

MOVIE ALERT: AVATAR – COULD SET UP MILLIONS TO ACCEPT THE “ANCIENT WISDOM”

The new box-office hit, *Avatar*, a kind of updated version of Star Wars, is receiving powerful reviews. *New York Times* calls it “Glorious.” *The New Yorker* says “the most beautiful film I’ve seen in years.” Millions of people will view this movie – ticket sales have exceeded 600 million dollars worldwide in just a couple weeks since its opening. This is approximately 60-80 million people (many of them young people) that have seen it thus far. *Avatar* has a strong shamanistic, spiritual component and

a message that clearly portrays the mystical and the goddess spirituality. It has the potential to set up tens of millions of people to be open to the ancient wisdom.

Before allowing your children and teens to watch this movie, please consider this warning.

Note: In January, *Avatar* won Best Picture in the Golden Globe awards. It continues to grow in popularity.

10 SCRIPTURAL REASONS NOT TO BE INVOLVED WITH RICK WARREN’S “BROAD WAY” CHRISTIANITY:

by Warren Smith

Rick Warren’s Purpose Driven movement has, in a relatively short period of time, become what *TIME* magazine has referred to as a “Purpose Driven empire.”¹ The word empire is defined in the dictionary as “supreme rule; absolute power or authority; dominion.” It also means “an extensive social or economic organization under the control of a single person, family, or corporation.”² For all intents and purposes, Rick Warren

has become the titular head—the almost emperor-like CEO—of an increasingly apostate postmodern church. But while Warren continues to be embraced by much of the world and much of the church, it is not too late for people to reconsider their involvement with him and his Purpose Driven movement. Here are ten scripturally based reasons why people with any love of the truth should not involve themselves in Warren’s “Broad Way” Christianity:

TEN BASIC REASONS

1) Rick Warren’s Purpose Driven movement offers a “Broad Way” Christianity. One of the mysteries of the Christian faith can be found in Jesus’ warning that the way to life is “narrow” and that “few” would actually find it. Jesus is telling us in advance that the “broad way”—no matter how well-intentioned—is not from Him. With Rick Warren’s reformation movement based on deeds and not creeds, everyone is invited to partake in this

—continued on page 4

LETTER TO CHARLES STANLEY: IS IN TOUCH GETTING OUT-OF-TOUCH WITH THE TRUE GOSPEL?

In a January 4, 2010 article, “Mystical Spirituality Paradigm Saw Major Growth in 2009,” Lighthouse Trails made reference to the January issue of Charles Stanley’s popular magazine *In Touch*. In that issue was an article by a Joseph Bentz who highlighted the *spiritual journeys* of two women, whom Bentz claimed were both converted to the Christian faith. Both women today can be considered significant proponents of the New Age/New Spirituality. In our January 4th article, we stated:

While we are not suggesting that Charles Stanley is a contemplative now because of the inclusion of this article, we believe it is a perfect example of a steady blending of contemplative and New Age to the point where eventually no one will notice the difference, and what will be known as Christianity will be mystical.

A few years ago, we spoke with one of Stanley’s top assistants, with the hope that he would ask Charles Stanley to read

—continued on page 17

In this issue ...

1. Movie Alert: Avatar - 1
2. 10 Scriptural Reasons Not to Be Involved with Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity - 1
3. Letter to Charles Stanley - 1
4. Mystical Spirituality Paradigm Saw Major Growth in 2009 - 3
5. Coming Soon—New Website - 5
6. Product Catalog - 7
7. Lesbian 'mother' case presents constitutional issue/14
8. Ministry Highlight - Kjos Ministries - 15
9. College Watch - 15
10. 2010 Speaking Schedule for LT Authors - 16
11. Women's Weekend Conference in Oregon Features L.T. Author—Caryl Matrisciana - 16
12. NON-Contemplative Colleges - 18
13. Book Review: When New Age Creeps into America's Colleges - 19
14. Mysticism & Medicine: A Dangerous Prescription - 20
15. Contemplative Prayer and the Evangelical Church - 21
16. Contextual Theology—Falling From Truth Through the Emerging Church - 24
17. The 'Camel Method' of Evangelism is Not Biblical - 26
18. Q & A and Letters to Editor - 27
19. Links and resources - 28
20. Writers Lighthouse Trails uses regularly - 28
21. Publisher's Corner—A year in review - 29
22. Something About Us? - 30
23. Copyright and Use of Our Material - 31
24. The Lord is calling His people out from the midst of the false - 32

Lighthouse Trails Publishing
 "A light shining in the darkness"
 Copyright ©2010

We are very delighted to finally present to you the first issue of the *From the Lighthouse* print newsletter. We have been sending out the e-edition of the newsletter since 2005 and have hoped for the opportunity to also make available the newsletter that will be delivered right to your home.

There will be no charge for any of our print newsletters (see note on page 13). If you **do not** want to *continue* getting this newsletter mailed to you, **please drop the supplied envelope in the mail to us** along with the bottom of the form on page 14 with the appropriate box check-marked.

We pray and hope this newsletter will be a blessing and a service to you.

Editors at Lighthouse Trails Publishing

OUR WEBSITES:

- Publishing: www.lighthouse Trails.com
- Blog: www.lighthouse Trails.com/blog
- Research & News: www.lighthouse Trailsresearch.com
- Research & News Blog: www.lighthouse Trailsresearch.com/blog
- For our authors' websites: www.lighthouse Trails.com/authorwebsites.htm

FREE THINGS:

1. From the Lighthouse print newsletter
2. Free color catalog—write or go to www.lighthouse Trails.com/catalog.htm to request.
3. Sign up on our website to receive our free e-newsletter, delivered to your email box 3-4 times a month.
4. Check out our free sample chapters of many of our books on our website.

CONTACT E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

- General: editors@lighthouse Trails.com
- Newsletter: newsletter@lighthouse Trails.com
- Orders: sales@lighthouse Trails.com
- Manuscripts: david@lighthouse Trails.com
- Feedback: comments@lighthouse Trails.com
- Customer Service: customerservice@lighthouse Trails.com

Lighthouse Trails Publishing
 Lighthouse Trails Research Project
 P.O. Box 958
 Silverton, OR 97381
 Office: 503/873-9092
 Fax: 503/873-3879
editors@lighthouse Trails.com

DON'T WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER?: If you do not want to receive this print version of our newsletter, just use the order form on pages 13-14; check mark appropriate box at bottom of page 14, then return to us in provided envelope.

MYSTICAL SPIRITUALITY PARADIGM SAW MAJOR GROWTH IN 2009

In 2009, we witnessed a huge growth in the contemplative/mystical New Spirituality in the Christian church.

This is not just some kind of fad or an isolated phenomenon. It is building momentum month by month, and more and more people are seeing this mystical spirituality as a valid and powerful way to experience the presence of God. Many influential and respected people within Christianity view this practice as being perfectly in accordance with orthodox Christianity. However, there is no way one can reconcile interspirituality (the "fruit" of contemplative) with the preaching of the Cross and still remain faithful to biblical fidelity.

One of the things we have noticed in 2009 is a significant blurring of the lines between outright New Age/New Spirituality and this new Christianity. An example of this blurring came to our attention just as we were about to release this newsletter. In Charles Stanley's January 2010 *In Touch* magazine, it features an article titled, "I Didn't Want to Be a Christian But . . . How running away can take you on an unexpected journey" by Joseph Bentz. In the article, Bentz (author of *Silent God*) highlights the spiritual journeys of two women, one of whom is Anne Lamott (*Traveling Mercies*). Most *In Touch* readers are probably not familiar with any problems associated with her name. But Lamott, mentioned in several Lighthouse Trails articles, reveals her true spiritual sympathies when she endorsed the back cover of the made-popular-by-Oprah book, *Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert. The book is about Gilbert's search for spirituality, which took her to India and eastern meditation. Her book is a virtual primer on New Age thinking. Lamott not only endorsed the back of her book but also has spoken with her at various events. Of Gilbert's book, Lamott states: "This is a wonderful book, brilliant and personal, rich in spiritual insight."¹ William Paul Young includes Lamott in his New Spirituality book, *The Shack*, as someone he is "grateful" for.

While we are not suggesting that Charles Stanley is a contemplative now because of the inclusion of this article, we believe it is a perfect example of a steady blending of contemplative and New Age to the point where eventually no one will notice the difference, and what will be known as Christianity will be mystical. This will fulfill Jesuit mystic Karl Rahner's sentiments when he said "The Christian of tomorrow will be a mystic, one who has experienced something, or he will be nothing."²

We at Lighthouse Trails are confident that the information that we put forth is very credible and documentable. Over the past year, we have received much opposition. One source referred to our efforts as "nonsense." Another source publicly suggested that we were "haters." Even though some may perceive

our passion and persistence as being negative or hateful, on the contrary, it is actually our love for fellow humanity that propels our efforts. If you look carefully at what we say in our books and newsletters, you will not find contempt or vindictiveness toward individuals but rather a challenge to their positions on the issues concerned.

Paul says in II Thessalonians 2 that the spiritual platform that will be reigning during the latter times prior to the time of Christ's return will be the mystery of iniquity, which we believe is occult mysticism. There are two reasons why we believe this. First, the word mystery comes from the word *mysterion* in the Greek (meaning mysticism or hidden, i.e., occult), and second, the man of sin cannot show himself to be "God" in any other way except through the occult because that is what the occult proclaims - that man is God. And it is this very underlying nature of contemplative/emerging spirituality that has presented itself as a new and better kind of Christianity that the church needs. But it actually reflects occultism and rejects the preaching of the Cross.

An example of this is when Thomas Merton, who could legitimately be called the father of modern contemplative prayer, said that if we all knew who we really were, we would fall down and worship each other because the pure glory of God is in us - in everyone of us.³

Merton's panentheistic views acquired from his mystical experiences gave him a very solid belief in the divinity of man. With contemplative prayer as his tutor, an atoning sacrifice for mankind (the Cross) waned to insignificance in his way of thinking to the point that when a Sufi master (Islamic mystic) told him that Islam did not believe in an atonement for sin or the "theory of redemption," Merton replied: "Personally, in matters where dogmatic [doctrine] beliefs differ, I think that controversy is of little value." Merton explained that such doctrines take away from the "spiritual realities" (mystical experiences) and that "much more important is the sharing of the experience of divine light, . . . It is here that the area of fruitful dialogue exists between Christianity and Islam."⁴

It is in that context that we believe that the man of sin is going to proclaim himself to be God and dispel the "gospel myth."

[Thomas] Merton replied: "Personally, in matters where dogmatic [doctrine] beliefs differ, I think that controversy [the blood atonement of Jesus Christ] is of little value."

continued on next page

Mystical Paradigm—continued from page 3

And this is why we don't stop what we are doing. This is our motivation and the calling we believe God has placed upon us.

In 2010, it is our hope that we can continue to warn others about the spiritual deception taking place today. It is also our desire that we can encourage believers in Christ to stand strong in defending the faith and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which is the only avenue through which salvation can come.

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Galatians 6:9

**10 Reasons—continued from page 1**

global effort. But biblical principles are watered-down and often cast aside.

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. (Matthew 7:13-14)

2) **Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity does not declare "all the counsel of God."** Rick Warren teaches only what he wants to teach from the Bible. As a result, there are many important teachings that he skips over, de-emphasizes, and leaves out—particularly in regard to prophecy and spiritual deception.

For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. (Acts 20:27-31)

3) **Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity does not discern the spiritual signs of the times.** Just as the leaders in Jesus' day discerned the weather but not the signs of the times, Warren discerns many of the social and economic problems, but not the spiritual signs of the times.

O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but

Endnotes:

1. from Elizabeth Gilbert's website
2. Ignacio Larrañaga, *Sensing Your Hidden Presence*, p. 11, citing Rahner.
3. (from *A Time of Departing*, quoting Thomas Merton, *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander* -1989 edition, pp.157-158)
4. Yungen, *A Time of Departing*, pp. 59-60 citing from Rob Baker and Gray Henry, Editors, *Merton and Sufism*, pp. 109-110.

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:12-14

can ye not discern the signs of the times? (Matthew 16:3)

4) **Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity is ignorant of Satan's devices.** Whereas the apostle Paul stated that he and other believers were "not ignorant of Satan's devices," Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity states that Satan's schemes are "entirely predictable."³ By being ignorant of Satan's devices, this "Broad Way" Christianity has fallen prey to Satan's devices—particularly in the area of the New Age/New Spirituality/New Worldview.

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices. (2 Corinthians 2:11)

5) **Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity does not expose spiritual evil.** Warren's version of Christianity does not sound a true warning about the deceptive spirit world and spiritual deception. There is much more to evil than the problems that Rick Warren is seeking to remedy with his Purpose Driven P.E.A.C.E. Plan. We are told to expose false prophets and false teachers, not to study under them, spiritually join with them, and further their plans.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. (Ephesians 6:12)

But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. (2 Timothy 3:13)

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. (Ephesians 5:11)

6) **Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity does not "earnestly contend for the faith."** By not declaring all the counsel of God,

continued on next page

COMING SOON—NEW WEBSITE: MISSIONS FOR TRUTH

Go into all the world ...

Lighthouse Trails plans to soon be launching our newest website, www.missionsfortruth.com, which recognizes missionaries around the world who are defending the faith by presenting the Gospel and the Word of God and refusing to adhere to the New Spirituality (e.g., contemplative, emerging, Purpose Driven, new missiology, etc.). If you know any missionaries who are in this category, please let us know, and we will add them to the new website. It is our hope that many readers will financially and prayerfully support these believers.



10 Reasons—continued from page 1

by not discerning the signs of the times, by being ignorant of Satan's devices, and by not exposing spiritual evil, Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity is not fighting "the good fight of faith."

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. (Jude 3)

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. (1 Timothy 6:12)

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (Ephesians 6:13)

7) Rick Warren and his "Broad Way" Christianity are loved by the world and its leaders. Jesus loved the world, but the world did not love Him. Jesus warned his followers they would be hated, persecuted, and even killed by the world—just as the world hated, persecuted, and killed Him. In his compromised effort to reach out to the world, Warren and his "Broad Way" Christianity have become the world.

They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. (1 John 4:5)

Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets. (Luke 6:26)

Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. (2 Timothy 3:12)

And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake. (Matthew 10:22)

If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household? (Matthew 10:25)

8) Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity is engaged in a process of ungodly change. Rick Warren describes himself as a "change agent" but in his attempt to change the world, he and his Purpose Driven movement are actually changing biblical Christianity. The Bible warns about those who push for unbiblical and ungodly change.

My son, fear thou the LORD and the king: and meddle not with them that are given to change. (Proverbs 24:21)

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)

For I am the LORD, I change not. (Malachi 3:6)

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD. (Amos 8:11)

9) Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity is frequently "double-tongued" and "double-minded." Rick Warren's attempts to seemingly distance himself from the New Age/New Spirituality while simultaneously spiritually aligning himself with New Age sympathizers is "double-tongued," "double-minded," and deceptively self-serving. In the Psalms, David refers to those who speak with "flattering lips" and a "double heart."

Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. They speak vanity every one with his neighbor: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak. (Psalm 12:1-2)

 continued on next page

10 Reasons—continued from previous page

Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. (1 Timothy 3:8-9)

A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. (James 1:8)

10) Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity is "not valiant for the truth." Warren has demonstrated, in numerous ways, that he is politically and spiritually expedient when it comes to the truth. His "Broad Way" Christianity plays to the world and embraces the world because it is the world. It does not hold fast to the truth because it is not "valiant for the truth."

And they bend their tongues like their bow for lies: but they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth. (Jeremiah 9:3)

If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. (John 8:31)

THE TIME IS HERE

The apostle Paul preached the importance of adhering to God's Word. He warned that the time would come when believers would not endure sound doctrine but would find teachers who would tell them what they wanted to hear:

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. (2 Timothy 4:2-4)

As Rick Warren's "Broad Way" Christianity seems to be headed down the "broad way" of the New Spirituality, it is very clear that his Purpose Driven movement is anything but the "narrow way" that Jesus Christ described in Matthew 7:14.

It is important to understand what is at stake here—the centrality of the Cross as the one and only true Gospel—without which the hope of salvation is lost. Jesus Christ, dying on the Cross for our sins, is the central message of the Gospel. It is the plumb line for ultimately discerning truth from error. But in discerning truth from error, it is essential that we must adhere to *all* the counsel of God (Acts 20:27).

Jesus is the one and only Savior—the one and only true Christ. Science cannot and will not prove otherwise (1 Timothy 6:20). God is not "in" everything. We are not Christ, and

we are not God. What is born of the flesh is flesh. What is born of the Spirit is spirit. Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 15:50). It is not "as above, so below." The apostle John states:

He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all. (John 3:31)

Jesus Christ is Lord. His name is above all names (Philippians 2:9). He is not the "Jesus" of *The Shack*, and He is not the "Jesus" of the New Age/New Spirituality. Most assuredly, He is not the "quantum Christ" of a deceived world and an apostate church.

The apostle Paul describes the simplicity of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:3). According to many of today's spiritual and religious leaders, it has taken humanity 2000 years to finally "get it." They say we need quantum physicists, cellular biologists, Ph.D. mathematicians, New Age channelers, and emerging postmodern preachers to finally understand what Jesus was trying to tell us back in the first century. No, this is not the simplicity that Paul was describing. This is the deceptive work of our Adversary as he tries to transform the creation into the Creator and co-opt God's creation to himself.

Unfortunately, many of today's pastors have forgotten that Satan is the god of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4) and that we are to "stand against the wiles of the devil" (Ephesians 6:11). As a result, the church is now catapulting into great spiritual deception.

For those who still rightly divide and depend upon the Word of God, the Bible warns that the coming deception will be so great that most of the world will be deceived (Revelation 13:13-14). Jesus warned that His way is *not* the broad way but the "narrow way" of continuing in His Word (John 8:31). And it is His way that leads to eternal life.

And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh. (Luke 21:28)

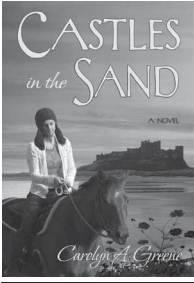


Lighthouse Trails Looking for Book Reviews of Contemplative/Emerging Books

In 2009, Lighthouse Trails began paying .05 cents a word for book reviews done by free-lance writers. Reviews should be between 1000 and 2000 words, well-written, and documented. If you would like to write a book review on a current contemplative/emerging book, please e-mail us at editors@lighthouse Trails.com with your idea. We can send you some samples of previous book reviews too.

LIGHTHOUSE TRAILS PUBLISHING—CATALOG

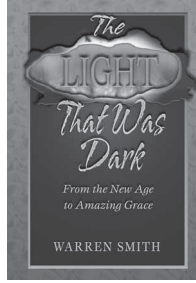
Products marked with *QD are eligible for quantity discounts - see order form.



Castles in the Sand
Carolyn Green

Code: CS, *QD
\$12.95, 224 pages

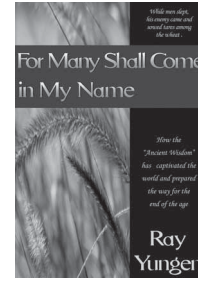
When a young Christian college girl is introduced by her Spiritual Formation professor to the writings of a young mystic girl from the 16th century, Teresa of Avila, the 21st century girl's life is dramatically affected as she plunges into mysticism. Helps readers see the true nature behind contemplative spirituality (Spiritual Formation).



The Light That Was Dark
Warren B. Smith

Code: LTWD
\$12.95, 168 pages

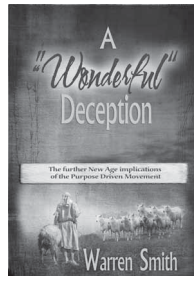
Smith was a spiritual seeker, which led him down a yellow-brick road of pied-piper spir- its, landing him in a metaphysical New Age where the Christ proclaimed wasn't the real Christ at all. Following signs and wonders, he jumped through spiritual hoops with almost flawless precision, until one day he realized that the light he was following was not light at all but rather darkness.



For Many Shall Come in My Name
Ray Yungen

Code: FMSC, *QD
\$12.95, 224 pages

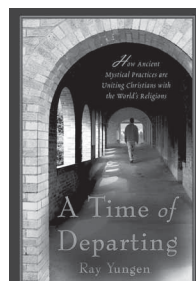
An "Ancient Wisdom" is drawing millions of people into mystical experiences and preparing the world for the end of the age. Topics include: meditation practices, Harry Potter, the law of attraction, Oprah, present day New Age prophets, New Age in education, business, and health, the New Age as a force in politics, coming persecution and more.



A "Wonderful" Deception
Warren B. Smith

Code: AWD, *QD
\$14.95, 232 pages

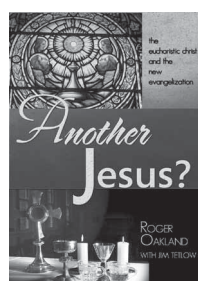
While biblical prophecy is being minimized and ignored, the "new science" is being used to prepare the world—and the church—to accept a New Spirituality and a false New Age Christ. This book explains how all the puzzle pieces are in place for the "strong delusion" described in 2 Thessalonians. Pierces right into the heart of this deception while preparing believers in Jesus Christ to effectively stand against it.



A Time of Departing
Ray Yungen

Code: ATOD, *QD
\$12.95, 240 pages

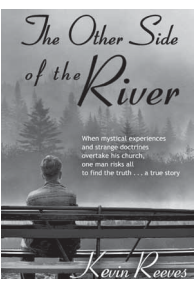
Exposes the truth about the contemplative prayer (spiritual formation) movement. Topics include: Thomas Merton and the mystics, Contemplative Prayer, Labyrinths, Spiritual Directors, Desert Fathers, Spiritual Formation, Spiritual Disciplines, Purpose Driven and the Emerging Church.



Another Jesus?
Roger Oakland

Code: AJ, *QD
\$12.95, 192 pages

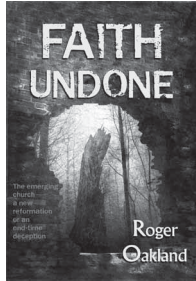
Christians think that the Christian tradition of communion is the same as the Catholic tradition of the Eucharist. But not so. The Eucharist (i.e., Transubstantiation) is a Catholic term for communion when the bread and the wine become the very body and blood of Jesus Christ, thus when taken the partaker supposedly experiences the presence of God. These transformed elements can then be worshipped as if worshipping God Himself.



The Other Side of the River
Kevin Reeves

Code: OSR, *QD
\$12.95, 232 pages

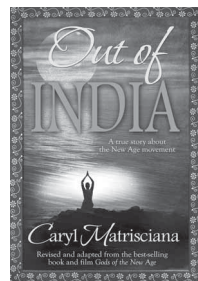
A compelling and deeply personal account of a young man's spiritual plunge into a movement called "The River," which claims to be spreading the kingdom of God through signs and wonders. Sometimes referred to as the River revival, the Third Wave, or the Latter Rain, this movement is marked by bizarre manifestations, false prophecies and esoteric revelations. Warnings of divine retribution keep many adherents in bondage and fear.



Faith Undone
Roger Oakland

Code: FA, *QD
\$12.95, 264 pages

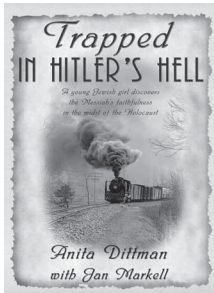
Is the emerging church movement just another passing fad, a more contemporary approach to church, or a bunch of disillusioned young people looking for answers? In fact, it is much broader than this and is influencing Christianity to a significant degree. Grounded in a centuries-old mystical approach, this movement is powerful, yet highly deceptive, as it draws its energy from practices and experiences that are foreign to traditional evangelical Christianity.



Out of India
by Caryl Matrisciana

Code: OIA, *QD
\$12.95, 224 pages

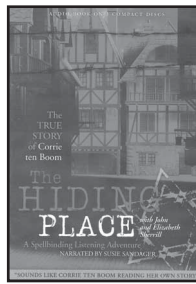
Born and raised in India, Caryl saw firsthand the effects that Hinduism had on the people. After leaving India as a young adult, she became involved in the counter-culture New Age movement, only to find that the elements of Hinduism and the New Age were very much the same. Later as a Christian, Caryl discovered that this same spirituality had entered the Christian church.



Trapped In Hitler's Hell
Anita Dittman with Jan Markell

The true story of Anita Dittman, a Jewish Christian teen in Germany during WW II. Abandoned by her Aryan father, Anita and her mother were ultimately left to fend for themselves. Anita's teenage years were spent desperately fighting for survival yet learning to trust in the One she discovered would never leave her.

Code: THH, *QD
\$12.95, 192 pages



The Hiding Place:
A listening adventure
you will never forget—3
CDS

A dramatic audio presentation adapted from *The Hiding Place*, the story of Corrie ten Boom. This 3-CD set will captivate you as you listen to a voice that is strikingly similar to that of Corrie ten Boom. Ms. Sandager's rendition will give the whole family an experience they will never forget.

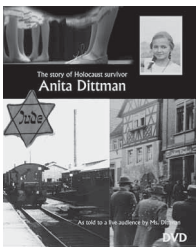
Code: HPaudio
\$19.95, 3+ hours



Things We Couldn't Say
Diet Eman

The true story of Diet Eman, a young Christian woman who joined the resistance movement in the Netherlands during WWII. Together with her fiancé and other Dutch men and women, "Group Hein" risked their lives to save the lives of Jews who were in danger of becoming victims of Hitler's "final solution."

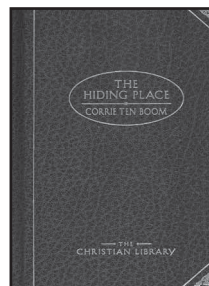
Code: TWC, *QD
\$14.95, 352 pages



The Story of Anita Dittman—DVD

In October of 2007, Anita Dittman gave her testimony in front of a live audience. This event was professionally recorded. Lighthouse Trails is pleased to present this special DVD of Anita's story. An introduction by Jan Markell makes the presentation all the more precious. These two Jewish women have found their Messiah in Jesus Christ and testify of it daily. 90 minute DVD

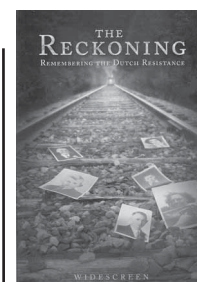
Code: AD, *QD
\$15.95, 70 minutes



The Hiding Place
Corrie Ten Boom

The true and remarkable story of a Christian family, living in Holland during World War II, who began hiding Jews in their home. Eventually, they were arrested and sent to a concentration camp. If you haven't read this book yet, or if someone in your family hasn't, you won't want to miss this story of courage and faith in such a setting that will change the way you look at life. *Leatherette hardcover, no photos*

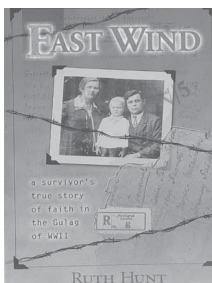
Code: HPbk
\$10.95, 245 pages



The Reckoning—DVD

War erupted in Europe as Germany invaded Poland. Eight months later, Hitler publicly broadcasted that he would not invade Holland due to their neutrality during World War I. Within hours, this promise became a treacherous lie that engulfed the small country in World War II. The international award-winning documentary captures the compelling story and eyewitness account of six survivors in war-torn Netherlands during World War II. *Telling Pictures*

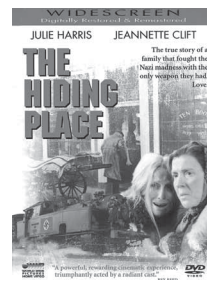
Code: TR
\$19.95, 96 minutes



East Wind
Ruth Hunt

This is the true story of Maria Zeitner Linke—a story of survival and courage in the death camps of Stalin's Gulag after World War II, where Maria spent nine years. This is the story of how one woman turned her sorrow into an opportunity for growth, ministry, and strengthened commitment to Jesus Christ. *The Berean Call*

Code: EW
\$12.95, 222 pages



The Hiding Place
Movie

Beautifully restored DVD, this inspiring true story of Holocaust survivor Corrie ten Boom has special features including five languages available, photo gallery, and Corrie ten Boom's video anthology. Full feature film on widescreen, DVD, *Retail \$19.85, 145 minutes, World Wide Pictures*

Code: HPdvd
\$19.85, 145 minutes

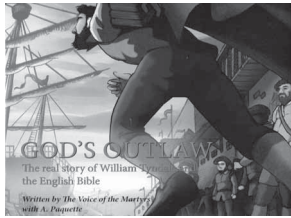


Hidden Heroes

Made up of ordinary civilians, the Dutch Resistance played an important role in saving many Jews from Nazi persecution during the holocaust. Though the subjects of *Hidden Heroes* were in their youth at the time, they were, as adults, able to retell their stories in impressive detail for this in-depth documentary. *Hidden Heroes* brings one of history's most disturbing periods to life through the testimonies of people who were actually there. *Windbourne Productions*

Code: HH
\$19.95, 50 minutes

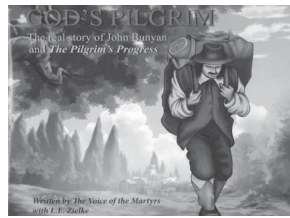
ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH



***God's Outlaw**
The true story of William Tyndale

Code: GSO
\$18.95, 40 pages

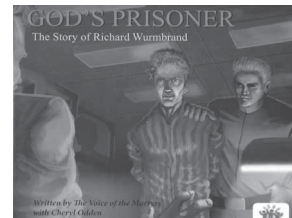
Children need to know the stories of Christianity's heroes! This beautifully illustrated children's book tells the amazing story of William Tyndale, translator of the English Bible. Read with your family about the risks he took to get God's Word into our hands. *Voice of the Martyrs Books*, for ages 8-12 years old.



***God's Pilgrim**
The story of John Bunyan

Code: GSP
\$18.95, 40 pages

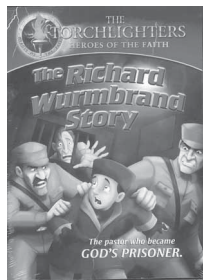
From the filthy cell in which he was imprisoned for his religious convictions, one man pens a story that has influenced millions around the world. *Voice of the Martyrs Books*, for ages 8-12 years old.



***God's Prisoner**

Code: GPR
\$18.95, 42 pages

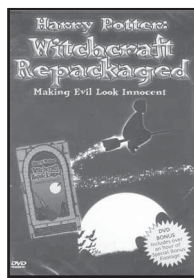
One man had the courage to stand up against a government that would not let him worship God. Because of his courage, Richard Wurmbrand was sent to prison. But Richard refused to give in to the communist leaders during his years of imprisonment. *Voice of the Martyrs Books*, for ages 8-12 years old.



The Story of Richard Wurmbrand - DVD

Code: RW
\$14.95, 30 minutes + 80 minutes of extras

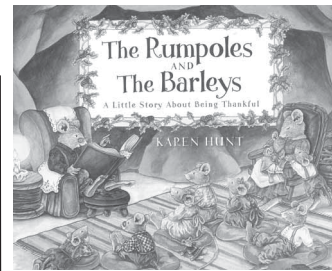
In war-torn Romania, there is only one way for churches to get the protection of the government: give their support and allegiance to the communists who are in control. Instead, Pastor Richard Wurmbrand chooses to speak up for Christ, thereby placing his own life and the lives of his family in great danger. When Richard's choice lands him in a communist prison, his faith and witness are tested to the limits. *Torchlighters*



Harry Potter - Witchcraft Repackaged - DVD

Code:HAP
\$19.95, 2 hrs

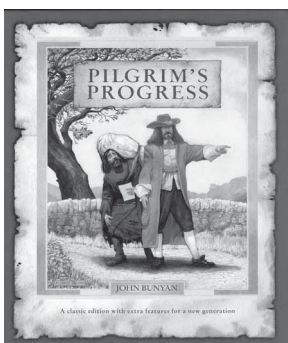
Some Christians have concluded that the Harry Potter products are harmless because they are fun. Yet God calls those who do witchcraft an abomination. A prominent British teacher's union has also publicly warned that the Harry Potter products are dangerous, as they can lead children into the occult. 120 minutes. *Caryl Productions*



The Rumpoles and the Barleys
Karen Hunt

Code: R & B
Retail - \$12.95, 32 pages

A beautifully illustrated, full color, hardcover storybook for ages 4-8 years old. An adventure for two naughty mice, who learn an important lesson in being thankful to the Lord. Based on Psalm 118:11: "O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good." The colorful illustrations in this book are outstanding. *Harvest House* (Karen is Dave Hunt's daughter.)



Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan

For young people and adults alike, the story of Christian and his companions is more than just an historic novel. John Bunyan (once imprisoned for his faith) plans for his readers to travel through this book as an adventure through the Christian life - retold on paper and in pictures.

Code: PP
\$16.95, 192 pages

A hardcover edition illustrated by some of the best lithographic artists of the 19th century. Additional features and study sections have been included to help understand the book. Christian Focus Publications (Scotland), 192 pages, hardcover

Special Note: Voice of the Martyrs Children's Books

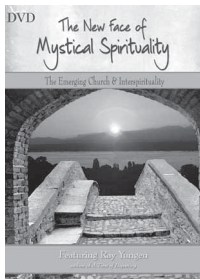
*Because of the weight and size of the Voice of the Martyrs children's books, special shipping is required. Add the following amounts to your order when ordering these books:

Media Rate (USA) 1 Book - \$3.50, 2 Books - \$3.95, 3+ Books - FREE SHIPPING

Priority Mail (USA): 1 Book - \$5.95, 2 Books - \$9.85, 3+ Books - FREE SHIPPING

Canada/Mexico First Class: 1 Book - \$7.75, 2 Books - \$13.40, 3+ Books - \$16.95

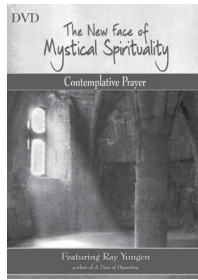
International - Other First Class: 1 Book - \$14.95, 2 Books - \$22.80, 3+ Books \$31.95



Code: NFM-EC
\$14.95, 35 minutes

The Emerging Church & Interspirituality—DVD

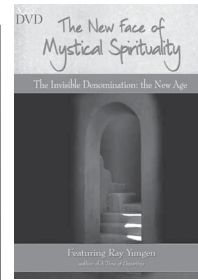
In this talk, Ray Yungen unmasks the spirituality behind the emerging church movement—its roots and its teachings. He explains the role that various popular figures have played in bringing about a spirituality that has direct ties to the New Age movement.



Code: NFM-CP
\$14.95, 50 minutes

Contemplative Prayer—DVD

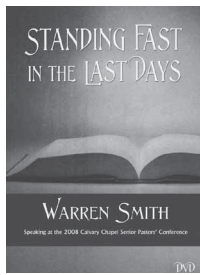
In his clear and understandable style, Ray Yungen explains the dynamics of contemplative prayer. Unlike biblical prayer, this “new” form of prayer halts the normal flow of thought processes and takes the participant into a mystical state. Yungen not only explains how this is done, but he takes us to the ancient roots of this prayer practice derived from eastern mysticism.



Code: NFM-ID
\$14.95, 45 minutes

The Invisible Denomination: the New Age—DVD

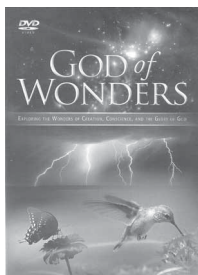
The New Age movement can be likened to “an old melody played by a new band.” What makes this new band significant for our times is that over forty million people, in the US alone, are now dancing to its melody. In this talk, Ray Yungen examines the source and nature of this modern spiritual movement and gives credible evidence to its widespread influence.



Code: STF
\$14.95, 57 minutes

Standing Fast in the Last Days Warren Smith—DVD

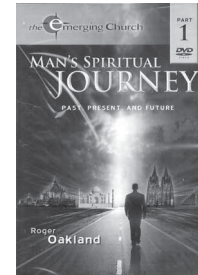
Former New Age follower Warren Smith talks to 800 pastors about the spiritual deception taking place in the church today. Covering topics such as the emerging church, Purpose Driven, the New Age, and what is being called the new spirituality, Warren exposes what may be the signs of a great falling away that the Bible has predicted will happen in the days before Christ’s return.



Code: GW
\$19.95, 85 minutes

God of Wonders— DVD

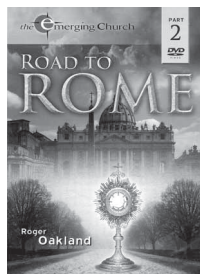
A feature-length Discovery-quality documentary. Stunning nature footage, scientific insights, and Scripture combine to reveal the wonders of our Creator as observed throughout His creation. *God of Wonders* DVD illustrates that God, the Creator, is indeed separate from man contrary to what the New Age/new spirituality is saying.



Code: EC-1
\$14.95, 70 minutes

The Emerging Church—Part One: Man's Spiritual Journey, Past, Present and Future—DVD

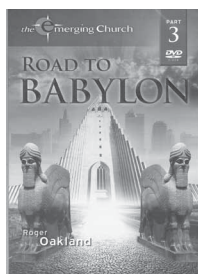
Roger Oakland documents Satan’s three-legged stool plan, which was introduced at the Tower of Babel and is being re-introduced today. This plan is setting the world up for a one-world government, a one-world economy, and a one-world religion just as Bible prophecy reveals will take place in the last days.



Code: EC-2
\$14.95, 70 minutes

The Emerging Church—Part Two: Road to Rome—DVD

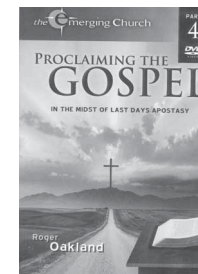
Roger Oakland presents documentation to show that many worshippers are being drawn into the Roman Catholic New Evangelization program without being aware of it. Icons, incense, candles, sacraments and images are preparing the way for the revelation of the Roman Catholic Eucharistic Christ.



Code: EC-3
\$14.95, 70 minutes

The Emerging Church—Part Three: Road to Babylon—DVD

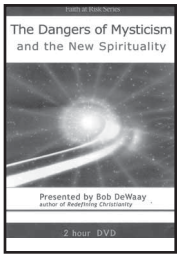
Roger Oakland addresses the fast growing emerging church movement, showing how it is seducing this generation and leading it toward a false one world religious system and a utopian kingdom of God that emerging proponents say will be established here on earth by human effort.



Code: EC-4
\$14.95, 70 minutes

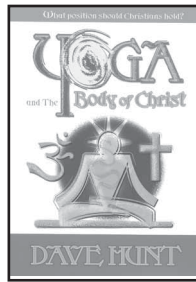
The Emerging Church—Part Four: Proclaiming the Gospel in the Midst of Last Days Apostasy—DVD

Roger provides the evidence to show we are living during the very time of the last days spiritual when “strong delusion” is underway. While documenting the dangers and pitfalls of purpose-driven, emerging, and contemplative Christianity, Roger encourages Bible believing Christians to boldly stand for the truth and to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.



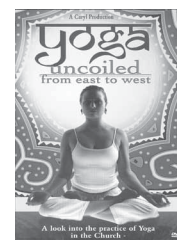
The Dangers of Mysticism - DVD
Bob DeWaay

Session 1 - Contrary to popular belief, the discerning of spirits is objective, not subjective. It is based on facts, not feelings. **Session 2** - DeWaay discusses the Theophostic ministry of several popular figures and what their teachings have in common with a mystical approach to discernment and a reliance on subjective experiences. \$14.95, 2 hours, Twin City Fellowship, Code: DM



Yoga and the Body of Christ
Dave Hunt

Every Christian should be informed of the true origins and effects of the practice of yoga and its ungodly roots in Kundalini energy—which, literally defined, means an awakening of the “Serpent Power.” \$8.95, 170 pages, softbound, The Berean Call, Code: YGbook



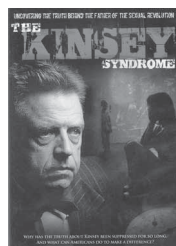
Yoga Uncoiled—DVD
by Caryl Productions
A look into the practice of Yoga in the Church

Once viewed by Christians as a pagan import from the East, yoga has now become mainstream in the church through “Christ-centered yoga classes” designed to help improve spirituality and experience “the presence of God.” But is yoga’s mysticism compatible with historic Christianity? \$22.95, 80 minutes, Code: YGdvd



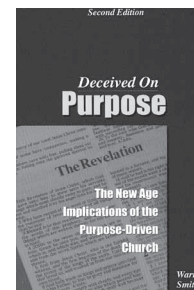
Messages from Heaven
Jim Tetlow—DVD

Tens of millions visit apparition sites hoping to encounter the Blessed Virgin Mary. Those who follow the apparitions believe Mary has come to turn us back to God, while others insist that these events are either fabrications or the working of Satan. Does the Bible anticipate apparitions, signs and wonders in the last days? Does the Word of God reveal the origin of these phenomena? \$19.95, 79 minutes, Eternal Productions, This DVD is in 5 languages, Eternal Productions. Code: MFH



The Kinsey Syndrome—DVD

This powerful and sobering film (produced by Christian Pinto and Pastor Joe Schimmel) exposes the truth about the sexual revolution that stemmed largely from the work of a man named Dr. Alfred Kinsey, considered by many to be the main influence on today’s views of homosexuality, pedophilia, and other sexually deviant behaviors. In order to bring light to this area of darkness in our society, discerning Christians need to be aware, and thus our reason for carrying the Kinsey Syndrome. \$19.95, Over 2 hours, American History Films. Code: KS



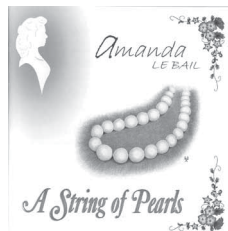
Deceived on Purpose
Warren Smith

Warns about the serious New Age implications of Rick Warren’s book *The Purpose Driven Life*. Smith takes the reader into the inner workings of today’s evangelical world as he explores the questionable interconnections of several of its top leaders. As Rick Warren goes worldwide with his purpose-driven global P.E.A.C.E. plan, Smith explains how Rick Warren’s Peace plan could eventually merge with the New Age Peace plan that is being similarly presented by key New Age leaders. \$12.95, 232 pages, Bookmasters, Code: DP



My Prize
by Dwayna Litz

Dwayna is the founder of Lighting the Way International, an evangelistic street ministry that ministers to many different people, offering them hope through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. She gave up a promising Country Western singing career to serve the Lord in ministry. Her uplifting music points to the Lord’s faithfulness. Several of the songs have an evangelistic message. Some of the titles include: *Wish I Could Give You Jesus*, *I Rest My Soul*, *Give Me Jesus*, and *‘Til the Storm Passes By*. \$12.95, 10 songs. Listen to clips of the songs online. Code: DW



A String of Pearls - Music CD
by Amanda Le Bail from UK

A collection of hymns and songs in an Irish-styling sound with piano, strings, and harp that captures the essence of the writer’s heart and the message of the Gospel. Titles include: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, *When Peace Like a River*, and thirteen others, some written by Amanda like *More Than I Deserve* and *Think on These Things*. \$16.95, 15 songs. Listen to clips of the songs at www.lighthouse-trails.com. Code: PRLS



Good News in the Badlands – Music CD
Bob Ayanian

A special Lighthouse Trails edition of this Americana gospel folk music by Bob Ayanian. Each ballad-type song has its own unique musical arrangement and points to Calvary, salvation, Bible prophecy, the end-times, the return of Christ, and an exhortation for believers to stand strong in the faith. Instruments used include: guitar, percussion, accordion, mandolin, violin, banjo, ukelele, autoharp, harmonica, and cello. \$16.95, 19 songs. Listen to clips online. Code: GN

BOOK AND DVD/CD SETS

Buy Together and Save

Set Code	Description	Reg. Price	Set Price
EC-F	Emerging Church Series by Roger Oakland (DVDs)	\$59.80	\$49.95
THH/TWC	Trapped in Hitler's Hell/Things We Couldn't Say	\$27.90	\$23.75
ATOD/FA	A Time of Departing/ Faith Undone	\$25.90	\$21.95
CS/FMSC	Castles in the Sand/For Many Shall Come in My Name	\$25.90	\$21.95
OSR/AJ	The Other Side of the River/Another Jesus	\$25.90	\$21.95
OIA/YODvd	Out of India/Yoga Uncoiled (DVD)	\$35.90	\$30.95
THH/AD	Trapped in Hitler's Hell/The Story of Anita Dittman (DVD)	\$28.90	\$23.95
ATOD/CP	A Time of Departing/NFM-Contemplative Prayer (DVD)	\$27.90	\$23.75
AWD/STF	A "Wonderful" Deception/Standing Fast in the Last Days (DVD)	\$29.90	\$25.95
NFM	The New Face of Mystical Spirituality by Ray Yungen (DVDs)	\$44.85	\$39.95
DW/PRLS	My Prize/A String of Pearls (CDs)	\$29.90	\$23.95
*KC-3	God's Outlaw, God's Pilgrim, God's Prisoner (FREE SHIPPING)	\$56.85	\$49.95
GN/LTWD	Evangelistic Duo Set: The Light That Was Dark/Good News in the Badlands	\$31.90	\$26.95

***Special Note for Kids of Courage (KC-3) Children's Books (Free Shipping for Set; Individual Books, see below:**

*Because of the weight and size of the Kids of Courage children's books, special shipping is required. Add the following amounts to your order when ordering these books:

Media Rate (USA) 1 Book - \$3.50, 2 Books - \$3.95, 3+ - Free Shipping

Priority Mail (USA): 1 Book - \$5.95, 2 Books - \$9.85, 3+ Free Shipping

Canada/Mexico First Class: 1 Book - \$7.75, 2 Books - \$13.40, 3+ Books - \$16.95 (This is a \$10 discount.)

International - Other First Class: 1 Book - \$14.95, 2 Books - \$22.80, 3+ \$29.95 (This is a \$10 discount)

ORDERING INFORMATION**Toll Free Ordering**

866/876-3910 (USA)

All other calls, including international - 503/873-9092

WHOLESALE ORDERS:

Buy 10 or more copies of any title with the "*QD" symbol, and get 40% off (50% for international orders). For larger quantity orders, check our website, e-mail, or call.

How to Order Our Books/DVDs:

3 Easy Ways (Choose one):

1. Use online store at: www.lighthouse Trails.com.
2. Call our toll free order line:
866/876-3910 (USA); 503/873-9092 for international ordering.
3. Fill out order form,* then fax (503/873-3879) or mail to Lighthouse Trails Publishing, P.O. Box 958, Silverton, OR 97381.

*Order form can also be printed from website.

- FREE SHIPPING (USA orders only - discount for intern'l)**
Lighthouse Trails now is offering Free Shipping for certain sets.
1. Buy any 3 DVDs at \$19.95 each, and get Free Shipping. For international, take a \$5 discount off shipping cost.
 2. Buy any 3 DVDs at \$14.95 each, and get Free Shipping. For international, take a \$5 discount off shipping cost.
 3. Buy all three of the Kids of Courage books, and receive Free Shipping. For international, take a \$10 discount off shipping cost.

Shipping Rates - USA/CANADA (For more rates, please go to: www.lighthouse Trails.com/shippingrates.htm or call or email.)

USA	2-3 Books/DVDs/CDs- \$5.25	CANADA	4 Books-\$16.75
4-pack DVD series - \$7.95	4-17 Books/DVDs/CDs- \$10.20	1 Book-\$4.95	4 DVD/CDs-\$6.25
1 Book First Class - \$3.95	18-24 Books/DVDs/CDs-\$13.95	1 DVD/CD-\$3.75	5-17 Books/DVDs/CDs-\$24.65
1 DVD/CD - \$2.95	25-34 Books/DVDs/CDs-\$20.40	2-3 Books/DVDs/CDs-\$10.95	

Is there a subscription fee to receive “From the Lighthouse” print newsletter?

“From the Lighthouse” print newsletter is free. There is no subscription fee. However, if you would like to donate to help offset the cost of printing and postage, we are grateful for those donations. Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 958, Silverton, OR 97381, or you may pay through www.paypal.com to editors@lighthouse-trails.com, call 866/876-3910 with your credit card number, or click on the Donate button under the **About Us** page on our website.

Lighthouse Trails is a Christian publishing company. While we hope you will read the books we have published, we provide extensive research, documentation and news on our Research site, blog and newsletter at no cost with the hope they are a blessing to the body of Christ and a witness to those who have not yet accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.

DONATING TO LIGHTHOUSE TRAILS: We are *not* a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. While we accept donations and are grateful for them, they are not tax deductible. We encourage you, as an alternative to donating, to consider ordering books or DVDs we publish and distribute –this is a great way to support us and at the same time get the warning out to more people and help defend the precious faith. We believe you will find each of our books to be well-written, properly documented, and essential for the times in which we live.

ORDER FORM

cut here

Mail or Fax to us. P.O. Box 958 * Silverton, Oregon 97381

Fax number: 503/873-3879 * Office: 503/873-9092 * Order Line (USA): 866/876-3910 * sales@lighthouse-trails.com

On items with the *QD symbol, remember to take the wholesale discount for quantities of 10 or more of any one title.

OR GO ON OUR ONLINE STORE—www.lighthouse-trails.com

NAME: _____ MAILING ADDRESS (Street or P.O. Box): _____

CITY AND STATE/PROVINCE: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____ COUNTRY: _____

PHONE NUMBER (OPTIONAL): _____ E-MAIL (OPTIONAL): _____

Code	Title of Book, DVD, CD, or Set (Print title)	Quantity	Price Each	Total Price

Total Amount for All Items\$
 Shipping Costs (see p. for shipping costs)\$
 Total Amount for All Items & Shipping\$

See Reverse Side for Shipping and Payment Information.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

LESBIAN 'MOTHER' CASE PRESENTS CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE

by Charles Butts
OneNewsNow.com

A Vermont judge has ruled that the birth mother of a Virginia girl must turn custody of the child over to a former lesbian partner.

Lisa Miller was in a homosexual relationship with Janet Jenkins in Vermont, but Miller became a Christian, gave up her former lifestyle and moved to Virginia with her daughter. Although Jenkins is not the biological mother and never tried to adopt the now seven-year-old Isabella, Vermont Judge William Cohen ordered Miller to turn the girl over to Jenkins this Friday. Attorney Steve Crampton tells OneNewsNow that Liberty Counsel argued before a Virginia judge last week, asking for Miller's protection.

"There's a very serious constitutional issue regarding whether Virginia must enforce the Vermont court order,"

the attorney notes. "So the clock is ticking quite loudly right now, and it remains to be seen whether we can get any relief in Virginia."

Virginia is a state that only recognizes the union of one man and one woman, and Crampton explains that "there is an enormous conflict between the laws of Vermont that have decreed a lesbian legal stranger to be a full parent and the laws of Virginia..."

Since the ruling, reports say that Miller seems to have "disappeared" with the child.

Copyright 2007-2010 American Family News Network - Used by permission. www.onenewsnow.com

Follow-up note: On January 22, a Vermont judge ruled that Lisa Miller must hand over her daughter, Isabella, within 30 days or face possible arrest.

ORDER FORM - CONTINUED

cut here

Billing Information

(If you are using a credit card, and your billing address on your card is different than address on front of form, please fill this in.)

Name Phone Number (optional)

Billing Address

Address Cont. City State/Country Zip

Payment Type (circle one): Credit Card Check Money Order

Credit Card Number

Expiration Date Signature for Credit Card

Shipping Address (leave blank if same as billing or same as address on front)

Name Phone Number (Optional)

Billing Address

Address Cont. City State/Country Zip

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Please find enclosed my donation to help offset the printing and postage costs for this newsletter.
Please find enclosed my order and payment (check, money order, or credit card number).
Please remove my name from this print newsletter list. I do not wish to receive it at this time.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - KJOS MINISTRIES

Founder/Director: Berit Kjos
Website: www.crossroad.to
Email: hope@crossroad.to
Date Founded: 1998

Berit Kjos is a respected researcher and the author of many books and magazine articles. She has extensively studied religious trends, today's social changes, the roots and branches of the United Nations, the rising worldwide management system, and—most alarming of all—the transformation of the church.

Berit first became aware of New Age and occult influences in our society at a 1974 conference on holistic health. As a registered nurse, she was interested in methods of healing, but soon discovered that the occult powers found in New Age methods brought bondage instead of true healing. As a parent, Berit became aware of similar New Age influences in education. She began to monitor the schools for classroom programs that

taught occultism and New Age spirituality, then began to share what she learned with other parents and teachers.

Berit's book, *Brave New Schools*, surveys the scene in today's public schools and provides guidelines for parents who are concerned about their children's education. Berit shows how myth, feeling, imagination, and politically correct stories are replacing truth, facts, logic, and history in the classroom. She is also the author of *A Twist of Faith, Your Child and the New Age*, *Under the Spell of Mother Earth*, and *A Wardrobe from the King*. Some of the topics Kjos Ministries covers:

Harry Potter, The New Age, Oprah, One-World Religion, Defending the Faith, Bible Studies, Persecution, the U.N. and Globalism, T.V., Games, Toys, and Books, Losing Our Freedom, War on Terror, Purpose Driven Movement, Education, Brainwashing, Movie Reviews and much more

COLLEGE WATCH

Lighthouse Trails has tracked for a number of years the growing number of Christian colleges and seminaries that are promoting contemplative spirituality. As an alert to our readers, we are posting several of these in this issue.

- Abilene Christian U.—TX
- Alberta Bible College—AB, CA
- Ambrose University AB, CA
- American Christian College & Seminary—Oklahoma City, OK
- Ashland Theological Seminary—Ashland, OH
- Assemblies of God Theological Seminary—Springfield, MO
- Valley Forge Christian College—Phoenixville, PA
- Azusa Pacific University—CA
- Haggard School of Theology—Azusa, CA
- Baylor University—Waco, TX
- Belmont U.—Nashville, TN
- Bethel Seminary—MN
- Biblical Theological Seminary—Hatfield, PA
- Biola University—CA
- Briercrest Bible College—SK, CA
- Calvin College—Grand Rapids, MI
- Canadian Mennonite University—Winnipeg, MB, CA
- Carey Institute—BC, CA
- Cedarville University—Cedarville, OH
- Christian Theological Seminary—Indianapolis, IN
- Cincinnati Bible Seminary—Cincinnati, OH
- Columbia Theological Seminary—Decatur, GA
- Colorado Christian University—Lakewood, CO
- Cornerstone University—Grand Rapids, MI
- Dallas Theological Seminary—Dallas, TX
- Eastern Mennonite Seminary—Harrisburg, VA
- Emmanuel School of Religion—Johnson City, TN
- Fresno Pacific University—Fresno, CA
- Fuller Theological Seminary—CA
- George Fox University Seminary—Newberg, OR
- Gordon College—Wenham, MA
- Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary—South Hamilton, MA
- Grace Theological Seminary—Winona Lake, IN
- Grand Canyon College—Phoenix, AZ
- Greenville College—Greenville, IL
- Hope International University (AKA: Pacific Christian College)—Fullerton, CA
- Indiana Wesleyan University—Marion, IN
- Intersarsity Christian Fellowship NW—Portland, OR
- John Brown University—Siloam Springs, AR
- John Wesley College—Africa
- Lincoln Christian College and Seminary—Lincoln, IL
- Liberty University—Lynchburg, VA
- Luther Rice Seminary/University—Lithonia, GA
- Mars Hill Graduate School—Bothell, WA
- Malone College—Canton, OH
- Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary—Fresno, CA
- MidAmerica Nazarene University—Olathe, KS
- Milligan College—TN
- Moody Bible Institute—Chicago, IL
- Mount Vernon Nazarene—Mt. Vernon, OH
- New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary—New Orleans, LA
- Northern Baptist Theological Seminary—Lombard, IL
- Northeastern Seminary—Rochester, NY
- Northpark University and Northpark Theological Seminary—Chicago, IL
- Northwest Nazarene University—Nampa, ID

More, go to page 18.

2010 SPEAKING SCHEDULE FOR WARREN B. SMITH AND RAY YUNGEN

Below is a partial speaking schedule for Lighthouse Trails authors Warren B. Smith and Ray Yungen for 2010. If you live near any of these areas, we hope you will get the chance to attend. All these events are offered free of charge. If you are interested in having Warren or Ray (or both) speak to your group, call us at 503/873-9092, or email at editors@lighthouse Trails.com.

February 27, 2010 (all day)

Calvary Chapel Pacific Coast
Calvary Chapel Pacific Coast & Calvary Chapel Cypress
All day conference with: Warren B. Smith, Ray Yungen, Johanna Michaelsen, Chris Quintana
6400 Westminster Blvd, Westminster, CA
(714) 890-8026; No cost.

March 18-21, 2010 (call for times)

Red River Bible & Prophecy Conference
Warren B. Smith, Jacob Prasch, David Hocking, Carl Teichrib, John Higgins
Presented by: Cornerstone Baptist Church & Crossroads Christian Fellowship/Held at: Courtyard Marriot Moorhead
1080 28th Avenue South
Moorhead, MN 56560
(701) 232-5869 or (701) 371-2416 (conference contact)
No Cost. Free will offering.

April 23-24 2010 (evening)—April 25 (all day)

Last Days Bible Conference
Warren B. Smith
Held at: Monterey Park Evangelical Free Church
3125 Catalina Blvd NE, Calgary, Alberta

(403) 948-5401
Fri 7pm-10pm Sat 9am-10pm
No cost. Free will offering

April 30—May 1 2010 (call for times)

Discerning the Times Conference
Warren B. Smith, Rob Lindsted, John Plantz, Dave Dunn, Steve Herzig
Ramada Inn, 806 Idylwyld Drive North, Diefenbaker Room
Saskatoon, Sask.
1-306-371-6877 (conference contact)
No cost. Free will offering.

May 29, 2010 (9:30am-4:00pm)

Gold Country Calvary Chapel
Warren B. Smith, Ray Yungen, Johanna Michaelsen
13026 LaBarr Meadows Rd, Grass Valley, CA 95949
(530) 274-2108; No cost. Free will offering.

July 25, 2010 (8:30 and 10:30)

Candlelight Fellowship
Warren B. Smith
5725 N. Pioneer Drive, Coeur d' Alene, Idaho
(208) 772-7755; No cost.

August 12-14, 2010 (call for times)

Pastors and Leaders Conference 2010
Calvary Chapel Johnson County
500 South Lee Ave, Olathe, KS
Warren B. Smith, Xavier Reis
(913) 829-9306, No charge.

WOMEN'S WEEKEND CONFERENCE IN OREGON FEATURES L.T. AUTHOR – CARYL MATRISCIANA



Lighthouse Trails author, Caryl Matrisciana (*Out of India*), will be the guest speaker at a women's weekend conference in Oregon this coming April. The conference will be held at the Christian Renewal Center, a beautiful 40 acres of creeks, evergreens, and lodges, nestled in the Cascade foothills near Silver Falls State Park.

Caryl's topic for the weekend will be "Finding Truth In a Confusing World." Born and raised in India, Caryl saw first hand the effects that Hinduism had on the people of that nation. After leaving India as a young adult, Caryl became involved in the counter culture, only to find that elements of Hinduism and the New Age were very much the same.

The weekend conference begins on Friday, April 16th with

dinner at 6:30 and goes until after lunch on Sunday, the 18th. The suggested donation per person is \$85, which includes 2 nights and 6 meals. A \$25 deposit will hold a spot for you. Registration forms are online at: <http://www.christianrenewalcenter.org/retreatform.htm>. Or you may call 503/873-6743 and register by phone. Please let them know that you heard about this through Lighthouse Trails.

Spots will fill quickly for this special weekend, so if you are interested and able, sign up soon. This is a great opportunity for solid teaching, fellowship, and time in the Word and prayer. Plus the Silver Falls State Park, just a couple miles away, is the home of the greatest concentration of water falls in North America.

If you are flying in for the weekend, contact CRC, and they will pick you up at the Portland International Airport.

 Charles Stanley—continued from page 1

A *Time of Departing* and/or *Faith Undone*, which we sent to the assistant for Dr. Stanley. We never heard whether he read the books, but seeing Anne Lamott's and Sara Miles' names in his current issue of *In Touch* is very disheartening. Why won't Christian leaders bring themselves up to speed on these matters and begin warning rather than abetting? On January 18, we received the following e-mail from someone who has followed Charles Stanley's ministry for many years and who is very concerned about this lack of spiritual discernment in his ministry:

The Letter to Charles Stanley (used with permission):

Dear Dr. Stanley:

Regretfully, I again must write this follow-up letter to the one I wrote you dated January 4, 2010 regarding the *In Touch* magazine article in the January 2010 issue by Joseph Bentz titled, "I Didn't Want to be a Christian but....How Running Away Can Take you on an Unexpected Journey."

I had a phone call on Friday, January 15, from a young woman on the *In Touch* staff regarding my letter. I'm sorry that I did not get her name, but I had just finished a call on which I was still focused and neglected to get her name. I may perhaps be mistaken, but I assumed she was one of the editors at the magazine. The young woman expressed the intent of the author was that God could reach anyone, and I wholeheartedly agreed with that, as I am a testament to that indisputable fact. I, in turn, expressed my concerns that the two women Mr. Bentz focuses on in the article, Anne Lamott and Sara Miles, both authors, by their own words, deeds, and indeed, lifestyles do not show a biblical conversion. In fact, the copies of interviews given by Lamott and Miles since their "epiphanies," which I am enclosing with this letter, portray no such Christian conversion. In fact, Sara Miles is a lesbian in a 14+-year "marriage" relationship with her lesbian lover. Your caller seemed surprised at that, even though it was mentioned in my previous letter, and you can read Ms. Miles' own declaration of that fact and her other unbiblical beliefs in the enclosed materials. Anne Lamott, on the other hand, is braggadocios in the fact that in each of her books she uses the "F" word in describing her "conversion," and states she was "F... by Jesus."

I had also stated in my earlier letter that I was concerned that those reading the article would purchase the 2 books noted within the footnotes without researching the authors simply because the titles appeared in the *In Touch* magazine. Your [seemingly] young staff member said rather astonishingly that she had not thought along those lines. She also said that Mr.

Bentz was a well-known and respected author and professor. I do not care what credentials Mr. Bentz carries. If in my own research I am providing you with copies of interviews from Lamott and Miles regarding their "spiritual" journeys, how could Joseph Bentz not be privy to the same information or more about their professed conversions? Did the good professor read the books they authored, or does he blindly write his articles and books without research? If he has read their books, if he did research on the 2 subjects, is it not academic arrogance to foist upon the readers of *In Touch* magazine a false impression that Lamott and Miles had a conversion to the Jesus of the Bible, which is not evident in any of their own words over the many years of their "born-again" conversions. Mr. Bentz has presented another Jesus, a false one at that, and he has done it deceptively within the pages of *In Touch* magazine.

In an article titled, "Neo-Liberal Stealth Offensive," author Phil Johnson, executive director of Grace to You ministry [John MacArthur] and lay pastor at Grace Community Church, Sun Valley, CA, states, "The gospel's most dangerous earthly adversaries are not raving atheists who stand outside the door shouting threats and insults. They are church leaders who cultivate a gentle, friendly, pious demeanor but hack away at the foundations of faith under the guise of keeping in step with a changing world. No Christian should imagine that heresy is always conspicuous or that every purveyor of theological mischief will lay out his agenda in plain and honest terms. The enemy prefers to sow tares secretly, for obvious reasons. Thus Scripture expressly warns us to be on guard against false teachers who creep into the church unnoticed (Jude 4), wolves who sneak into the flock wearing sheep's clothing (Matt 7:15), and servants of Satan who disguise themselves as angels of light (2 Cor. 11:13-15)."

I am not the only one who is waiting a response, Dr. Stanley. My close brothers and sisters in Christ are waiting, my pastor and other pastors are waiting a response, and others not known to either of us personally are waiting for a response. In fact, in the enclosed article from the morebooksandthings blog, some are questioning if *In Touch* has begun to get out of touch with the true Gospel. You may be completely unaware of Mr. Bentz's January article, although the young woman caller did assure me that you had more input than I might think you had in the day-to-day operations. I do know that Joseph Bentz has written for *In Touch* in the past. As I have stated previously, it is interesting that he used *The Message* in his *In Touch* magazine article for Scripture quotation, particularly in light of the fact that Eugene Peterson is a contemplative mystic. The one phrase that keeps crossing my mind is, "birds of a feather flock together."

-----continued on next page-----

Charles Stanley—continued from page 17

Dr. Stanley, I care about you, *In Touch*, and First Baptist Atlanta. My previous letter sets forth my high regard for you. I do hope that you will publicly quell the questions this January article has raised. I would, however, like to raise one other question. Do you perhaps have tares amongst your staff at *In Touch*? The good folks at Lighthouse Trails at lighthouse trails research.com devote their entire ministry to contemplative spirituality, emergent church, and the “New Christianity.” I highly recommend this internet site as a point of research and reference to you and your staff, if you are unaware of their ministry.

Please know that I come to you with this matter in the love of Christ and in the calling of the Holy Spirit, earnestly contending for the faith.

Sincerely, B. Anderson from Ohio



Interview excerpt with Sara Miles (2007) by *San Francisco Chronicle* taken from Sara Miles website (<http://saramiles.net/interviews/3>):

SF Chronicle: You are married to a woman who you’ve been with for almost 14 years. How do you reconcile Christian teachings that oppose same-sex relationships with your own beliefs as a Christian?

Sara Miles: Which Christian teachings? I think it’s kind of simple to say that the Bible says this or that thing is good or bad. The Bible is a collection of documents that is remade every time somebody reads it. And Christianity is a religion that over the centuries has adapted to incredibly different cultures, so people reinterpret and reinterpret and reinterpret [the Bible]. I also don’t feel like once the last pages of the King James Bible were assembled that God stopped talking to Christians. The conversation between God and the church is not finished.

Contemplative Colleges—Continued from page 15

- Palm Beach Atlantic University—Palm Beach, FL
- Pepperdine University (Bible Lectures)—Malibu, CA
- Providence College and Seminary—Otterburne, MB, CA
- Regent College—BC, CA
- Rockbridge Seminary—Springfield, MO
- Rocky Mountain College—Calgary, AB, CA
- Samford University—Birmingham, AL
- Shorter College—Rome, GA
- Simpson University—Redding, CA
- Southeastern University—Lakeland, FL
- Southwest Baptist University—Bolivar, MO
- Taylor University—Upland, IN
- Trevecca Nazarene University—Nashville, TN
- Trinity Western University—B.C. CA
- Trinity International University—Deerfield, IL
- Tyndale University College & Seminary—Toronto, CA
- Urshan Graduate School of Theology—Florissant, MO

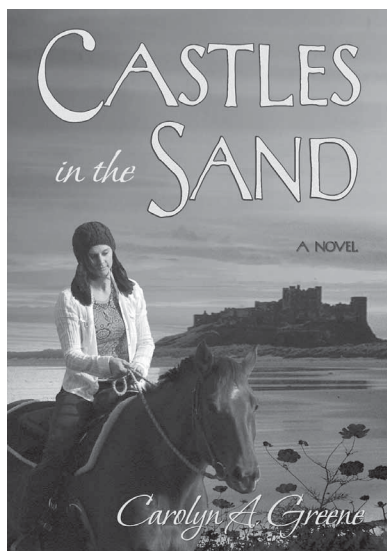
CHRISTIAN COLLEGES THAT ARE NOT PROMOTING CONTEMPLATIVE SPIRITUALITY (I.E., SPIRITUAL FORMATION)

Disclaimer: These colleges are listed, not necessarily as an endorsement or recommendation, but rather to show schools that do not have Spiritual Formation programs, nor do we know of any promotion of contemplative prayer or the emerging church within each of these schools. They also do not promote Purpose Driven materials, which are a catalyst for contemplative spirituality. Before sending your student to any of the schools listed below, please check out other criteria, including vital doctrines, at the school that will influence your student.

Ambassador Baptist College (NC)	(Online)	His Hill Bible School and Camp (TX)	The Masters College (CA)
Appalachian Bible College (WV)	Bob Jones University (SC)	International Baptist College (AZ)	The Masters Seminary (CA)
Atlanta Baptist College (GA)	Boston Baptist College (MA)	Internet Bible Institute (online)	Pensacola Christian College (FL)
Baptist Bible College & Graduate School (MO)	Cornerstone Bible Institute (SD)	Kentucky Mountain Bible College (KY)	World Evangelism Bible College and Seminary (LA)
Berean Bible Institute (WI)	Faith Baptist Bible College & Seminary (IA)	Liberty Baptist College (GA)	
Blue Letter Bible Institute	Heartland Baptist Bible College (OK)		

Special Note: If your student is not yet aware of what the New Age movement (such as contemplative, emerging, etc.) really is, you should ask them to read *For Many Shall Come in My Name*. The book is a compelling overview of the New Age movement. This book will prepare young people and adults alike to recognize dangerous and non-biblical practices and beliefs that are being introduced into countless Christian schools.

BOOK REVIEW: WHEN NEW AGE CREEPS INTO AMERICA'S COLLEGES



by **Jim Fletcher**

An Exclusive *WorldNetDaily* Commentary
Used with permission.

Castles in the Sand is a novel which, to the uninformed reader, might rank as far-fetched and unbelievable in the world of Christian doctrine. If only ...

Anyone who has attended a religion class on our college and university campuses will find the content to be colored with the personal doctrines of the professors. In *Castles*, our heroine becomes enmeshed with a wolf in sheep's clothing and her teachings.

Author Carolyn Greene has spent years studying the New Age movement and the resulting indoctrination. That she has teamed up with the brave folks at Lighthouse Trails Publishing is not an accident. Lighthouse is now a leading publisher of conservative Christian titles and serves a key role in a dwindling class of houses that are not afraid to be politically incorrect. Major kudos to Lighthouse Trails Publishing for taking on this important project.

It is frightening to discover how much has slithered into our churches, schools and seminaries ... unnoticed. Some of the practices include, but are not limited to, extasis (altered states of consciousness which are opening doors for deceptive spirits), energy healing, mysticism and "the

silence." In reality, most of these come from other religions, such as Hinduism. What is referred to as New Age often is very Old Age, even coming from misguided roots of the Catholic Church.

The novel finds young Tessa Dawson entering a Bible college that is reputable and trusted to be biblically sound. She soon discovers herself immersed in doctrines that are far from Christ-centered. The professors and other students are completely submerged in false teachings, and Tessa soon is drawn to this "new way" of discovering Christianity.

Quickly she becomes trapped in something frightening and threatening to her spiritual and physical existence as she dives deeper and deeper into Spiritual Formation 101 class.

The professor, Ms. Jasmine, a beautiful, serene and seemingly wise woman, takes a special interest in Tessa. At first Tessa is honored as she is told she is special. Feeling like an exile, orphaned at an early age, she finally finds someone who understands her.

Tessa is tutored in the theory: "Ordinary things are in the church for ordinary people, but God has other things for special people."

Ms. Jasmine shows Tessa and her students the way to God through Christian contemplative heritage: "Early Christians whose writings we treasure are the ones who first taught the practice of Contemplative Prayer. These writings are at the heart of Christianity's traditions. Of course, some say they bear a strong resemblance to Hindu and Buddhist meditative techniques, but there is nothing wrong with borrowing from other streams of spirituality and rediscovering other traditions, as the Desert Fathers did. Just because some of them, such as Saint Anthony, frequently experienced strange and terrifying psychophysical forces during prayer, doesn't mean we toss the baby out with the bathwater."

Such a quote will be familiar to anyone who's endured (and discerned) the bias that passes for teaching in so many of our nation's schools.

As Tessa soon finds, these practices open doors to the spirit realm that is not of God. As she enters the state of "ecstasy," she describes it as "a state of higher consciousness, a blissful or euphoric state that mystics experience during meditation." What starts as a new and exciting blissful way to worship soon threatens her very sanity and existence.

The author has deftly paralleled the life of Tessa Dawson with the life of St. Teresa of Avila whose "state of rapture brought her visions into the spiritual world." St. Teresa lived in Spain in the 1500s. She herself often was overtaken with "ecstasy" and would levitate even when she resisted. She heard from many "spiritual advisors" and trusted in them even though they might give her conflicting messages. She inflicted painful tortures upon herself to try to rid herself of the visions that were early on attributed to Satan.

Forced to defend herself against the Inquisition to root out heresy in the Catholic Church, she composed *The Interior Castle*—a book of instruction for her nuns. She describes the soul as a castle and how one must journey into the interior seven rooms through prayer.

St. Teresa's teachings were accepted by the Catholic Church. She was later declared a Doctor of the Roman Catholic Church for her teachings on prayer and is the patron saint of headaches, having suffered with them throughout her life.

This novel is not a dull introduction to New Age teaching. It has a believable, action-packed plot with characters that are interesting and likable. Many times an author with modest writing ability will attempt to educate through a novel and fail to make it hold the reader's attention. That is definitely not the case with this fantastic effort. I would recommend this book for anyone interested in learning about New Age teachings, or to give to someone that is already caught in its trap. *Castles in the Sand* is definitely an eye-opener!



© 2010 *WorldNetDaily*. Used with permission.

MYSTICISM & MEDICINE: A DANGEROUS PRESCRIPTION

By Jan Markell
Olive Tree Ministries

The East has convinced the West that the greatest thing they have to offer is Eastern-style meditation. Because some Christians lack discernment, what we have is the complete hijacking of biblical meditation in favor of the Eastern brand. This is risky because it involves blanking out your mind and, by default, allowing anything in.

I guess this shouldn't be shocking when a major news story of 2009 had this headline: "More U.S. Christians Mix Eastern and New Age Beliefs." While you may think this is being done only by liberal Christianity, think again! It crosses all denominations. This is not just some kind of fad or an isolated phenomenon. It is building momentum month by month, and more and more people are seeing this mystical spirituality as a valid and powerful way to experience the presence of God. Many influential and respected people within Christianity view this practice as being perfectly in accordance with orthodox Christianity.

I have already presented the story of the Bethel symposium in early November that suggested there might be a common bond or "common ground" between Christianity and Buddhism in the realm of meditation. The symposium had information about "Christian Zen" but NO information about authentic, biblical meditation. There was no solid gospel presented in 75 minutes.

I have learned that hundreds of once-solid Bible colleges are flirting with the mystical, so why should my school be exempt?

In 2009, we witnessed a huge growth in the new "mystical spirituality" so popular today. Mysticism is often presented as a gimmicky way to get closer to God through practices that are ungodly. Almost without exception, the practices are presented by professing Christians. One cannot help but recall all the Bible verses that warn of this. "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ" (Col. 2:8).

Newsweek magazine picked up on the explosion of the mystical last year by writing that we're all Hindus now. Newsweek says, "A recent poll data show that conceptually, at least, we are slowly becoming more like Hindus and less like traditional Christians in the ways we think about God, ourselves, each other, and eternity."

Minnesota has always been proud of our wonderful Mayo Clinic, just 90 minutes south of me in Rochester, MN. In 1989 it saved my own life. But in recent years they, too, have brought in the mystical and now they are peddling an "iPhone medita-

tion app." It begins with a 50-second video explaining mystical meditation, reinforced by an iconic image of a sandy, palm tree-lined beach with cool blue water. It then instructs users on breathing and meditation techniques using a series of chimes, tones, and blue or white circles.

This device also allows users to flip through 10 "healing thoughts" at the base of the main screen, which users can share via Twitter, e-mail, etc.

People who are at any major medical clinic are compromised in many ways: Physically, emotionally, and even spiritually. They may have been laboring for months or years with chronic illness or terminal illness. They are open to anything that could change their health circumstances. Offering them a "meditation routine" that comes out of Hinduism, Buddhism, and the "New Age" is hardly helpful. It is strikingly harmful. I wrote about many related issues in my 1993 book *Waiting for a Miracle*. I understand this phenomenon better than most and that was affirmed by the hundreds of thank you notes I have received over the years.

It's doubtful that such outfits as the Mayo Clinic would promote the Bible and healing Bible verses. Instead, Mayo Clinic and related institutions import Eastern meditative practices that can seriously harm those who tap into them. At a time when one is facing a health crisis, all the world has to offer them is a device called a "mobile app." I spent two weeks at this wonderful clinic in 1994, before this trend hit. Had it been around and had I tapped into this "mobile app" in the years when I was struggling for physical and emotional healing, I would have tapped into energy forces that were destructive and not restorative.

Watch for the "meditation" craze to only get worse as Satan's demonic forces try to seduce and take people away from the gospel and biblical meditation. When you hear national Christian leaders inch closer and closer to embracing false meditation and all things mystical, make a mental note to scrutinize their programs, books, etc. Send out warnings to loved ones. No one is beyond being deceived. Sadly, the paranormal is the new normal. Be "watchmen on the wall" and sound a warning.

The good news is that God is only a prayer away. We don't need "iPhone mobile apps" to go deeper with God. Technology is overstepping its bounds! But the tragedy is that it is being used to allegedly "restore" sick people via risky meditative practices, and these folks tapping into it—out of desperation—may not have a clue! (For more from Jan Markell, visit at www.olivetreeviews.org.)



©2010, Olive Tree Ministries. Used with permission.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER AND THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

* **Note:** This is the original research paper that launched Lighthouse Trails. If you have friends or family who are struggling to understand your concerns about contemplative spirituality (i.e., spiritual formation), this basic point-by-point paper may help.

by Ray Yungen and the Editors at Lighthouse Trails

There is a practice that is becoming more and more popular within the evangelical church. It is called contemplative prayer or centering prayer. Youth organizations and seminaries are particularly drawn to this, thus impacting the Christian youth in this country. Furthermore, there is a snowballing effect wherein contemplative prayer is being accepted and endorsed by more and more evangelical leaders, often based not on their own experience and understanding but rather on the word of other respected leaders who in turn may not have fully researched this subject. I would like to address four points, each with quotes from various published works.

I. A Distinct Connection Between New Age, Eastern Religion, and the Occult, and Contemplative Prayer

First of all, New Agers, occultists and those practicing Eastern religion regard contemplative prayer as part of their *own* movement. The following excerpts are all from New Age, Eastern thought and occultic books and magazines:

Those who have practiced Transcendental Meditation may be surprised to learn that Christianity has its own time-honored form of mantra meditation . . . Centering Prayer, draws on the spiritual exercises of the Desert Fathers, the English devotional classic, *The Cloud of Unknowing*, and the famous Jesus Prayer . . . Reliance on a mantric centering device has a long history in the mystical canon of Christianity.¹

An Omega Institute Mind, Body, Spirit book endorses several of the authors we are concerned about: Thomas Keating, Thomas Merton, Henri Nouwen, Julian of Norwich, John of the Cross and Teresa of Avila. Omega Institute is the nation's largest holistic, New Age learning center.²

The meditation of advanced occultists is identical with the prayer of advanced mystics: it is no accident that both traditions use the same word for the highest reaches of their respective activities—contemplation . . . occultism is defined as the science of mystical evolution; it is the employment of the hidden (i.e., occult) mystical faculties of man to discern the hidden reality of nature, i.e., to see God as the all in all.³

Kundalini has long been known in Taoist, Hindu, and Buddhist spirituality . . . Since this energy (Kundalini energy) is also at work today in numerous persons who are devoting themselves to contemplative prayer, this book is an important contribution to the renewal of the Christian contemplative tradition.⁴

II. Main Proponents of This Movement Have Been Aligned With Eastern Religion

Secondly, major proponents of the contemplative prayer movement have been or are aligned with Eastern religion. Henri Nouwen and Thomas Merton, considered by many to be devout Christians, have intermingled their form of Christianity with Zen Buddhism and Sufism. In Henry Nouwen's own book, *Pray to Live* (pp. 19–28) he describes Merton as being heavily influenced by Hindu monks. The following also confirms this:

[Thomas] Merton had encountered Zen Buddhism, Sufism, Taoism and Vedanta many years prior to his Asian journey. Merton was able to uncover the stream where the wisdom of East and West merge and flow together, beyond dogma, in the depths of inner experience. . . . Merton embraced the spiritual philosophies of the East and integrated this wisdom into (his) own life through direct practice.⁵

[T]he author shows a wonderful openness to the gifts of Buddhism, Hinduism and Moslem religion. He discovers their great wisdom for the spiritual life of the Christian and does not hesitate to bring that wisdom home.⁶

This mystical stream (contemplative prayer) is the Western bridge to Far Eastern spirituality . . . It is no accident that the most active frontier between Christian and Eastern religions today is between contemplative Christian monks and their Eastern equivalents. Some forms of Eastern meditation informally have been incorporated or adapted into the practice of many Christian monks, and increasingly by other Christians.⁷

III. Methods in Contemplative Prayer Are Same As In Eastern Religion

The *methods* of contemplative prayer are the same as those used in Eastern religion. According to the book, *The New Age Movement and The Biblical Worldview*, meditation, chanting mantras, body disciplines, guided imagery, religious mysticism, self-realization and at-one-ment are all part of New Age and Eastern practices.

-continued on next page

 Contemplative Prayer—Continued from page 21

The techniques . . . silence, appropriate body posture and above all, emptying the mind through repetition of prayer—have been the practices of mystics in all the great world religions. And they form the basis on which most modern spiritual directors guide those who want to draw closer to God. “Silence is the language God speaks” ... says Thomas Keating who taught “centering prayer” to more than 31,000 people last year. Keating suggests that those who pray repeat some “sacred word,” like God or Jesus.⁸

The twentieth century, which has seen so many revolutions, is now witnessing the rise of a new mysticism within Christianity. . . . For the new mysticism has learned much from the great religions of Asia. It has felt the impact of yoga and Zen and the monasticism of Tibet. It pays attention to posture and breathing; it knows about the music of the mantra and the silence of samadhi ... Now what I say of Zen is true also of Christian mysticism. It also leads to an altered state of consciousness where all is one in God.⁹

Do not reflect on the meaning of the word; thinking and reflecting must cease, as all mystical writers insist.¹⁰

The repetition (of a word or phrase) can in fact be soothing and very freeing, helping us, as Nouwen says, “to empty out our crowded interior life and create the quiet space where we can dwell with God.”¹¹

IV. Authors in the Evangelical Church Who Have Latched Onto Contemplative Prayer

Some very popular authors in the evangelical church have latched on to contemplative prayer as a way to go deeper with God. Richard Foster and Brennan Manning hold workshops and speak in churches, seminaries and youth gatherings all across the country:

Christians ... have developed two fundamental expressions of Unceasing Prayer. The first ... is usually called aspiratory prayer or breath prayer. The most famous of the breath prayers is the Jesus Prayer. It is also possible to discover your own individual breath prayer....Begin praying your breath prayer as often as possible.¹²—Richard Foster

In *Celebration Of Discipline* by Richard Foster, Foster makes several recommendations of books that are “helpful” to read. He heartily endorses Tilden Edward’s book, *Spiritual Friend*.

Here are some quotes from that book:

This mystical stream (contemplative prayer and other monastic traditions) is the Western bridge to Far Eastern spirituality (and to that of Sufis Moslems ...); This exchange, together with the more popular Eastern impact in the West through transcendental meditation, Hatha Yoga, the martial arts, and through many available courses on Eastern religions in universities, has aided a recent rediscovery of Christian apophatic mystical tradition. . . .

Thomas Merton in many ways helped pave the way for recent serious Christian investigation of these potential Eastern contributions. . . .

The new ecumenism involved here is not between Christian and Christian but between Christians and the grace of other intuitively deep religious traditions.¹³

In *The Signature of Jesus* by Brennan Manning, we read:

A simple method of contemplative prayer (often called centering prayer ...) has four stepschoose a single sacred word ... repeat the sacred word inwardly, slowly, often.¹⁴

During a conference on contemplative prayer, the question was put to Thomas Merton: “How can we best help people (not just Christians) to attain union with God?” His answer was very clear. “We must tell them that they are already united with God.” Contemplative prayer is nothing other than coming into consciousness of what is already there.¹⁵

In a *Discipleship Journal* interview, Brennan Manning recommends William O’ Shannon’s book, *Silence on Fire* and Thomas Keating’s book on centering prayer, *Open Mind, Open Heart*.¹⁶ In *Silence on Fire*, O’ Shannon blasts the Christian, biblical God and the atonement of Jesus Christ:

This is a typical patriarchal notion of God. He is the God of Noah who sees people deep in sin, repents that He made them and resolves to destroy them. He is the God of the desert who sends snakes to bite His people because they murmured against Him. He is the God of David who practically decimates a people ...He is the God who exacts the last drop of blood from His Son, so that His just anger, evoked by sin, may be appeased.

 continue on next page

Contemplative Prayer—continued from page 22

This God whose moods alternate between graciousness and fierce anger. This God does not exist.¹⁷

It is important to note here that the purpose of contemplative prayer is to enter an altered state of consciousness in order to find one's *true self*, thus finding God. This true self relates to the belief that man is basically good. Christian proponents of contemplative prayer teach that all human beings have a divine center and that all, not just born again believers, should practice contemplative prayer.

[T]he God who dwells in our inner sanctuary is the same as the one who dwells in the inner sanctuary of each human being.¹⁸—Nouwen

Deep within us all there is an amazing inner sanctuary of the soul, a holy place, a Divine Center.¹⁹—Foster quoting Thomas Kelly

[E]ven people who have yet to turn their lives over to Jesus Christ—can and should practice them [spiritual disciplines, i.e., contemplative practices].²⁰

[I]f I find Christ, I will find my true self and if I find my true self, I will find Christ.²¹

Scriptures that refute this:

But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart: and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, and blasphemies.— Matthew 15: 18,19

For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.— Mark 7: 21,22

The Bible also clearly warns against repetitive prayer and also tells us we cannot find God unmediated.

But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.—Matthew 6:7

For *there* is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.—I Timothy 2:5

CONCLUSION:

In this and the last century so many Christians have died for their faith in other countries. Many of these Christians have departed from Islam, Hinduism, or Buddhism to meet their executioners. What would these martyrs of the faith say to us if they could speak of our current western practice of intermingling Christianity with Eastern religion and the occult? The Bible warns against such mixture:

Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.—I Corinthians 10: 21

Jesus never taught his disciples techniques to attain oneness with God, but rather spoke of Himself as the Way. In fact, the entire New Testament was written to dispute the idea that people can reach God through religious efforts and reveal that Jesus Christ is the only answer. In conclusion, the contemplative movement is founded on the following false premises*:

The heart of man is basically good and (it has a divine center). vs. The heart of man is wicked.—A Denial of the Sin Nature

Man can find God through his own efforts regardless of what religion he has embraced. vs. Jesus referred to Himself as the Way, the Truth, and the Life.—A Denial of the Atonement

God is delighted by chanting and similar methods of meditative prayer. vs. Jesus said that He isn't.—A Denial of God's Personal Nature

With false premises as these, the conclusions can only be erroneous. The Bible creates the proper understanding and balance of 1) man as sinful, 2) needing a redeemer, 3) with whom he can have an abundant life.

* According to logic, every "argument" must have a premise and a conclusion, but if your premises are false, it will inevitably lead you to a false conclusion.



Go to next page for endnotes of this article

Do you have suggestions on how we can improve our print newsletter? We would love to hear from you. You can use the enclosed envelope to write to us, or you can e-mail us at: comments@lighthouse-trails.com. We welcome your input.

Endnotes for Contemplative Prayer & the Evangelical Church - continued from page 23

1. Ronald S. Miller and Editors of *New Age Journal*, *As Above So Below*; 1992; pp. 52 & 53.
2. Joan Duncan Oliver, *Contemplative Living*; 2000; p. 113.
3. Richard Kirby, *The Mission of Mysticism*; 1979; p. 7.
4. Philip St. Romain, *Kundalini Energy and Christian Spirituality*; 1995; This excerpt is in the foreword by Thomas Keating; p. 7.
5. *Yoga Journal* magazine; January/February by Michael Torris; 1999.
6. Thomas Ryan, *Disciplines For Christian Living*; 1993; This excerpt written in the foreword by Henri Nouwen; p. 2.
7. Tilden Edwards, *Spiritual Friend*; pp. 18-19.
8. *Newsweek*; January 6, 1992; article called "Talking to God"; p. 44.
9. William Johnston, *The Mystical Way: Silent Music and the Wounded Stag*; 1993; foreword and p. 336.
10. Willigis Jager, *Contemplation: A Christian Path*; 1994; p. 31.
11. Jan Johnson, *When The Soul Listens*; p. 93.
12. Richard Foster, *Prayer: Finding The Heart's True Home*; p. 122. On pages 156-159 Foster discusses contemplative prayer in depth.
13. Tilden Edwards, *Spiritual Friend*; pp. 18-19, 164, 72.
14. Brennan Manning, *The Signature of Jesus*; p. 218.
15. *Ibid*, p. 211.
16. *Dicipleship Journal*; Issue 100, 1997, p. 78.
17. *Silence on Fire*; pp. 109-110.
18. Henri Nouwen, *Here and Now*; p. 22.
19. Richard Foster, *Streams of Living Water*; 1998; beginning of chapter two—a quote by Thomas Kelly.
20. Richard Foster, *Celebration of Discipline*; p. 2.
21. Brennan Manning, *Abba's Child*; p. 125.

CONTEXTUAL THEOLOGY – FALLING FROM TRUTH THROUGH THE EMERGING CHURCH

by Roger Oakland

In order for the emerging church to succeed, the Bible has to be looked at through entirely different glasses, and Christianity needs to be open to a new type of faith. Brian McLaren calls this new faith a "generous orthodoxy."¹ While such an orthodoxy allows a smorgasbord of ideas to be proclaimed in the name of Christ, many of these ideas are actually forbidden and rejected by Scripture.

Doug Pagitt believes that he is part of a cutting-edge response to the new postmodern world. It's a response he and others see as completely unique, never having been tried before in the history of man. Pagitt states:

It seems to me that our post-industrial times require us to ask new questions—questions that people 100 years ago would have never thought of asking. Could it be that our answers will move us to re-imagine the way of Christianity in our world? Perhaps we as Christians today are not only to consider what it means to be a 21st century church, but also and perhaps more importantly—what it means to have a 21st century faith.²

Many people I meet at conferences who come from a wide variety of church backgrounds tell me the church they have been attending for years has radically changed. Their pastor no longer teaches the Bible. Instead, the Sunday morning service is a skit or a series of stories. The Bible seems to have become the forbidden book. While there are pastors who do still teach the Bible, they are becoming the exception rather than the rule.

Emergent leaders often say the message remains the same, but our methods must change if we are going to be relevant to

our generation. The measure of success for many pastors today is how many are coming, rather than how many are listening and obeying what God has said in His Word. Let's consider how Doug Pagitt uses the Bible in his own church. He states:

At Solomon's Porch, sermons are not primarily about my extracting truth from the Bible to apply to people's lives. In many ways the sermon is less a lecture or motivational speech than it is an act of poetry—of putting words around people's experiences to allow them to find deeper connection in their lives... So our sermons are not lessons that precisely define belief so much as they are stories that welcome our hopes and ideas and participation.³

What Pagitt is describing is a contextual theology; that is, don't use the Bible as a means of theology or measuring rod of truth and standards by which to live; and rather than have the Bible mold the Christian's life, let the Christian's life mold the Bible. That's what Pagitt calls "putting words around people's experiences." As this idea is developed, emerging proponents have to move away from Bible teachings and draw into a dialectic approach. That way, instead of just one person preaching truth or teaching biblical doctrine, everyone can have a say and thus come to a consensus of what the Bible might be saying. Pagitt explains:

To move beyond this passive approach to faith, we've tried to create a community that's more like a potluck: people eat and they also bring something for others. Our belief is built when all of us engage our hopes, dreams, ideas and understandings with the story of God

----- continued on next page -----

Contextual Theology—continued from previous page

as it unfolds through history and through us.⁴

You may not have heard the term before, but contextual theology is a prominent message from the emerging church. In his book, *Models of Contextual Theology* (1992), Stephen B. Bevans defines contextual theology as:

... a way of doing theology in which one takes into account: the spirit and message of the gospel; the tradition of the Christian people; the culture in which one is theologizing; and social change in that culture, whether brought about by western technological process or the grass-roots struggle for equality, justice and liberation.⁵

In other words, the Bible in, and of itself, is not free-standing—other factors (culture, ethnicity, history) must be taken into consideration, and with those factors, the message of the Bible must be adjusted to fit. As one writer puts it, “Contextual theology aims at the humanization of theology.”⁶ But two questions need to be asked. First, will the contextualizing of Scripture cause such a twisting of its truth that it no longer is the Word of God, and secondly, is Scripture ineffective without this contextualization? To the first, I give a resounding yes! And to the second, an absolute no. The Word of God, which is an inspired work of the living Creator, is far more than any human-inspired book and has been written in such a way that every human being, rich or poor, man or woman, intelligent or challenged will understand the meaning of the Gospel message if it is presented in their native language; and thanks to the tireless work of missionaries for centuries, the Gospel in native languages is becoming a reality in most cultures today.

Dean Flemming is a New Testament teacher at European Nazarene College in Germany and the author of *Contextualization in the New Testament*. In his book, he defends contextual theology:

Every church in every particular place and time must learn to do theology in a way that makes sense to its audience while challenging it at the deepest level. In fact, some of the most promising conversations about contextualization today (whether they are recognized as such or not) are coming from churches in the West that are discovering new ways of embodying the gospel for an emerging postmodern culture.⁷

These “churches in the West” Flemming considers “most promising” are the emerging churches. He would agree with Bevans’ model of theology, but he has an answer to the emerging church’s dilemma. He states:

Many sincere Christians are still suspicious that attempts to contextualize theology and Christian behavior will lead to the compromising of biblical truth ... we must look to the New Testament for mentoring in the task of doing theology in our various settings.⁸

There’s good reason some Christians are suspicious. But it can seem harmless at first because Flemming suggests the answer is in the New Testament, which he believes should be used as a prototype or pattern rather than something for doctrine or theology. New Testament theology is always open for change, he says, but we can learn how to develop this change by studying New Testament stories and characters. The premise Flemming presents of contextualizing Scripture is that

since cultures and societies are always changing, the Word must change with it and be conformed to these changes. But I would challenge this. The Bible says the Word is living, active, and powerful:

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

And if the Word is this powerful, then it is stable and eternal as well. God, in His magnificence, is the Author of Scripture, and He surpasses time, culture, and societies. Contextualizing says people and cultures change, and therefore God’s Word must change. But, on the contrary, it’s people who need to change to conform to Scripture. If we really believe that the Bible is God’s Word, this would be clear to see; but if we think to ourselves that the Word is not infallible, not inspired, then contextualization would be the obvious expectation.

While certain parts of the Bible may be read as poetry (as Pagitt suggests), for indeed the Bible is a beautifully written masterpiece, it is also a living mechanism that is not to be altered—rather it alters the reader’s heart and life. It is much more than putting words around people’s experiences as emergents suggest.

The Bible tells us God is always right; it is man who is so often wrong. When we rely upon human consensus, we will end up with man’s perspective and not God’s revelation. This is a dangerous way to develop one’s spiritual life—the results can lead to terrible deception.

Brian McLaren put it well when he admitted it isn’t just the way the message is presented that emerging church proponents want to change ... it’s the message

continued on page 31

THE 'CAMEL METHOD' OF EVANGELISM IS NOT BIBLICAL

Editors Note: The following article is the first in a series we will be presenting on “the new missiology.”

By Paul Proctor

Featured Writer for *NewsWithViews.com*

I have addressed, on numerous occasions, the Church’s ongoing efforts to reinvent Christianity into a global religion of Results & Relationships by using the powers of pragmatism and consensus to artificially grow itself into something more widely accepted by the world instead of faithfully proclaiming the Word of God “in season and out” as we are commanded to do in 2nd Timothy 4:2. The leaders of the new spirituality and its church growth movement have always had a hard time avoiding the “wide gate” and “broad way,” choosing clever methods of “evangelism” that are not only incompatible with God’s Word, but also prove them unwilling to trust Him with the increase – ever looking for something more clever, spectacular and impressive to glory in and boast about to a watching world.

[F]or men to search their own glory is not glory.— Proverbs 25:27b

So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.—I Corinthians 3:7

There’s no better example of this than a recent story from The Baptist Standard where Christians are encouraged by a “veteran missionary” to employ what’s called “The Camel Method” to evangelize, where the Quran is used, instead of the Bible, to share Christ with Muslims – a method that reportedly utilizes “selected verses” and “doesn’t teach or lecture, but asks questions.”

Isn’t this exactly what dialectically trained facilitators have done for years in many seeker-sensitive and purpose driven churches to draw and hold large and diverse crowds of potential converts with a lot of non-offensive opinion sharing and relationship building in order to find common ground and greater tolerance for one another through compromise and group dynamics? That may be the agenda of global socialists at the United Nations, but it’s not the Bible’s agenda for Christians or the gospel of Jesus Christ. I’m sure the UN would have no problem with a program like this where sidelining biblical truths for a contrived unity is celebrated and syncretism is the spirituality of choice.

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.—Proverbs 14:12

According to the report, missionary Kevin Greeson, who “has served 16 years with the Southern Baptist International Mission Board,” is “working to start Christian movements among Muslims in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal...” adding that “his goal focuses less on individual conversions and more on starting spiritual movements that will result in thousands of Muslims becoming followers of Christ.”

Greeson: “Our generation can’t afford to be satisfied or happy with winning one lost person to Christ. There are so many lost people, we can’t be happy with that.”

I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.—Luke 15:10

Certainly most Christians would like to see more than one person they witness to repent and receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, but where in God’s Word are we commanded to “take up thy Quran” and “go ye into all the world and start a movement?” Sure it sounds lofty and high-minded in our Big Box culture where consumers like to impress each other and get the most for the least; but isn’t this more of an exercise in ecumenical egomania and spiritual sleight-of-hand than humble obedience to Jesus’ call to “take up thy cross” and “go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature?”

It’s alarming enough that the Bible is set aside with this method of “evangelism,” but it’s outright heresy that Jesus Christ is presented as the son of Allah, since Allah was widely recognized and worshipped as a pagan moon god even before there was a Mohammed.

How then can the truth set you free if it begins with a lie?

For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.—Isaiah 55:8-9



©2010 Paul Proctor. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Paul Proctor is a regular featured writer for NewsWithViews, an online Christian news source. You may access Paul’s archive of articles by going to: <http://www.newswithviews.com/PaulProctor/proctorA.htm>.

Q & A

Q: We are in prayer for a relative who is a leader in the Emergent Movement... his son is planning on attending Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. Do you know if this college supports the Emergent beliefs?

A: Concordia College in MN is part of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America), which is a conduit for the new spirituality. At Concordia, they have a spiritual formation emphasis, which is usually one of the main avenues through which contemplative/emerging enters a school. One of the programs at Concordia is the Call to Serve Project (funded by the pro-emerging Lilly Foundation). Their list of Resources includes a number of emerging church leaders such as Phyllis Tickle.

Q: I see from your website that you believe Contemplative Christianity is

a threat. Why would becoming still and quiet and thinking of God be a bad thing? Doesn't he say, "Be still and know that I am God?" Do you have Scriptures that explain why you would oppose people seeking God as a present reality in their lives?

A: We're not against simply sitting still and quiet (in the actual sense of the words); what we are warning against is a practice that involves stopping the normal flow of thought through repetition of words or phrases or focusing on the breath (both of which are highly unnatural). This mantric type of *prayer* leads to a spiritual perception that parallels those in Eastern religion and occultism (i.e., God is in everything and everybody.)

Q: As more churches succumb to the Emergent Church ideology and spiritual

corruption, do you know of any good, sound, solid churches that are not falling under the spell of this movement. I live in the San Fernando valley of the Los Angeles area. Presently I'm attending a Presbyterian church, where the Pastor & I have spent HOURS haranguing and arguing (politely, of course) about this Emergent Church problem, something he "claimed" to know nothing about but I found that he DID. He's walking a very dangerous line right now, so I don't know which way he really intends to go. Any suggestions?

A: Because this new spirituality (contemplative/emerging) is making fast inroads into most evangelical denominations, it is best to approach this on a church-by-church basis. A phone call to a church with some succinct questions may give you the answers you need to make a decision.

Charles Stanley

On the very day I read your article "Letter to Charles Stanley: Is *In Touch* Getting Out-of-Touch with Biblical Gospel?" I received the current *In Touch* magazine in the mail. The second article is titled "Love War" and it's written by John and Stasi Eldredge. I have followed Stanley's ministry for years, and I re-dedicated my life to Christ while listening to Dr. Stanley preach the Gospel. This is heartbreaking but not shocking. Over the years his magazine has become a launching pad for anyone promoting the latest book, whether contemplative, emerging church, or otherwise. Apparently anything goes as long as it's tagged "Christian". Thank you for the hard work you are doing contending for the faith.—T.C.


Manhattan Declaration

After reading your email and links I have contacted the Manhattan Declaration website and asked that my signature be removed from the declaration. I don't know if they will do this or not. I'm now sorry that I did not investigate it further before signing it. I believe in "the cause" but do not believe

in the "false unity" it promotes. Thank you for alerting me and others about this. K.J.

Giving Thanks for the Saints

We join with you and give thanks for the believers throughout the world, some suffering terrible torture and facing death each day. We pray too that we will all be able to stand strong for the Lord in these perilous times.

[My husband and I] give thanks for you all at Lighthouse Trails and for helping to wake us up! The Lord has given us new life and opened our eyes, which had been so blinded. We can't thank you enough. We pray for you - that the Lord 'would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height - to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God...' Eph 3:16-19—K.R. Australia



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Joel Rosenberg Sharing Platform with Emergent/Contemplatives

This is a sticky situation. I don't believe either Peretti or Rosenberg are deceived by new spirituality. Perhaps, they do feel they can make a difference with their messages at this conference. I trust the theology of both. I'm sure they just want God to use them. I know I could not share a platform with Paul Young [*The Shack*], etc.! We need to pray for them to speak boldly, soundly and biblically.

I have seen this pattern with these emergents of mixing sound evangelical speakers with those who are promoting emergent and new spirituality. I think this is an intended tactic to confuse listeners, draw them in and introduce them to the "not so bad" heresy.

Peretti and Rosenberg aren't dumb and I think they're probably just trying to be faithful with their messages at this "opportunity."

But, I understand the confusion it can cause in listeners. The times we are in are extremely troubling. Thanks for your continued warnings. D.G.

ONLINE LINKS AND RESOURCES

* While we believe the ministries below offer biblically sound research, news, and information, please use discernment whenever you search for information, and weigh all things against Scripture. As Christians, we must “Prove all things” and “Try the spirits” through the screen of the Word of God (1 Thessalonians 5:21; 1 John 4:1). You will be able to get addresses and other contact information from the listed websites

Research Ministry Websites:

- The Berean Call - www.thebereancall.org
- Christian Research Network: www.christianresearchnetwork.com
- Critical Issues Commentary: <http://cicministry.org>
- Deception in the Church: www.deceptioninthechurch.com
- Discernment Ministries: www.discernment-ministries.org/
- Eastern Regional Watch Ministry: www.erwm.com
- Kjos Ministries: www.crossroad.to
- Let Us Reason Ministries: www.letus-reason.org
- Lighthouse Trails Research: www.lighthouse-trails-research.com
- Media Spotlight: www.mediaspot-light.org
- Olive Tree Ministries: www.olivetree-views.org
- ReachOut Trust: www.reachout-trust.org (UK)
- Spiritual Research Network: www.spiritual-research-network.com
- Take Heed Ministries: www.takeheed.net (Northern IE)
- Understand the Times: www.understandthetimes.org

Informative Blogs:

- Apprising Ministries: <http://apprising.org>
- Contend4thefait: <http://contend4thefait.servantsofjesuschrist.com>
- CrossTalk: www.crosstalkblog.com
- Discernit: <http://kimolsen.wordpress.com>

- Frances and Friends: www.francesandfriends.com
- From the Lighthouse: www.lighthouse-trails-research.com/blog
- Great Adventure Ministries: <http://gaminc.wordpress.com>
- Lighting the Way: <http://lightingtheway.blogspot.com>
- More Books and Things Blog: <http://morebooksandthings.blogspot.com>
- Muddy Streams: <http://muddystreams.wordpress.com>
- News 4 the Masses: <http://news4themasses.wordpress.com>
- Slaughtering the Sheep: <http://slaughteringthesheep.wordpress.com>
- True Discernment Blog: <http://truediscernment.com>
- Watcher’s Lamp Blog: <http://watcherslamp.blogspot.com>

News and Current Events

- CrossTalk: www.crosstalkblog.com
- Mission America: www.mission-america.com
- Koenig’s International News: <http://watch.org/index.html>
- NewswithViews: www.newswith-views.com
- One News Now: www.onenewsnow.com
- WorldNet Daily: www.wnd.com

Signs of the Times

- Adullam Films: www.adullamfilms.com
- As in the Days of Noah: <http://asinthedaysofnoah.blogspot.com>
- Babylon the Great is Falling: www.babylonthegreatisfalling.net

- Bible Guidance with Johan Malan: www.bibleguidance.co.za
- Congdon Ministries: www.internet-bibleinstitute.com
- Hope for Today with David Hocking: www.davidhocking.org
- In the Days with John Higgins: www.intheday.com
- Moriel Ministries: www.moriel.org/Moriel_USA/Moriel_USA.html
- Prophezine: www.prophezine.com
- Rapture Ready: www.raptureready.com

Radio:

- Jan Markell: KKMS, Minneapolis: www.olivetreeviews.org/radio_show.shtml
- Ingrid Schlueter: CrossTalk, VCY America: www.crosstalkamerica.com
- Francis Swaggart: SonLife, Baton Rouge, LA: www.francesandfriends.com
- Radio Free Church: www.radiofreechurch.com
- Stan Monteith: Radio Liberty, Soquel, CA: <http://www.radioliberty.com>
- Search the Scriptures Daily: Dave Hunt, Tom McMahon: www.thebereancall.org/radio
- Southwest Radio Church: Bethany, OK: www.radioliberty.com

Forums:

- Rapture Forums: www.raptureforums.com/forum/index.php
- Discern the Time Forum: www.discernthetime.com/messageboard

WRITERS THAT LIGHTHOUSE TRAILS USES REGULARLY:

ANITA DITTMAN	CARYL MATRISCIANA	ELIZABETH MCDONALD	LARRY DEBRUYN	RAY YUNGEN
BERIT KJOS	CHRIS LAWSON	INGRID SCHLUETER	LINDA HARVEY	ROGER OAKLAND
BILL RANGLES	CHRISTIAN PINTO	JAN MARKELL	MIKE OPPENHEIMER	TAMARA HARTZELL
BOB DEWAAY	DAVE HUNT	JOHN LANAGAN	MIKE STANWOOD	TED KYLE
CARLA KAMPS	DIET EMAN	KEN SILVA	PAUL PROCTOR	TOM MCMAHON
CAROLYN A. GREENE	DUSTY PETERSON &	KEVIN REEVES	PHILIP GRAY	WARREN B. SMITH

PUBLISHER'S CORNER—A YEAR IN REVIEW

2009 LIGHTHOUSE TRAILS PUBLISHING IN REVIEW

In 2009, we released our first novel, *Castles in the Sand* by Canadian author Carolyn A. Greene. As far as we know, *Castles in the Sand* is the first and only novel to address the dangers of contemplative spirituality. Many families have contacted us to say how this book has helped them as parents and also their teens and college children understand the contemplative issue.

We also released A “Wonderful” *Deception* by Warren B. Smith. This cutting-edge book is vital to understanding the New Age/New Spirituality that has pervaded the Christian church through various avenues including the Purpose Driven movement, the emerging church, and the “new science” (which states that God is IN all things). The chapter on *The Shack* gives stunning information.

Also in 2009, we presented *The New Face of Mystical Spirituality*, the 3-DVD lecture series by Ray Yungen. Filmed at the Faith at Risk conference at Twin City Fellowship in Minneapolis, MN, these DVDs are packed with Yungen’s research on the New Age, contemplative spirituality, and the emerging church and its interspiritual implications.

Here are a few other things we worked on in 2009 and will continue in 2010:

CHILDREN’S COLLECTION

Our motto at Lighthouse Trails is “bringing light to areas of darkness in the church and in our society.” We seek always to do this with the preaching of the Cross as our motivating drive. As we are approaching the end of our 7th year, we have stayed within the parameters of this mission. But we have broadened the scope of this mission. For instance, in

2009 we began developing a children’s collection of books and DVDs. In this new collection, we are trying to choose books and DVDs that will help build the faith of children by introducing them to stories of courage in the faith. This is why we have added the *Kids of Courage* books by Voice of the Martyrs, which include the stories of John Bunyan, William Tyndale, and Richard Wurmbrand. While we are being very careful and prayerful about which books and DVDs to add to our children’s collection, we hope to add more in 2010.

LIGHTHOUSE TRAILS MUSIC

We have also begun to build a small music collection. Lighthouse Trails music is going to be by believers in Christ who are not compromising their message in order to gain popularity and whose lyrics have a clear message of the preaching of the Cross. And, while we will have a variety of music styles, we will choose musicians who seek to glorify the Lord both with their lyrics and their instruments, not succumbing to the worldly confusion and upheaval that so much of modern-day music has.

We have been blessed to have found some extremely gifted singers and musicians. Our present collection includes Amanda LeBail from the UK, whose Irish-styling sound is absolutely beautiful and comforting with hymns and worship songs, James Sundquist, who is an incredible classical guitarist, and Bob Ayanian, whose Americana gospel folk music always points to the Cross in an uplifting and inspiring manner, not to mention the astounding musical talent of his music team.

The latest music we are adding to our collection is Dwayna Litz’s new CD, *My Prize*. Dwayna is a street evangelist, who speaks up against spiritual deception and

ministers to many people through her street ministry, Lighting the Way International. Currently, she is developing evangelism teams in various cities across the US. Dwayna was a child music prodigy who started singing at the age of 2. As a young adult, she gave up a promising country western singing career to serve the Lord in street ministry. Dwayna not only has courage and determination, she has a very beautiful voice and song-writing ability.

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Persecution of the saints has happened since the inception of the church. Many people don’t even realize it has and still is happening. We believe that as we draw closer to the time of Christ’s return, this persecution will only increase. For the most part, believers in the Western world have not had to suffer serious persecution for their faith, but that could easily change at any time. We are presenting this collection with the hope of helping believers to have courage and stand strong in their faith.

In 2009, we added a DVD called *The Radicals*, a true, independent film about a nun and a priest who left the Catholic church to follow biblical Christianity and who paid dearly for it.

We also are hoping to add *Foxe’s Book of Martyrs* to the persecuted church collection, but as of yet we have not found an edition that is not compromised in some fashion. One edition we found had the endorsements of several Christian leaders inside its cover, but a number of these leaders are promoting contemplative/emerging spirituality. It is very sad, and wrong, when Christian publishers do this to otherwise valuable literature. Since *Foxe’s Book of Martyrs* is in the public domain, we are considering publishing our own edition of this book.

continued on next page

SOMETHING ABOUT US?

In the year 2000, we learned that a mantra-style meditation coupled with a mystical spirituality had been introduced to the evangelical, Christian church and was infiltrating youth groups, churches, seminaries, and Bible studies at an alarming rate.

In the spring of 2002, we began Lighthouse Trails Publishing with the hope of exposing this dangerous and pervasive mystical paradigm—six months later we published our first release, *A Time of Departing* by Ray Yungen.

As we learned more about contemplative spirituality (also known as the spiritual formation movement), we came to realize it had entered the church through a number of avenues—Willow Creek, Purpose Driven, and the emerging church just to name a few of the more prominent ones.

Because the premise of this spirituality is both pantheistic (God is all things) and panentheistic (God is in all things), thus refuting the Gospel message of the Cross, we are compelled to address this issue—Lighthouse Trails Publishing and our research ministry, Lighthouse Trails Research Project, are here as a service to the body of Christ.

Since publishing *A Time of Departing*, Lighthouse Trails has grown from one couple, David and Deborah Dombrowski,

to over twenty out-of-house editors, writers, and authors. We have been able to publish several other books, including some biographies that we consider exceptionally compelling, challenging, and faith-building. For instance, one of them, *Trapped in Hitler's Hell*, is the true story of a Jewish teen who became a Christian and lived through the Holocaust in Germany. The lessons we can learn from that time in history are vital and should not be forgotten.

Each of the books and DVDs we publish and/or distribute has been prayerfully chosen ... and we believe the message in each one will help equip Christian families and loved ones with biblical truth and inspiration to stand in courage and strength as you defend the faith and walk with Jesus Christ. We join you in that effort, knowing that it is only by His grace we are able to do so.

Lighthouse Trails Publishing editors, staff, and authors

You may view our doctrinal statement and mission statement on our website on the “About Us” page.

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.” John 8:12

Publishers corner - continued from previous page

HAUNTING BUT NECESSARY

One of the areas that Lighthouse Trails has hoped to “bring to the light” is the area involving the sexual abuse and pornography of children. This is one of the reasons we report on the present-day homosexual movement—we believe our society has so devalued the sanctity of life and also of marriage that children have become the greatest victims of such immoral attitudes. This is why we decided to add *The Kinsey Syndrome*, a haunting but necessary film, to our Sensitive Issues collection. This film, produced by Adullam Films, documents how our Western society changed its views regarding sexuality and children, with a subsequent deterioration in our nation’s effort and ability to protect its children.

CREATION/EVOLUTION

We believe that evolution, homosexuality, mysticism, panentheism, pornography, and abortion are all the “fruits” of the New Spirituality, which is a “religion” against our Creator and His plan for salvation (Jesus Christ). One of the films we began carrying in 2009, *God of Wonders*, is an extraordinary project by Eternal Productions that points to God, the Creator, with magnificent footage of various aspects of creation. This DVD is evangelistic to the unbeliever and uplifting and informative for the believer.

MAILING LIST & CATALOG

We hope our growing collection of books, DVDs, and CDs will help Lighthouse Trails readers stand strong in the faith and be encouraged in these perilous times in which we live. If you are on our customer mailing list, you will receive new catalogs and flyers throughout the year. If you aren’t receiving our catalog and new product mailings, you can request a free catalog and that will get you on the list.

Finally, we wanted to mention that in 2009 we created a blog for our publishing company. It is interactive, which means you can leave comments. We would love to hear from you.

COPYRIGHT AND USE OF OUR MATERIAL

Lighthouse Trails Research Project exists as a service to the body of Christ and to those searching for truth. We hope to help equip believers in their defense of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and of the biblical Christian faith. While all of our own articles (and books) are copyrighted material, we want the material to be available to be used on other websites, in newsletters, newspapers, on radio, in articles, and in books.

The following guidelines should be applied:

1. When quoting passages of Lighthouse Trails articles or books, please give the proper citation: For books, cite the author, publisher, date of publication and page number(s). For articles, cite the article title, the author (and date when one is given). If no author is given on an article on our site, then cite author as: "Editors at Lighthouse Trails Research."
2. Under the U.S. Fair Use Act, it is legal to quote small portions of books and articles (some say 300 words, but that is only an approximation) without the permission of the author or copyright owner. But the proper citation must always be given (author, date, etc.).
3. If you are quoting more than what is allowed under the

Fair Use Act, such as an entire article, we ask that you put a live link on the article you use back to our website and the original page the article comes from. This would be in addition to full citation. If you are using an entire article in a printed form, we ask that you give the web address and full citation for Lighthouse Trails Research Project. If you are using an article that is from our editors or one of our authors, we grant you permission to use it in its entirety as long as proper citation is given.

4. If you want to use a full article from this newsletter or one of our websites that is written by someone other than our "Editors" or one of our authors, you will need to contact that writer or ministry directly.

5. If you are quoting from one of our books, and want to use more than what is allowed under the Fair Use Act, you will need to get written or e-mail permission from Lighthouse Trails Publishing, our publishing arm.

If you have any questions about how to use our material, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are grateful that you wish to use this material and hope it will be beneficial to you in your work.

Contextual Theology—continued from page 27

itself they are changing:

It has been fashionable among the innovative [emerging] pastors I know to say, "We're not changing the message; we're only changing the medium." This claim is probably less than honest ... in the new church we must realize how medium and message are intertwined. When we change the medium, the message that's received is changed, however subtly, as well. We might as well get beyond our naivete or denial about this.⁹

While reaching today's generation for the cause of Christ is something we as Christians should all desire, we must remember Jesus Christ challenged us to follow Him and be obedient to His Word. Scripture commands us to "be

not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2). But the emergents are leading followers in the opposite direction, teaching that the Word of God needs to be conformed to people and cultures instead of allowing it to conform lives through Jesus Christ.... reimagining Christianity allows a dangerous kind of freedom; like cutting the suspension ropes on a hot air balloon, the free fall may be exhilarating but the results catastrophic.(From *Faith Undone*, pp. 42-45.)

Notes

1. Brian McLaren, *A Generous Orthodoxy* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2004).
2. Doug Pagitt, *Church Re-Imagined*, op. cit., pp. 17, 19.
3. Ibid., p. 166.
4. Doug Pagitt, *Church Re-Imagined*, op. cit., p. 167.

5. Stephen B. Bevans, *Models of Contextual Theology* (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, Seventh Printing, November 2000, <http://www.cca.org.hk/resources/ctc/ctc94-02/1.Yuzon.html>), p. 1.

6. Paul L. Lehmann, "Contextual Theology" (*Theology Today*, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1972, <http://theologytoday.ptsem.edu/apr1972/v29-1-editorial2.htm>).

7. Dean Flemming, *Contextualization in the New Testament* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2005), p. 14.

8. Ibid, pp. 14-15.

9. Brian McLaren, *Church on the Other Side*, op. cit., p. 68.

“A light shining in the darkness”

“THE LORD IS CALLING HIS PEOPLE OUT FROM THE MIDST OF THE FALSE”

by Kevin Reeves
author of *The Other Side of the River*

History is filled with stories of those who have stood for truth, many of whom gave their lives to defend the faith God had put in their hearts. History is also filled with those who tried to squelch that truth. In his riveting account of the Nazi empire, historian William L. Shirer meticulously documents the internal workings of a system that once threatened to take over the world. *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich* is a chilling account of the effects of mind-numbing propaganda.¹ The endless barrage of misinformation, incredibly, molded a once-beaten and fragmented people into the icon of elitism, which culminated in grisly death camps and the cold-blooded murder of those deemed lesser humans. A firsthand witness and opponent of the Nazi regime, Shirer recounted instances of conversation with German people, when he dared contradict the ludicrous governmental and media declarations of ethnic, cultural, and military superiority. He was met with shocked silence or an amazed stare. He noted that to question the Nazi machine’s view of anything was considered blasphemy of the highest

order. It dawned on him that the minds of many of the people had become so warped that they were no longer able to think for themselves or evaluate anything by a higher standard. Shirer observed that with the rise of the new German empire, the truth had become whatever Hitler and Goebbels said it was; they were the final arbiters of reality—spiritual and otherwise.

Some may think it is extreme to compare the spiritual deception and control tactics within the church today to that of the Nazi regime and the death camps, but we should remember that the church in Germany in the 1930s was very much like the church is today—having a head in the sand mentality about spiritual deception and turning religious leaders into super-human heroes who can do no wrong. Perhaps we are not all that different than Christians in Germany back then. We should not fool ourselves and think we would never be duped like that. The apostle Paul issued a warning to Christians:

Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take

heed lest he fall. (I Cor. 10:11,12)

Despite all of this, there is hope in the Lord; He is “Faithful and True” (Rev. 19:11). And He promised to preserve His church, that true body of believers whom He calls the Bride of Christ. Praise His name—there is hope. When truth is challenged, mocked, and thrown against the wind, we can be sure, it will never be altered. And that Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

The Lord is calling His people out from the midst of the false, to adhere to His truth, no matter what the cost. Let us respond with joy and thankfulness, knowing His grace is sufficient to strengthen us and give us courage.

Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. (Hebrews 13:13-14)

(Excerpt from *The Other Side of the River* by Kevin Reeves, pp.214-215)



Notes:

1. William L. Shirer, *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich* (New York, NY: Simon and Schuster/Touchstone, 1959).