Continued on next page)*

levity is sin. (Ecclesiastes 5:3; Proverbs 24:19; Ephesians 5:4).

## INNER INSPECTION

(1) **HARDNESS** — Did you fight back, murmur or return evil for evil? Was your response to trial un-Christian like when you were wronged or hurt by someone? (Philippians 2:14; I Corinthians 10:10).

(2) **HABITS** — Have you continually over-indulged natural appetites until they have grown far beyond normal? Are you a slave to food, drink or stimulants? (Philippians 3:19, Proverbs 23:21; I Corinthians 6:19).

(3) **HALF-HEARTEDNESS** — Can you remember times when you deliberately shirked your full share of responsibility? Did you skip times of secret or public prayer to please yourself when you should have been meeting with God? Have you been flippant and light about HIM? (Proverbs 19:15; 21:5; 24:11–12; Matthew 25:1–13; 25:14–30; I Thessalonians 5:6; James 4:13–17).

(4) **HINDERANCE** — Have you destroyed another's confidence in you by needlessly taking up their time? Have you prevented them from doing God's work for yourself? (Ephesians 5:16).

(5) **HYPOCRISY** — Did the life you lived before some people make all you said of Christ and His Gospel a lie? Have you said one thing and done another? Were others turned from God by your life that declared to them your hypocrisy? (Matthew 6:5–6; 7:3–5; 23:28; Revelation 3:15–16).

(6) **BROKEN VOWS** — Is there a vow you made to God that you have not kept? Did you promise Him something that you have since forgotten or gone back upon? If it was unwise, you had better ask forgiveness and release; He expects you to **KEEP** voluntary vows! (Ecclesiastes 5:1–6).

## SURGERY NEEDED?

If the Holy Spirit shows us sin, we must go back to the place where the Lord first met us. It is the cross again. We see the Lord Jesus once crucified — for that sin — bearing our penalty.

A line of blood trickles down from its splintered base. The sight should shock and grieve us; we see the awfulness of God's judgement. This is not the law, representing God armed with holy wrath and determined to punish the sinner without hope or help, but love demonstrated in the infinite cost and sacrifice God is willing to go to in order to save us from sin. It is the most terribly beautiful picture of the Gospel, showing God's hatred for sin and heartbreak over man's selfishness. Our sin nails Him to the cross all over again. We tear open His wounds and make His redemption a mockery. Well might "heaven put on the robes of mourning and hell hold a jubilee." All God's care and love — and **DARE** we still sin?

Walk out into the light of reality. Drop your self-deceit and face this sin for what it really is. Turn from it, from your heart. Take sides with God against it — purpose in your heart **NEVER** to go back into that sin again.

"Oh God, You know my foolishness, and my sin is not hid from you . . . for your Name's sake, pardon my iniquity, for it is great . . . if you, Lord, should mark iniquities, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with you, that you may be feared." (Psalm 69:5; 25:11; 130:3–4).

Will you do this now? Will you go to your gracious and loving Father as a little child and humbly ask His forgiveness?

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:9).

The Lord is merciful and gracious . . . He has not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities; for as the heaven is above the earth, so great is the mercy towards them that fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us." (Psalm 103:12).

Confession is humbling yourself and admitting your wrong. Restitution is the willingness to pay back or restore wherever possible. If you are now forgiven before the Lord, are you ready to ask Him for the courage to confess and restore to others you have wronged? Your conscience must be clean before both God and man if you want to know true freedom. You cannot stand for God with a dirty past in others eyes; memories of failure in their eyes will drive you deeper into bondage each time you remember them; when you have not asked their forgiveness, your guilt will kill your faith and rob you of direction and purpose.

You will not of course, have to confess every sin to everyone; just the sins committed against the ones you know you have wronged. The rule: The circle of confession should only go as far as the circle of committal. Those sins against God alone you have left with His loving forgetfulness (Psalm 103:8–13; Isaiah 43:25; Jeremiah 31:34); those against God and man must be put right with both God and the person(s) wronged.

Restitution should only go as far as the person can humanly repay. You will never be able to undo all your wrong, but God expects you to do all in your power to restore that which you have taken from others; no more and certainly no less. God asks of you the willingness, if need be, to go to a hundred people to restore a relationship. True, total repentance is to do that which is right up to the full limit of our ability. It concerns only that which is known and recognized to be sin by the repentant one. Often those who see your sincerity may make exceptions to any claims they have to restitution, but you will have to trust your case to the hands of God who does all things well.

## GETTING RIGHT WITH OTHERS

Name the basic sin! You can never really right the results of your sin; no-one can really forgive you for these. However, you can always (and must) right the sin itself, by naming it and asking forgiveness for it. Confess the sin that caused your words or actions; God will show you what it is. Are you sure that was what it was?

Make sure the way you ask is right. Such half-hearted “confessions” as these show false or incomplete repentance and are usually worse than useless:

(a) “I’m sorry – but it wasn’t all my fault!” (b) “Forgive me – IF I have wronged you . . .” (c) “I was wrong – but so were you!” (d) “Alright – I’m sorry” or “I apologize . . .” Full blame must be taken; the sin must be named; pride must be crucified.

Do you know the basic sin you must get right? Have you thought through what you are to say? Is the time convenient for the other person? Can you be alone when you see this person?

**Do you have a truly repentant attitude?** If you have trouble getting the proper feelings, think of all the hurt and loss your sin has caused. What did your sin cost Christ? (Read Luke 22:39–44; John 15:8–14). The Holy Spirit convicts by recalling from your memory in detail all the results

of your wrong. Go over your sin in detail, never in general. As you think deeply about the effect of your sin, feelings will come equal to your guilt.

**Are they in a good mood to forgive?** If they get angry when you arrive, wait quietly in a repentant manner until their temper is under control. Then acknowledge your sin and ask forgiveness. Pray before you go for help (Proverbs 22:24; Matthew 5:43–48). Don’t use words taking the blame off yourself; don’t involve others who may have also sinned; don’t try to witness as well, unless specifically asked why you are getting this thing right; don’t underestimate your guilt or their hurt and don’t wait too long to go and get it right!

The element of these three sentences must be in any truly effective confession: (1) God has convicted me of something I did (have been doing) against you . . .” (2) “I’ve been wrong in – – – (name the basic sin – being envious, proud, stubborn, etc. The only exception to this is a moral offense; use “. . . not setting you a decent standard.”) (3) “I know I’ve wronged you in this, and I want to ask you – will you forgive me?”

Excuses from pride: When it comes to getting right with others, our minds supply many “reasons” why we need not do what we know we must do. Be brutally honest with yourself. Deal with each as an excuse. Determine to do what is right. It’s your life!

When you have gone through your list as thoroughly as if you were about to meet God before the throne of judgement and determined to get right everything you can, you may burn your list and leave your sins forgiven and forgotten for good! Wrongs may not be wiped out completely from your mind, but they can be exchanged for memories of the joy of forgiveness! Should Satan try to recall a dark past shadow, you will be able to think instead of the bright memory of confession and forgiveness. The words of pardon from those who accept our confession will put wings on our hearts and move us mightily to praise God for His forgiveness.

Many millions are jailed in their own guilt this very day in your world, not knowing what to do or who to turn to. To some, the last road of suicide seems the only possible escape. Minds are snapping from the terrible load of guilt of a filthy past. It is up to you now to put into practice what you know must be done. Your testimony will be a ray of hope to any you come in contact with. Don’t just read this; in His name, go and DO IT! ●

# Babel and Pentecost

By PAUL BEAIRD

**T**he Tower of Babel incident and the Day of Pentecost stand as two epic monuments at distant ends of human history, two symbols for two alternatives of a choice that all men make and live out on this earth. The first stands as a monument to the judgment of division that God visited on men for their haughty independence and their words of disregard for His will. The second shocks the limits of man's mind, offering a historical example of "impossible" unity among men and worship of God, as men yield their tongues in cooperation with God's own Spirit. These two historical events are opposites. Because the human tongue is made to carry the message on both occasions, the differences between the Tower of Babel and the Day of Pentecost offer some valuable lessons to the Church of Jesus Christ today.

What makes these events epic is that God allows man to act, and then He interrupts in a sovereign way that changes all the rest of human history.

At the Tower of Babel, men were gathered together to oppose God's command to spread out and populate the entire earth. On the Day of Pentecost, men were gathered together in obedience to Christ's command to wait to receive power from Heaven. They ceased all human plans of human action.

At the Tower of Babel, the people spoke one language and every man understood all the others. God confused the tongues, so they could not understand each other. By this miracle, He created all human languages as a symbol of judgment on human independence.

On the Day of Pentecost, there were people of several different languages representing many

areas of the world, not able to understand each others native languages. God caused the 120 disciples to speak in tongues so that every man was made to understand. By this miracle, God gave believers in Jesus Christ heavenly language that gives evidence of the coming of the Holy Spirit and the age of God's merciful salvation.

Since these opposites center on man's speech, we should be able to find something important in what was said on one of these two occasions. Genesis 11:4 says, "And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."

Each part of this speech compares with the Day of Pentecost.

(1) ". . . whose top may reach unto heaven." Like proud, independent Lucifer, these men wanted to put themselves as high as God's throne. Peter says, "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time." The disciples humbled themselves to do nothing but wait on the Lord, and heaven reached down to touch them. Acts 2 contains these phrases: "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven . . ." Peter said of Jesus, ". . . being by the right hand of God exalted . . . he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear." Jesus, having humbled himself in obedience and death, had reached heaven for them, and now He reached out of heaven to fill them with the Holy Spirit.

(2) ". . . let us make a name." Man wanted a name to represent his independence from God. On the Day of Pentecost, God offered a name to reunite man with Himself. Peter's tongue,

yielded to God, spoke a prophecy once given to Joel. "Whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved." Salvation, deliverance and healing are made available to those who will renounce the rebellion of establishing a name for themselves, and will bow to the Name of Jesus with glad-hearted obedience. Later, Peter might have been talking directly to the builders of Babel, when he said of Jesus, "This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

(3) ". . . lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth." The outpouring of the Holy Spirit was to give the disciples power for the very purpose these men had rejected. "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth." God intends for believers to fill the earth with spiritual offspring, children of God.

(4) **The words spoken by the men at Babel were a direct affront to God.** They were words of disobedience, rebellion and disrespect against the wisdom of His command to spread over the earth. But, listen to what the unbelievers said about the words the believers spoke in tongues in cooperation with the Holy Spirit. ". . . we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God." Yielded to God, their tongues became instruments of praise, instead of disobedience and self-will. Glory!

(5) **This praise leads us to Hebrews 13:14, 15 where we find an attitude exactly opposite of the men at Babel who wanted a permanent city of safety and a united front against God on this earth.** They said, "Let us build us a city and a tower." The believer says, "For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. By him, therefore, let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His Name."

Peter, at Pentecost, said, "This Jesus hath God raised up whereof we are all witnesses. Therefore, being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear." This visible evidence of Jesus actually being in heaven must have brought to his mind the promise Jesus gave them only weeks before. "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you. I go to

prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." That hope kept them looking to heaven for their source of guidance and power, and kept them from any human plans of spreading the Gospel separate from the Holy Spirit.

The points of difference are clear. The Tower of Babel represents man's reliance on the abilities of his mind, instead of on God's Spirit. This independence from God leads him to build his own kingdom on this earth, relying on a man-made name to protect the results of his human labor from being scattered. The Day of Pentecost represents the willingness of believers who will humble themselves to cease from human effort and plans to wait for God's provision and God's only guide into His will as commanded in His Word. Willingness to submit to the discipline of the Holy Spirit leads a believer into a total dependence on the Name of Jesus, with the same results seen in the Book of Acts. And because the Spirit witnesses only of Jesus, the believer can have a daily awareness of Jesus' soon return from heaven. Such men are strangers and pilgrims on this earth and "desire a better country, that is an heavenly; wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city" (Hebrews 11:16).

## SPEAKING IN TONGUES

It is not unusual for a candidate for the baptism in the Holy Spirit to experience in himself an unreasoning resistance to speaking in tongues. He may very well understand the value of tongues, and may be desiring to receive the Holy Spirit so that he can be obedient to God from his heart. It is important for him to understand that this is why God is offering the gift of the Holy Spirit, and to make up his mind before God that he wants to obey. Ezekiel 36:27 says, "And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them." Acts 5:32, ". . . the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him."

Speaking in tongues means opening up one's innermost being to another person: the Holy Spirit. Your ability to speak and express ideas in languages that you have learned is one evidence that you are a person. If you begin speaking in tongues you have never learned, that is complete

*(Continued on next page)*

evidence that another person, who does know them has entered you, and you are yielding your tongue in cooperation with him.

The mind naturally holds any person off at arm's length, examines, inspects, and analyzes him before it can open up and allow us to trust, befriend, and love him. We want to know we can trust his motives and his intentions toward us. So, the resistance of your natural mind is clear evidence that speaking in tongues is connected with receiving a person into your life. It is an act of faith in God that invites the presence of the person of the Holy Spirit into your body.

You must decide whether or not you trust God's goodness and wisdom. He offers you a Holy Spirit, the opposite of fear, a Spirit of love, joy peace, etc. . . (Romans 8:15; Galatians 5:22, 23). Luke 11:13 says that God will give us only the Holy Spirit, if that is what we ask for. In the parallel verse in Matthew 7:11, the same gift (the Holy Spirit) is called a good gift. And, again, trust in God depends on your willingness to obey Him; otherwise, you will always be nervously suspicious of His will interfering with yours. The unanimous testimony of those who meet God's conditions and receive His Spirit is that His presence brings a life of inner health, peace and power.

The natural mind also resists speaking in tongues because it means yielding your tongue. It is your mind that has been used to controlling your tongue. While it can use many parts of your body to express itself, it is your tongue that best expresses the thoughts of your mind. Your natural mind is not willing to yield this lordship over your tongue to speech that it cannot understand. Speaking in tongues humbles your mind at the very point where it is used to having exclusive rights. By yielding your tongue to speech in which your mind does not participate, you are telling it that its usual calculation in expressing thought is limited in value and is not experienced enough to have the concepts and words to express what is in your spirit. Except for the presence of faith in God's complete goodness, your natural mind will resist being humbled.

God's Word clearly presents this antagonism between the natural, unrenewed mind and the Spirit. Romans 8:7 says, "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God." I Corinthians 2:14, "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they

are spiritually discerned." Romans 8:26, "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities (limitations): for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit (Himself) maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." I Corinthians 14:4, "For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries."

"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful" (I Corinthians 14:14). Now, unfruitful does not mean — my understanding is not benefitted. That which is fruitful bears fruit, or gives benefit. It means — my mind does not participate in giving any of the benefit when I pray in a tongue; it all comes from my spirit.

These facts give you the opportunity to agree with God's Word, choosing to give your loyalty to Him in action by yielding your tongue in cooperation with the person of the Holy Spirit. Your mind is used to making all the decisions in your life. But God intends the order of man's being to be: Spirit directing the mind, the mind controlling the desires and abilities of the body. You can deliberately act oppositely to the habit patterns of your mind and decide from your spirit to yield your tongue to the Holy Spirit. David gives us an example of his spirit telling his mind what to do. "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name" (Psalm 103:1).

It says of the disciples in Acts 2:4, "... they began to speak . . ." They used their vocal cords, tongue and lips to speak. As they acted in faith, the Holy Spirit gave them what came out of their mouths. He gave the words, "... as the Spirit gave them utterance." Use your voice and tongue to speak out in the faith that the Holy Spirit will be there to give you the words, without them having to go through your mind first. This is a valid act of faith that God will honor as obedience to Him, and He will give you the indwelling presence of the person of the Holy Spirit.

This, by the way, is exactly the way you obeyed God to receive Jesus Christ as Lord. Romans 10:10 says, "For with the heart man believeth . . . and with the mouth confession is made . . ." The result is that you receive a divine person, Jesus Christ. These three elements are also involved in the baptism in the Holy Spirit: believe God's promise in your heart; release your faith with your mouth; receive a Divine Person. If you

believe in your heart God's promise to give you the gift of the Holy Spirit, you only need to use your mouth to put your faith into action. James says that faith without works is dead. A belief in the heart must be released or expressed in an act of faith. Speaking with the mouth is the act prescribed by Scripture for receiving God into your life. Speak out in faith, and God will send into you the Holy Spirit, who will give you a miracle language.

(Giving instruction for receiving the Holy Spirit has its precedence in the Scriptures. Jesus' last words to the disciples before He ascended to the Father are recorded in Matthew 28:18–20, Mark 16:15–18, Luke 24:36–49, John 21 and Acts 1:4–8). He spoke of the coming of the kingdom, gave the command to make disciples, commanded them to receive the Holy Spirit, and told them that those who believe would do certain miracles, among which is speaking in tongues. So, before Pentecost, Jesus instructed His disciples that they would receive supernatural power when they received the Holy Spirit, and that one manifestation of this power would be speaking in tongues. Anyone who has received the Holy Spirit can use this praise and prayer language.

It is certain that after the Christians in Jerusalem heard of the Samaritans believing the Word and being baptized, they sent Peter and John to them for the specific purpose of ministering the baptism in the Holy Spirit to them. It is also quite possible that they gave some instruction before laying hands on them. You will notice that Matthew 28:19, 20, prescribes teaching, both before and after baptism, and Jesus taught the disciples to regard receiving the Holy Spirit as a baptism. This could also possibly apply to Paul's ministry to the Corinthians in Acts 19.

The resistance of a person's mind to speaking in tongues need not continue after he has received the Holy Spirit, and usually does not. If your heart is set on giving your loyalty to God and His desires for you, He tells you what to do. Romans 12:1, 2, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies (in this case, your voice, lips and tongue) a living sacrifice (that is how your mind might feel it), holy, acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service. (Obedience to God is reasonable, and the resistance of our fleshly mind is unreasoning). And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good,

and acceptable, and perfect will of God."

In this case, God's will is for you to speak in faith and cooperation with His Spirit. As you obey, whether your mind objects or not, you have made a sacrifice that is holy and acceptable to God. Now, having received the Spirit, continue to cooperate with Him, praying in tongues daily. I Corinthians 14:4 and Jude 20 state that this is spiritually upbuilding. Here in Romans 12, Paul says that one benefit of yielding your body (tongue) is the renewing of our mind.

Let me demonstrate that more specifically.

I Corinthians 14:4, "He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself." We are edified, built up spiritually by speaking in tongues. I Corinthians 14:14 tells us more specifically how it is that we receive edification through speaking in tongues. "For if I pray in an unknown tongue my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful." Praying in cooperation with the Holy Spirit releases our spirit to bring forth fruit, or spiritual benefit. Ephesians 4:23 tells us what one part of this edification is. "And be renewed in the spirit of your mind." Any spiritual benefit must pass through our spirit to get to our mind. And whenever our spirit is open for the Holy Spirit to work through, one benefit is the renewing of our mind. Continuing to pray in tongues does that very thing. It opens our spirit to be a channel of spiritual blessing, and the renewal of our mind is one result.

In this case, it is not specific ideas that are replaced, rather the fleshly attitudes or frame of mind that causes resistance against God. It is obvious, that until these attitudes of mind are renewed, one cannot know the "good and acceptable and perfect will of God." This is why some of our brothers in the Lord do not see the values God had in mind for giving such a gift as tongues.

The opposite of resistance is yielding. Can you see the long-range consequences of yielding your tongue to the Holy Spirit? Praying in tongues gives one practice in yielding one's mind and spirit and body to God's Spirit, and soon one's mind does not resist, but eagerly cooperates with the guidance of the Holy Spirit in more and more areas of his life. ●

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PAUL BEAIRD, recently completed his tour in the Army as Chaplain Assistant, is now working with the Manor House in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

**W**e always find it a thrill and a blessing when we have opportunity to give our testimony. It makes us realize that it is God's grace that has brought us to where we are today and we Praise Him for it.

We were both saved in a Youth For Christ meeting in St. Petersburg, Florida in August of 1950. After our conversions we had the opportunity to attend Trinity College and then on to pastoring a Southern Baptist Church in West Bay, Florida. It was at this Baptist Church that our call to the mission field matured and became a reality.

Our training began in the New Tribes Mission Boot Camps as teachers in the New Tribes Bible School. Next we filled the role of Associate Pastors of the Milwaukee Bible Tabernacle and finally on to Brazil, South America for our first term with our three children. During our time in language school, we worked with the pastor of the Baptist Church in Vianopolis, Goias, as well as attending to the many physical needs of the Brazilian Nationals.

Our first assignment was to work with the Ainaye Indians in the Tocantinopolis, Goias area. We were the only Americans there for many months and it was here that we really learned to master the native language, Portuguese. There were many opportunities in the nearby villages for meetings, doing medical and dental work and teaching in the Brazilian High School and after three years we returned to the United States because of Marjorie's health. When we returned to Brazil we decided that we should move to the Western field of Brazil and work on the Amazon and the Negro Rivers for health reasons.

Our base of operation was the New Tribes Mission School (grades 1 through 12) which is for missionary children. While serving here our work involved dentistry, mechanical work, loading supplies on the mission launch, carrying missionaries and supplies to the interior posts and working with the Indian tribes. On Sunday and Thursday's we had Bible classes for the Brazilians on the lake in our area. It was a real blessing to see their hunger



By **JOE and MARJORIE PRESTON**

## “AGAPE” HEADS

for the Word of God. Two of our most faithful converts were Sr. Jose and Donna Rosa who are now living with us on our 38 foot houseboat the “Agape.” It is a real thrill to have disciples like these and what a joy it was when Sr. Jose gave his first message. They are both very anxious to return to Brazil where they can share their faith in Jesus Christ with their own people.

While on one of our many trips to visit the Wymanese Indians we started listening to tapes from the Holy Spirit Teaching Mission. These tapes were sent by Ed and Carol Raitt, who now head up the Fresh Bread Tape Lending Library. We had seen many souls saved, preached the Word, but we both knew that there was something lacking in our lives, we had no real power. The tapes on the Baptism in the Holy Spirit became especially interesting to us and thus began our search for a closer relationship with the Lord and this

much needed power.

Problems arose in the New Tribes Mission and consequently we resigned and requested that we be sent home. It was after we arrived home that we were gloriously filled with the Holy Spirit and a tremendous change occurred in our lives. God has taught us many wonderful lessons in His “School of Learning” for the past three years and we have felt that He has been preparing us for a new adventure in faith.

Through the efforts of Rev. David Stiles, we first came in contact with the boat which God has so graciously given to us, “The Agape.” During the past few years there have been many discouraging times, but at long last God has provided the necessary equipment needed to get us underway. Part of the equipment included construction of a wheel house, two new life boats, an auxiliary light plant and many other items which are too numerous to mention.



Joe, Margie, David and Annette Preston

## FOR BRAZIL

We will be leaving during the first week of July, Lord willing, for the Amazon River, traveling through the West Palm Beach opening, across to the Bahamas and from Island to Island ministering as we go.

This will be our fourth trip to Brazil, but the excitement of our own boat and the expectancy of what God is going to do is beyond our own doings. We truly believe Mark 16:15-18, "These signs shall follow them that believe, in My name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them, they shall lay hands on the sick; and they shall recover." It was this verse that challenged us 15 years ago, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," but this is where we stopped not including the last three verses. We thought that signs and wonders did not happen today, but we Praise the Lord for opening our

eyes and letting us see how He is confirming His Word. We thank Him that He has opened "The eyes of our understanding that we may know what is the hope of His calling and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints," and "what is the exceeding greatness of His power to usward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power."

We go forth this time knowing that He is desirous of a people to enter into Kingdom living here upon this earth and so we shall preach not half a gospel that only saves the souls of man, but the whole Gospel which brings also deliverance from sin, sickness and poverty. There is much to do in the land of Brazil, which is larger than the United States, including an extra Texas.

We shall begin to move as the Holy Spirit leads us in getting some property for a base, a place where we can open up for people to come, learn of God's ways, farm, raise cattle and

go forth equipped with a knowledge of His Word. The aim will be to teach faithful men to teach others and not to build a work around the missionary. The ship will go from village carrying the Gospel message to the National people of Brazil.

We are in need of school teachers to teach our children. The Strongitharm family have already arrived in Manaus and they too have a teenage daughter. Others will be coming later, with younger children, so a school will have to be established for the children. Time does not permit us to teach our own, nor are we qualified.

We do not know just what all God will include in our next term in the great land of Brazil, but we know it will include much the same ministry which we read about in the book of Acts. We will appreciate your prayers that God will give us wisdom, understanding, alertness and sensitivity to the leading of His Holy Spirit. ●

## TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCE

*(Continued from page 7)*

alter or re-order this system and since the fall has produced great ills on mankind had not only the ability but the responsibility to do so. Man was not part of the impersonal machinery of the Universe, but made in the likeness of His Maker, Who, not being Himself a part of His creation, could Himself step in and re-order events.

Now non-Christian science is in grave trouble. A rationalistic scientist is forced to include MAN HIMSELF in the science system of cause-and-effect, closing it to re-ordering . . . man is thus now only a PART OF THE MACHINE. Even free choice must be explained by some form of psychological, chemical or environmental determination. If man is no more than a complex machine, those that men create now become a threat to humanity itself — if we are no more than highly-ordered physical and chemical systems, the time will soon come when scientific advances will replace man himself with better machines. Physical systems were never a threat to the Bible-orientated scientist; now it is a frightening one.

Political ideas based on this materialistic picture of man are only logical extensions of this thought. If it WERE true that (1) There is no God; (2) There is nothing but matter in motion in the Universe (no soul, no spirit, no supernatural); and (3) Man is determined completely by his environment and more particularly by his economic environment, a logical person would become a Marxist. Marxism in its simplest theoretical form seeks to eradicate selfishness from society by the application of scientific principles on the above three supposed premises. Unfortunately for Marx, applied forms of his theory have failed; men brought up in an atheistic, materialistic and socialistic environment are still selfish. God has written the lie of these three premises into the Universe and the very being of man.

### THE PERFECT SOCIETY

There does exist, however, a society on earth that functions like a programmed machine, that could be called a "perfect society." This society has NO problems of crime, juvenile delinquency or civil disobedience! It has no real problems concerning the aged, the sick, the

disabled or retarded. It is highly efficient, fully integrated and totally productive. It is called a bee-hive.

Bees have no problem with crime because bees have no free choice; they function under a force law called instinct. The unproductive members of the bee-hive are simply allowed to die or be killed, and more bees are raised to take their place. All bees are literally worked to death; the survival of the fittest rules. No bee is individually important. Each bee is only a part of the total hive and his worth is only measured on his contribution to the hive; on his own he means absolutely nothing. Unfortunately with this society, it does not produce poets, artists, philosophers, inventors or lovers. But man cannot live like a bee or a machine. Deep inside, he knows he is more than a blind accident, without individual meaning; his own being testifies against impersonality.

Besides this, man has feelings that he cannot really explain or deal with (like guilt, fear of non-being, beauty, love, the desire to communicate and worship) if God is left out of life. His mind tells him things he cannot fit into his non-Christian thought framework; rationalism tells him he is merely a meaningless machine, and he has only one other alternative.

### THE "LEAP OF FAITH"

Following Kierkegaard and Hegel's lead, the modern man without Christ tries to accept the fact that he is only a machine, but that nevertheless he does have meaning. Since logic (based on his non-Christian premises) does not tell him that he makes a "leap of faith" to find meaning. Now understand that his search for purpose has no necessary connection with facts. He has begun on a search for reality that completely divorces fact from meaning; his is the first generation that has even grown up accepting this as a possibility.

To many men, truth is not found in facts, but only in experience; and that human happenings are not able to be talked about in scientific or thinking terms. Man's own choices are used to give him meaning, although the world means nothing; man "creates his own meaning" by experience, although his existence is an "accident." Thus, man is what he "makes himself to be;" reality is whatever he "thinks" it is and has no connection with any possible "truth" or reality outside his own existence. This is the basis of the philosophy of existentialism.

## REACHING FOR MEANING

Modern man has experimented with many methods of finding meaning. The commonest forms are searches in sex, certain kinds of hard and acid rock music and the ancient Eastern way of releasing mind restrictions — drugs. Because these searches are existential (experience-centered only) they cannot be explained or talked about to another as realities that can be shared outside the experience of the one who has had them; they do not rest on any factual, logical truths that can be shown to exist outside the individuals own being. There are a number of forms of existentialism, all of which base their hopes on experiences which hopefully bring some kind of meaning, from Jaspers' "Final Experience" and Heidiggers' "Angst" to Satres' "Self-authentication" by an act of the will. They all have in common the basing of hope on a non-rational, non-logical, non-communicable act or experience. Other forms of non-logical "leaps" have been transcendental meditation, which involves the use of a mantra or meaningful word as a concentration point around which the problems of life can be left behind and serenity achieved; zen, yoga and various forms of Eastern disciplines, religions and philosophies which reach for meaning in a non-rational way. This is a horrifying pattern to find purpose and failure has often lead to suicide.

All these methods may temporarily clear the mind but will not clear the conscience. If it is true that modern man can only solve his problems of meaning by abandoning reason, then true meaning lies in the discarding of all reason — MADNESS! If meaning and the mind are opposed, then true freedom lies in insanity. Temporary thought disconnection by the use of drugs or religious experiences that require constant repetition could be better replaced by permanent disconnection — a lobotomy! Yet, most young people who begin on this search do not see where their non-rational search is leading to — the darkness of insanity. What a choice — between being a machine or being mad! Right across the world, non-Christian thought-forms that seek an answer to man and his Universe can be finally reduced to these two extremes. The terror of these two alternatives is impossible to adequately describe; it can only be measured in the exploding insanity and suicide rates.

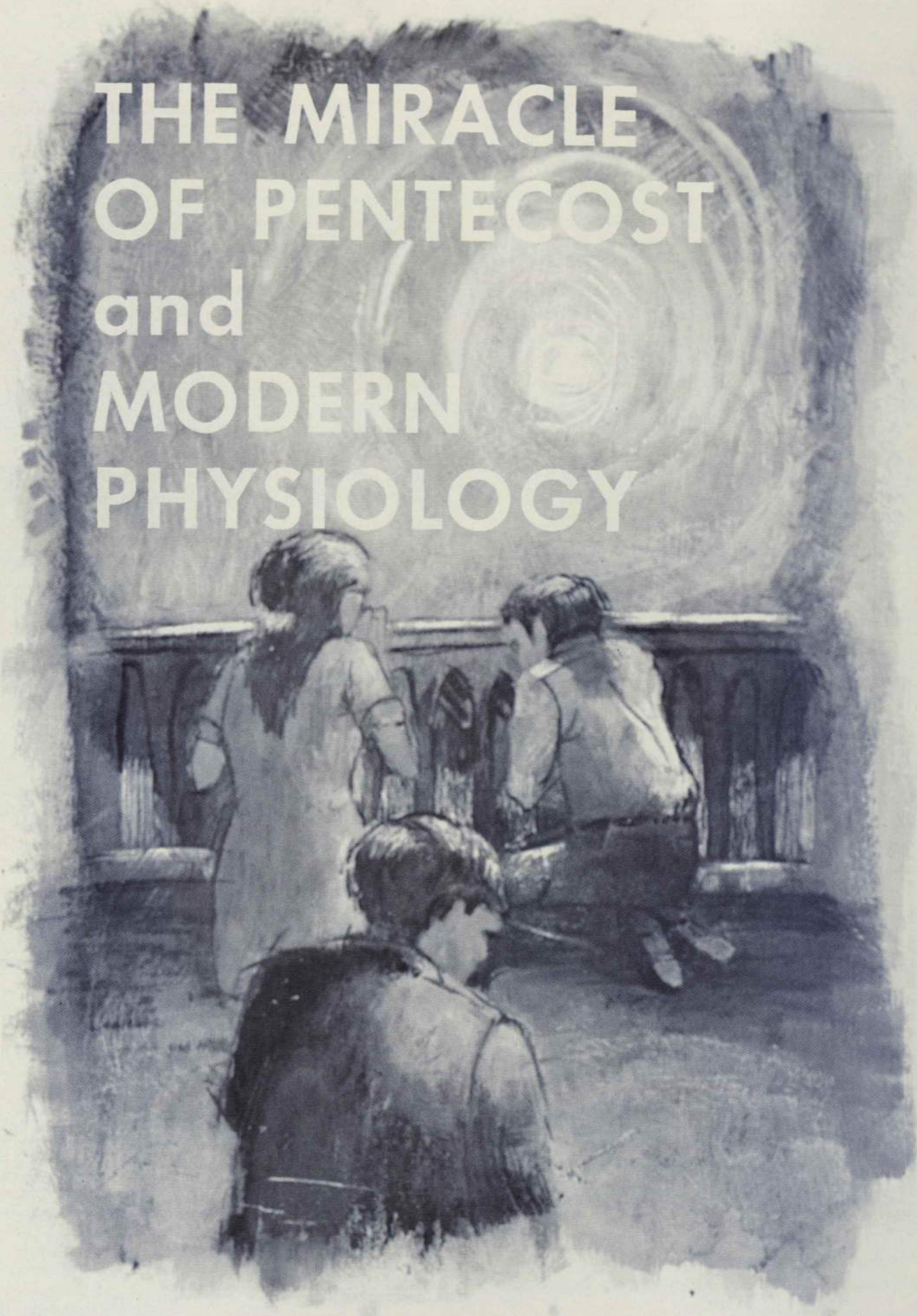
This same thinking permeates the "new theologies;" they unify in separating the "truth" of their religious systems from history and science.

"Christian" experiences must be simply "taken by faith" WHEN THAT FAITH IS NOT BIBLE FAITH, which is never "blind." True faith is founded in the character and promises of God which are open to verification by historical or scientific means as well as experience. Today, the Church is in grave danger of assimilating this thinking into its preaching or teaching and the danger is this: IF faith is not based on FACT, but only experience, how can you know whether the Christ a man has an experience with IS the Christ of the Bible, instead of a "christ" of his own imagination or a Satanic counterfeit? Without factual moorings, men in search of religious experience are dangerously open to deception. Satan's speciality has ALWAYS been to get man to suspend judgement and reason, given by God to inform him of the truth of the world and his own being; all forms of spiritistic or mediumistic work first require a surrender of reason before demonic operation. Modern man with all his technology is moving towards a mysticism of seeking divine reality by insight, intuition or illumination ALONE without content or verifiable foundations. The "god of this world" is setting it up for total takeover and the Church must open her eyes and see this "spirit of the world" for what it is! Even the word "Jesus" has become dangerous now, because through this thinking, people can create their own "christs" that have no relationship to the Living Lord of Scripture and history (Matthew 24:23-24; II Corinthians 4:1-4). The Bible revelation of an Infinite-Personal God Who is There, with the idea of absolutes and true opposites is the only meaningful and rational answer to our world's needs; modern man must be faced with the TRUTH or shown the consequences of his non-Christian thinking. We must study and pray and preach for and with a FACTUAL faith that is not simply experience-based, but founded on verifiable truth in Scripture, nature and man's being; without this there is NO ANSWER for our era! ●

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WINKIE PRATNEY was born in Aukland, New Zealand, and was dramatically converted as a teenager. At the time of his conversion he was part of a rock group. Winkie's ministry is primarily to young people. Especially effective is his talent for composing Christian lyrics to rock music. This young man has recently written a manual on discipleship training (which can be purchased from the Holy Spirit Teaching Mission's Book Room) to be used on college campuses and with Christian youth organizations. Winkie and his wife, Faye, currently make their home in Burbank, California.

# THE MIRACLE OF PENTECOST and MODERN PHYSIOLOGY



**"**Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him, shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:13-14).

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water. (But thus spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified)" (John 7:37-39).

These are two very interesting passages from the Bible. In the first story, Jesus offered the woman of Samaria the water of life — to be in her as a well of water, springing up into everlasting life.

In John, chapter 7, however, He spoke about believers in Him having **rivers of living water** flowing from their innermost beings. This experience, He said, could not be enjoyed until after He had returned to heaven and the Holy Spirit had been given on the day of Pentecost.

### A WELL AND A RIVER

We all know the difference between a well of water and a river of water. Two different words are used in the Greek of the New Testament. One means a well — springing up but not overflowing. The other means an overflowing, or flooding river.

And that's just the difference between **salvation**, or possessing the gift of eternal life, and the **fulness of the Holy Spirit** as offered to believers since Pentecost. **One** is a well of water springing up into everlasting life. **The other** is a river of water, overflowing and flooding the ground around it. The first — the well of salvation — benefits the believer; but the second — the river of living water — benefits all the people round about.

If you believe on Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord — if you have received Christ into your heart by faith — then you have this well of the water of life within you now. You are regenerated, born again, and indwelt by Jesus Christ.

However, there is a further experience. There is a fulness of the Holy Spirit, filling your entire being, and overflowing in rivers of living water.

**Now, when we receive the Holy Spirit into our lives, where does he dwell?**

Let us see if there is an answer to that question.

In the Old Testament times, God came down and dwelt in the midst of his people Israel, but first He had them build the Tabernacle, which was later transferred to the permanent building of the Temple. The Temple, as any Bible student knows, was made in three compartments — there was the **outer court** exposed to the sun and elements; then there was the **holy place**, a compartment illuminated by the seven-branched candlestick; and then, beyond the veil, there was the Holy of Holies, where the presence of God was manifested in the form of the visible Shekinah — a glorious glow above the mercy-seat.

### EVERY BELIEVER IS A TEMPLE

Now, however, the order has changed. In this dispensation God no longer dwells in a special building made with human hands. Rather, this is what we read in I Corinthians 3:16: "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you?"

The God who always sought to have fellowship with man and who had dwelt in the Holy of Holies in the temple in olden times, now seeks to dwell by His Spirit **within man**. Every born-again believer in Christ becomes the temple of the living God!

*(Continued on next page)*

## MIRACLE OF PENTECOST

*(Continued from page 21)*

Now the Apostle Paul said in I Thessalonians 5:23, that man consists of **spirit, soul and body**. These are three parts of one triune man — the three make up the whole man. Paul used three distinct words in the Greek, showing that man consists of **spirit, soul and body**.

We are all aware of our bodies — but we also know that we consist of much more than mere flesh and blood. There is also the **soul**. In our **body** we have our **world-conscious life**, but in our **soul** we have our **self-conscious life**. But then, we also have a **spirit**. That is the spirit man received from God in the very beginning. That **spirit**, is our inward capacity for **God-consciousness**.

Many live only for the desires of the **body**. Others ever seek to satisfy the demands of the soul, and to live for themselves. But man has also a **spirit** — a capacity, an ability, to know God, to love God, and to receive the blessing of God.

Just as the Old Testament temple had an **Outer Court**, and a **Holy Place**, and the **Holy of Holies** where God dwelt — so man has **body** (the Outer Court), **soul** (the Holy Place) and **spirit**, the inner sanctuary where God seeks to dwell by the power of His Holy Spirit.

### THE SEAT OF THE SOUL AND THE SPIRIT

Now it is believed by many that the brain is the seat of the soul, with its intellect, memory and reasoning powers.

Where, then, is the **human spirit**, the inner sanctuary of the temple of man? That, it is believed, is located in the very center of man's being. Remember, Jesus said, "Out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water" — not from his head, not from his mind, but from his innermost parts.

We may hold all kinds of ideas in our heads, but God seeks to dwell in man's inner being, in the human spirit. Within you there is a sanctuary — and that is where God wants to dwell. It is there that He gives you the well of the waters of salvation. It is from there that the rivers of living water will flow, when you receive the

fulness of the Holy Spirit, as they did on the day of Pentecost.

### RELIGION VERSUS REALITY

Much of our religion today is in the realm of the soul, and the intellect. It involves giving mental assent to certain doctrines. It is expressed in ceremony and formality. It is acceptable only to those who are religiously inclined. But that is not what Christ is offering to men today. Religion is man-made. It has no life and reality in it. It has no power. It is a mere form of godliness.

What God is offering to man today is something which only God can give and no man can take away. It is not confined to the human mind — it reaches down into the deepest recesses of a man's life — into his heart, into his spirit, into the inner sanctuary of a man's being.

Moreover, it is from that inner sanctuary of the spirit that the Holy Spirit flows as rivers of living water. It is from there that real praise and worship should be offered. It is from there that a Spirit-filled believer derives the power for his witness, for his ministry, for his service to God. It comes from the Holy Spirit who indwells the inner sanctuary of his life, from his innermost being.

### THE MIRACLE OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES

In Acts, chapter 2, verse 4, we read concerning the 120 disciples who were waiting in the upper room in Jerusalem: "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance."

All kinds of theories and arguments have been put forward in an effort to explain away this miracle of Pentecost. It is said by some that speaking in other tongues was for the purpose of enabling the disciples to speak to the crowds which had gathered in Jerusalem — to speak to each in his native tongue.

The fact is, however, that the disciples were speaking in other tongues in the upper room, before the crowd had gathered. Furthermore, if they desired to preach the Gospel to people, there was a **common tongue**, Aramaic, which they all understood, as proved by the fact that, when the multitude asked the meaning of the miracle, instead of each disciple continuing in the tongue as

given by the Holy Spirit, Peter stood up and preached a sermon in the common language of the day.

No, the miracle of other tongues at Pentecost is explained only by modern physiology, the science of human organism, which combines with Scripture to reveal that the rivers of living water of the Holy Spirit flow forth, not from the head, not from the mind, not from the intellect, but from the human spirit in the innermost part of man's being, after he has received the fulness of the Holy Spirit, as they did on the day of Pentecost.

### THE SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL POWER

There is a place for our minds and intellects. We are exhorted to apply our minds to the Word of God. We are to seek understanding and education in Christian matters. That is all very good and necessary. But let us never confine our Christian experience to the realm of the soul or mind. Let us never forget that the real inspiration, the real spiritual force of a man's life, springs from the depths of his being, right out of the heart of a man.

Just as the Holy Place in the Temple of olden times was illuminated by the seven-branched candlestick, so our minds, our intellects, must be illuminated by the understanding of the Bible, the Word of God. That is the realm of Christian education. But, also, just as the Holy of Holies was occupied by the Shekinah, the visible manifestation of the glorious presence of God, so our spirits, our hearts, the center of our beings, should be indwelt and empowered by the glorious Spirit of God.

God is offering to all this two-fold experience. First you are offered the experience of John, chapter 4, **The Well of Water** springing up into everlasting life. That is salvation. It is having eternal life — the life of Christ within you. Secondly, for every believer, there is further experience, when you receive the fulness of the Holy Spirit, and the well of water becomes an overflowing, flooding **River of Living Water!** ●

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LEO HARRIS is the Editor of the "Revivalist" Magazine from Adelaide, Australia. This article was taken by permission from "Logos" Volume 4, February 1970, P.O. Box 2553, Christchurch, New Zealand.

## CREATION

On the first day man created machines,  
Which helped make guns and limousines.  
He made unemployment through automation,  
Such was the result of all his creation;  
And man said it was good.

On the second day man polluted the air,  
He thought there would be room to spare.  
He killed the elk, the geese, the trout,  
Polluting til flowers would not sprout;  
And man said it was good.

On the third, the fourth and fifth,  
He flattened the land til there were no rifts.  
He paved all the land, his rule was grand,  
And made sure oil was on each shore's sand;  
And man said it was good.

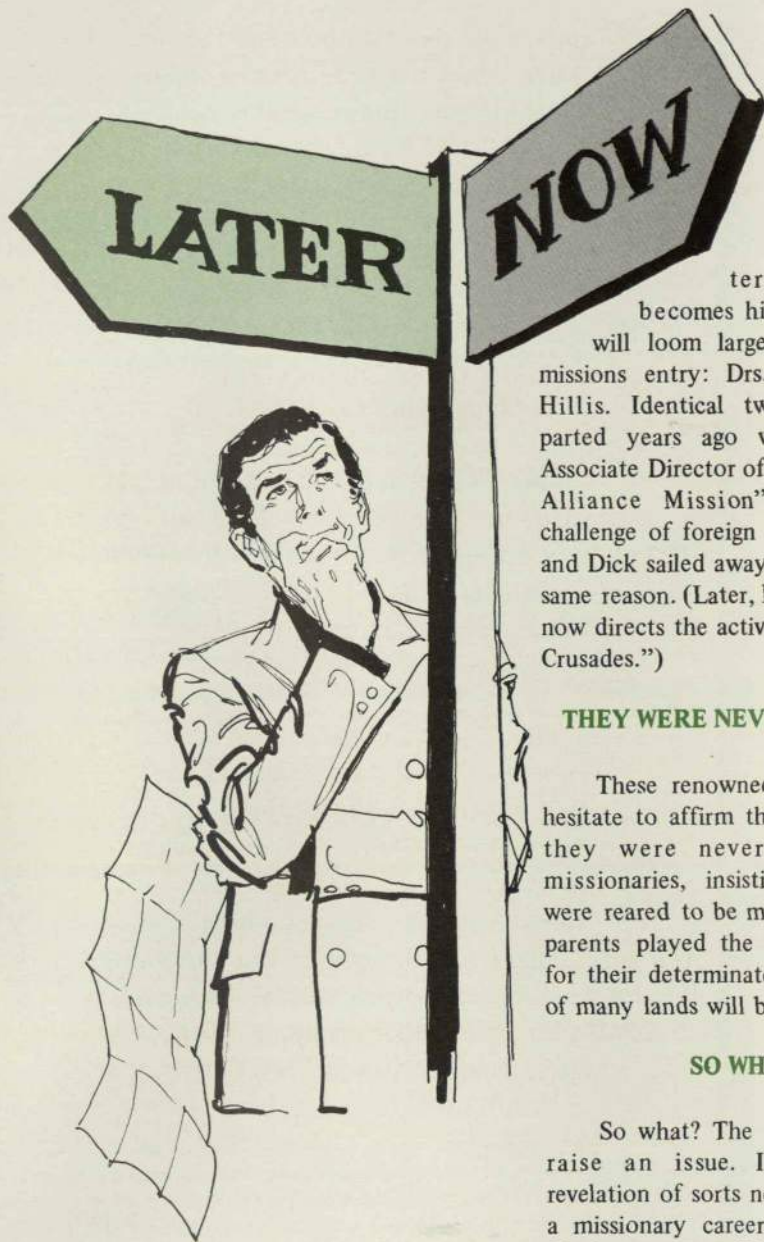
On the sixth man created a scare,  
He made the bomb and grew long hair.  
His kids were taking LSD, anything to find reality.  
They were all lying in their neon pads,  
Going mad, making new fads;  
And man said it was good.

On the seventh day man took a rest,  
For he had created a terrible mess,  
And called to God in his distress.  
And God in His Wisdom and Glory Divine,  
Destroyed the earth for all time.  
He sat upon His throne up high,  
And judged man, who thought he would never die.  
He judged the rich, the righteous, the wrong,  
All who were in that unending throng.  
And because of His son Jesus Christ,  
Many came to eternal life.  
And man said . . . "I was wrong!" ●

Carl Bauer  
Age 14 years  
March 1, 1971

No one demands a divine tap on the shoulder confirming his call to Zambia as a Peace Corpsman. No Christian GI waits to hear bells before reporting at the induction center for overseas duty. Why, then, should he demand chimes before enlisting in the Lord's expeditionary forces?

# Why Wait to Be Drafted?



By **CLAY COOPER**

When today's chapter of Americana becomes history, two names will loom large under the world missions entry: Drs. Dick and Don Hillis. Identical twins, their ways parted years ago when Don (now Associate Director of "The Evangelical Alliance Mission"), accepted the challenge of foreign missions in India and Dick sailed away to China for the same reason. (Later, Dick founded and now directs the activities of "Overseas Crusades.")

## THEY WERE NEVER "CALLED"

These renowned Hillises do not hesitate to affirm that as young men they were never called to be missionaries, insisting instead they were reared to be missionaries. Godly parents played the decisive role and for their determinate part the people of many lands will be grateful forever.

## SO WHAT?

So what? The time has come to raise an issue. Is a personalized revelation of sorts necessary to justify a missionary career for myself as a Christian youth? Is it not rank presumption for me to take Christ's Great Commission at face value. Dare I aspire to such a high calling on my own?

## LIFE'S DERAILMENT

Fogginess here can result in a life of meandering and mediocrity for many otherwise promising disciples of Christ. Existence can turn into boredom for the spiritually ambitious who suddenly find themselves sidetracked minus a mythical missionary directive. This spells dishonor for Christ and for the world, tragedy.

## HALF A WORLD TO GO

Look at the world. In this, the last half of the twentieth century, only a quarter of the earth's population comes under the broadest classification of Christian. Approximately half of our three billion inhabitants have yet to hear the Lord's message of hope made personal. Why?

## THE IMAGINARY HOBGOBLIN

One culprit responsible for the snail paced evangelization of pagandom with the Good News is that bugbear . . . "The Missionary Call." This imaginary Goblin frightens numberless talented youth away from life's most challenging, most purposeful and most rewarding service. They veer off course because of a deep conscientiousness born of the misconception, "I have never had a missionary call."

## FIGMENTS OF IMAGINATION

This delusion, a satanic ruse, is

accepted and advanced as gospel. It's like other once-believed fallacies. In Columbus' day the world was thought to be flat and the intrepid mariner was warned against the peril of sailing too near the edge. Within our living memory, the human heart could not endure speeds over forty miles an hour, or so it was thought. And, how could an atom be split when it could not even be seen? Now we know that once held, once taught "truths" were but figments of imagination.

### FATUOUS NONSENSE

It's the same with the commonly advanced opinion that requires a singular, personalized manifestation from God as the only alternative to being excluded from the ranks of those who serve in Christ's foreign ambassadorial service. I suspect no one knows where or when this myth was first fabricated but the time has surely come to stop accepting it as truth and commence denouncing it as fatuous nonsense; however deeply ingrained it is.

### SHE DIDN'T FEEL "CALLED"

A missionary father read me a paragraph from his daughter's letter and it went something like this: "I want to be a missionary but the school keeps talking about waiting for a call and I don't feel called . . ." She was attending a Bible college specializing in preparing students for world service.

Where does one find such reasoning (?) in the Bible? Certainly not in the two Scripture passages most often quoted in reaching an erroneous conclusion on this point (Isaiah 6:8 and Acts 16:9). Let's investigate these texts, being careful not to read something into them that isn't there.

### A FALSE SUPPOSITION

In the first reference the Prophet hears a voice saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" God isn't calling anyone, really. Certainly He isn't calling someone to leave home and native land and carry His message of salvation to a foreign shore. And he

isn't calling "Isaiah." His name is not uttered. God seems only to be raising a question to Himself, musing in divine soliloquy. Yet how many professors, pastors and even missionaries build the call dogma on this text. They make it say what it doesn't say at all, "Isaiah, will you go preach the Gospel in the regions beyond?" Clearly, a false supposition!

### CAUGHT THE DIVINE VISION

Actually, Isaiah was not conscripted. He was a volunteer. Having met the Lord in a crucible experience and having caught the Divine Vision over wayward people, he enlisted, "Here am I; send me."

### ALREADY A MISSIONARY

Now for a look at Paul's "Macedonian call" (Acts 16:9). Was this a call to one to become a missionary, or was it a call to one who was already a missionary? The records show that Paul was a missionary long before he ever had the vision of the man of Macedonia praying him, ". . . come over into Macedonia and help us."

### LOCATION VERSUS VOCATION

At least two years prior to this Troas experience, Paul had commenced his missionary work. The Macedonian vision could not possibly have constituted a missionary call as it is purported today. It must only be understood as a divine summons to change his location, not his vocation. Paul was already a missionary and had been since the church at Antioch first sent him out. Between then and now he had traveled hundreds of miles through Asia Minor as a worthy ambassador for Christ among alien peoples.

### BECOMES CRYSTAL GAZING

God may supernaturally direct a person to a certain place to take up a special work for He is sovereign. However, the Lord is under no obligation to verify in similar manner

His already clear-cut order to us to evangelize the heathen world in each generation. Waiting for "the call" becomes crystal gazing; the doctrine of it a fetish.

### WHY DEMAND CHIMES?

No one demands a divine tap on the shoulder confirming his call to Zambia as a Peace Corpsman. No Christian GI waits to hear bells before reporting at the induction center for overseas duty. Why, then, should he demand chimes before enlisting in the Lord's expeditionary forces? Further orders of confirmation or clarification are unnecessary. Putting out fleeces, ala Gideon, is clearly out of order. The mumbo jumbo and mysticism associated with "the foreign missionary call" must be scotched and the rationale of missionary service must take its place if the world is to be evangelized.

### WHY WAIT TO BE DRAFTED?

Ambassadors of Christ rally to the banner of the Cross. Humanity convulses while you wait. To throw your youthful strength and talent into the spiritual fray is the acme of common sense and the evidence of true discipleship. Even if there were no Great Commission ordering you into foreign service, it would still be right to go. Mankind's need would alone constitute the call. Surely you'll agree it's affrontery to wait for a voice when you already have a verse directing you, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. . . and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20; Mark 16:15).

So, commence thinking missions! Plan your curriculum vitae with this in mind. Exchange your "utmost for His highest." Determine not to be a second-bester. Enlist today! Why wait to be drafted? ●

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# TRUE DOCTRINE

By WAYNE  
CONRAD



**S**criptural Foundation:  
Deuteronomy 32:1-4; II Timothy  
3:14; Ephesians 4:15; John 7:16-17;  
I Timothy 4:1-3, 7; 6:3-5, 20-21;  
Acts 17:10-11.

Can we really ignore Christian doctrine? Whenever one mentions doctrine immediately some believers react negatively saying, "Who needs doctrine? That's what's wrong with the church. It's had too much dogma and not enough life." The reply to such a statement is yes and no. The organized church has had a lot of erroneous teaching and shallow dogma but there is no abiding depth in Christian experience without true doctrine! We all need doctrine because it is a spiritual feast. The Word of God commands true ministers to teach

sound doctrine (Titus 1:9; 2:1; I Timothy 4:13-16) and God has ordained the office ministry of teachers for the express purpose of instruction in righteousness.

Doctrine simply means teaching. All believers are told to teach the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). The early church breathed upon by the Holy Breath of God continued steadfast and daily in the apostle's doctrine (Acts 2:42-47). Thus doctrine is essential to Christian faith.

What is Christian doctrine? (See Acts 18:24-28). Since the Word means teaching it thus signifies what Christians teach. It is a systematic and orderly statement of what Christians believe about God and the world

drawn from the revelation of God in history, in creation and in the Living Word Jesus and the written deposit of that revelation in the Holy Bible (Hebrews 1:1-3). However, it is more than head knowledge. **Doctrine is not Christian no matter how orthodox it may sound until it touches the heart and relates a man in personal trust to the Living God.**

Naturally the Bible plays an important and indispensable part in Christian doctrine (Acts 17:1-12). Anyone who studies the Bible is in fact studying doctrine! A topical Bible is the most effective theology book available. Thus Christian doctrine finds its chief source in the Bible. Yet it must be remembered that it is the

Bible in its entirety and not isolated texts taken out of context. Moreover, the written Word is locked to our understanding unless the Holy Spirit illuminates our mind and His words. **Thus it is the Word plus the Living Spirit which becomes the authority and basis for true doctrine.**

**Reasons for studying Christian doctrine:** Let us remember constantly that Christian doctrine is important and very essential. First, it is vital to our growth in the Christian life. Many believers do not experience the fullness of belief in Christ simply because they are ignorant of the provisions of God. Thus a knowledge of God as He is revealed in His Word is necessary for our growth as spiritual beings (I Timothy 4:6; I Peter 2:2-3). Secondly, a study of true doctrine is necessary to prevent us from falling into errors which may seriously affect our conduct and spiritual life. Many believers have been led into false ways of life by the inability to distinguish between true and false doctrine. **What a man believes determines what a man does.** (See I Timothy 4:1-7; 6:3-5, 20-21). Thirdly, as Christians we are called upon by our Lord to be witnesses unto Him and to propagate His Gospel. This cannot be done by those who do not understand the Gospel themselves. Nobody can be an effective evangelist without an understanding of the evangel (Gospel). (See Psalm 68:11; II Timothy 2:1-2, 7, 15; II Timothy 3:14-17; Titus 2:1, 7, 8; I Timothy 4:16).

Thus it can be observed that Christian doctrine consolidates the spiritual faith and energizes the spiritual life of the believer. However, one can never enter into the pasture land of God's Word without the Teacher - even the Spirit of Truth (John 16:13). Only the Holy Spirit can teach us the true doctrine because He authored the Word and He gives it life (See John 14:26; I Corinthians 2:13; I John 2:37).

**Acid Test of True Doctrine:** John 7:16-18. It is important that every believer be equipped spiritually to discuss doctrine. The test of true doctrine is manifold: (1) It is scriptural - and is extracted from the

overall teaching of the Bible on a particular subject. (2) It is of God and thus will partake of His nature and lead men who hold it to partake of His holiness. It makes men love God supremely and to glorify Him and to see the needs of others. (3) The supreme test is Christocentric, ie, its relation to Jesus Christ. **Sound doctrine is always centered in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ.** God has promised that if we are willing to obey the truth He will give us the knowledge of true doctrine. Thus doctrine must be obeyed from the heart (Romans 6:17). When the Word is taught we should hear with ears intent upon obedience. A Scriptural formula is **hearing plus obedience equals faith.**

**True and False Doctrine:** Because correct teaching is essential to Christianity, the Bible warns the church against false teachers and their doctrines. The Word tells us not to be swayed by diverse doctrines (Ephesians 4:14). James relates that a double minded man is totally unstable and we are urged to grow up in our understanding of the oracles of God.

**Marks of False Teaching:** False doctrine generally has one or more of the following characteristics. (1) It is centered in man rather than God and thus human teachers are exalted above the Spirit of Truth. A perfect example of this in the Scriptures is the party strife in Corinth, each one of which had their teacher enshrined. (See I Corinthians 1:12-13; 3:1-11). (2) Moreover, there is usually an **attack upon some area of the doctrine of the Person of Christ**, ie, I John 2:22; II John 7, 9. To adequately judge this point one must be clear as to what the doctrine of Christ is. (See I Timothy 3:16; I Corinthians 15:1-4). The teaching of Scripture is that God was incarnate in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. He is the God-man and thus it embraces His bodily incarnation, death, burial, resurrection, ascension and return. Also it should be born in mind that any doctrine which denies that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever is wrong (Hebrews 13:7-8). (3) Thirdly, false teaching either **weakens moral requirements** (I

Corinthians 5:1-13) or overstresses them thus leading to legalism (Colossians 2:20-23; I Timothy 1:1-3, 7). (4) Inevitably false teaching is off center in the area of soteriology, ie, the way of salvation. The tendency is to **add works to salvation**. Salvation is only by and through faith in the Lord Jesus (II Corinthians 2:17; Jude 3; II Peter 2:21). Finally, false doctrine usually has its source in extra revelations above the Word or in a secret revelation of how to unlock the Word. It should always be remembered that the same Spirit who authored the Scripture is present to interpret it! Thus there is no need for new keys. The Word is not locked except to those who are perishing (See Galatians 1:6-8; II Corinthians 11:3-4; 13-15).

Believers are cautioned against false ministers and their gospels. They are commanded to turn away from (1) false teachers (I Timothy 6:3-5), (2) disorderly brethren (II Thessalonians 3:6), (3) from men who have a form of godliness but deny the power (II Timothy 3:5). Thus the true Gospel is not in words alone but in the power of the Spirit.

In contrast to the above, Christians are urged (1) to endure sound doctrine (II Timothy 4:3) store it up in our hearts and (2) to have godliness with the demonstration of the personal power of the Holy Spirit (See I Corinthians 4:20; I Corinthians 2:4-5; I Thessalonians 2:13; 1:5).

Let us give more earnest heed to the doctrines of our Lord Jesus and be established in His faith and be ready always to give an answer to those who ask us a reason for our inward hope (I Peter 3:15). ●

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WAYNE CONRAD is a young man currently attending the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary where God opened the door for a charismatic fellowship on campus and in the city. He has spoken at numerous Baptist meetings on the renewal of the Church. Recently he journeyed to San Francisco to teach new converts in the Haight-Ashbury section and in a number of Christian house ministries. For the past half year he has written Bible studies for the Bay View Heights Baptist Church in Mobile.




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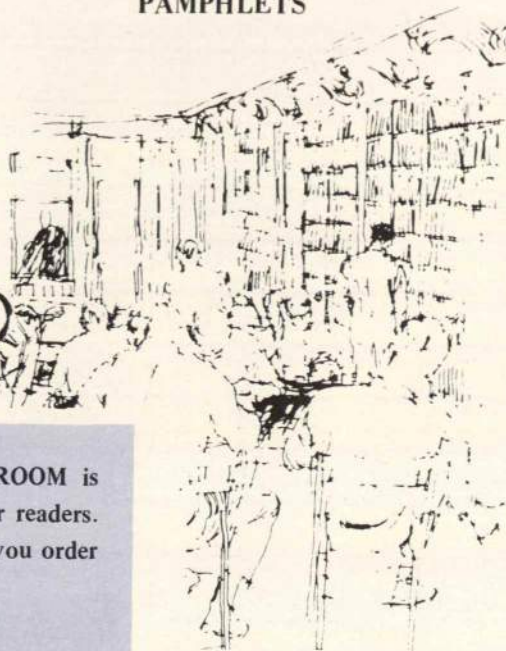
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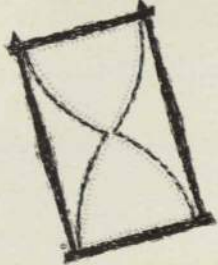
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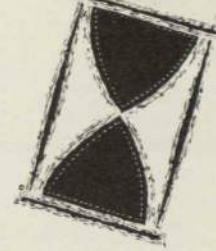
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Converted from philosophy to Christianity while serving as a soldier in World War II, Derek Prince has since devoted his life to the study and exposition of the Bible. He has served at various times as a minister, educator and missionary in five continents: Europe, Asia, Africa, North America and Australia.

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