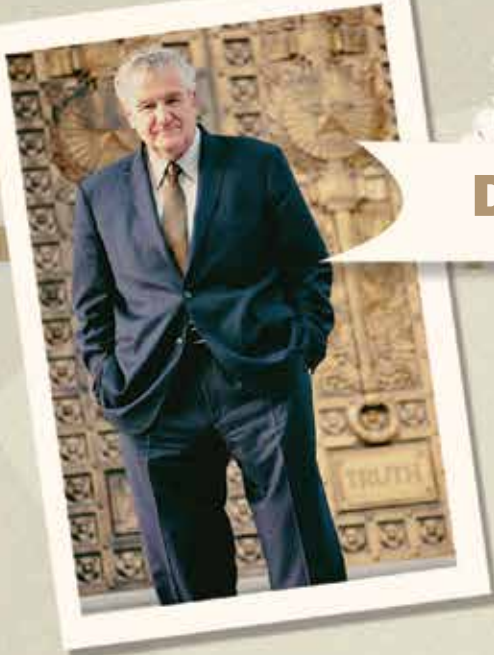




Perspectives

WHY TRUE SCIENCE
SUPPORTS SCRIPTURE



From The Publisher

Dictatorship of Relativism

Paul D. Mooney

“Every day, so it sometimes feels to me, the messages arrive, in one clever, well-crafted form or another, telling our church people and our family members that what one believes doesn’t really matter. They say that we are looking through an old stained, cracked, smoky glass.”

Two Popes, one retired and one active, and both living in the Vatican. Paul Elie in his article in the May 2014 issue of *The Atlantic Monthly* discusses this amazing, historical and dramatic moment. The article entitled “The Pope in the Attic: Benedict in the Time of Francis” reveals that there are some issues surrounding this unusual situation. Elie examines the interesting paradox, “*For the first time in 600 years, we have a living ex-pope. What’s it like to be Benedict, who now has to watch in silence as his successor—the man whose papacy he made possible— cheerfully dismantles his legacy?*”

The article’s focus is not altogether about the trivial sorts of things one could easily imagine, such as the proper protocol and the historic drama of the situation. Elie touches the more serious issues, and one could argue that these issues are not just “Catholic” in scope, but are pressing matters for the whole of modern Christianity’s perceived importance as a life-changing, culture-changing force.

To date, Pope Francis’s most shocking statement, in my view, and one which has grave consequences for the whole of Christian thought, is pointed out by Elie: “Who am I to judge?”—Francis’s remark about gay people—was a sharp turn away from Benedict’s view that the role of the Church is to render judgment in a world in thrall to ‘a dictatorship of relativism.’ Francis’s offhand statements and openness to new approaches make clear that he is a very different pope—and unless Benedict has lost his mind, he cannot be altogether happy about it.”

I read this article while flying with the UPCI Executive Board on a recent trip to Israel. We were guests of the State of Israel on a beautiful tour of many of the historical sites – a great time was had by all. I had been invited, while on an earlier trip to Israel in March of this year, to return to and visit an old and renowned monastery. On the March trip, while at the Jordan River, I was privileged to baptize a member of the monastery in Jesus name; and they had asked me to come speak to them about Pentecostalism. I slipped away from our group, accompanied by my wife Micki and daughter Jaye, and spent a day with the some of the leaders and sisters at the monastery where we had an insightful three-hour conversation about the modern Pentecostal revival and its significance as the means of establishing a new world theology. We discussed what I describe as a “reset” by taking a fresh look at the upper-room outpouring of the Holy Ghost. What came up (not explored but mutually understood) as one of the hindrances of any kind of global Spirit-revival is the issue of “relativism.” Our talk kept bumping into the matter of authority.

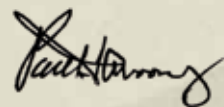
What is applicable to our day? Who can say what? Who can judge? It took me back to the article I had just read on the plane. I mention this meeting only to point out that here we were, two worlds interacting together (Pentecostalism and Catholicism), each of us hungering for God’s divine anointing, yet knowing that any revival, any convincing reading of the scripture, any sermon or Bible study’s effectiveness stands or fall on the issue of relativism.

Once you begin to think, believe and advocate that the authority of the work of God is relative to something else – anything else – then such relativism becomes the dictator. Everything is then subject to the “dictatorship of relativism,” as Elie puts it. If the word of God is not “forever settled,” (Psalm 119:89) if we are prohibited from making any judgments based upon the word of God, then all is lost.

About Pope Francis’s statement, Elie answers the question with a question: “Who am I to judge?” Who, indeed? It is not a simple matter; it cannot be. In the end there is a need to judge and be judged, is there not? We are, he and I, successors to Peter, keeper of the keys to the kingdom. Who will judge, if not us?”

Any casual observer should be able to see that we are confronting a “Christian” world, not just the secular humanist world, which readily rejects the idea of truth and absolutes, including morals, values and doctrine in general. Many Christians even reject Jesus as the only Lord. The drivel that is being accepted and repeated on so-called “Christian” television is beyond belief. Are we so politically intoxicated that we have lost the ability to make a judgment, to make a call?

Welcome to a judgment-adverse world ruled by the dictatorship of relativism. Every day, so it sometimes feels to me, the messages arrive, in one clever, well-crafted form or another, telling our church people and our family members that what one believes doesn’t really matter. They say that we are looking through an old stained, cracked, smoky glass. That our perception distorts what we see. Therefore, how can we really know or trust anything at all? Meaning is lost. It has all been warped with time. So, because we can’t know what we can’t know, we must just love God. Sometimes, the message is not disguised at all: it’s summed up in a mere question. “Who am I to judge?” and “Who are you to judge?”



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♦To report on those trends and events which directly affect the work of the church.

♦To promote and enhance the ongoing ministry of Indiana Bible College.

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20 Guest Pulpit: Why True Science Supports Scripture

(Steve Waldron)

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GOD IS A HEALER

Note: The opinions on this page are entirely those of the individual and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Indiana Bible College.



M. Ken Gurley, Pearland, TX -- I think the most amazing miracle I witnessed was at the Azusa Centennial in Los Angeles. Our church had been asked by then General Superintendent Kenneth Haney to perform a play called "The Fire Still Falls," that recreated the backdrop of the Azusa Street Revival (1906-1909). During one of the performances, the Holy Ghost fell and we were unable to continue. Several hundred people received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and a man paralyzed from his waist down saw God move miraculously in his life. One of the women in the play, a medical doctor in our local church, was praying with the man who was in a wheelchair. In a few moments, the man began to struggle to his feet. Within minutes, he was walking across the altar area.

The message of the play was that God's Spirit still falls. Not only does the fire of the Spirit still move in our day, but the miracles, signs and wonders associated with a genuine Apostolic church are also operable in our midst. As the message of Azusa Street indicated, God is Savior, Spirit-Baptizer, Healer and Soon-Coming King.



Steven B. Waldron, Albany, GA -- I was a young home missions pastor when I received a call one Sunday morning that one of our new converts had died and was still at the hospital. I asked our youth minister beside me, "Do you want to see God raise somebody from the dead?" He answered yes.

Once we got there, we found that he wasn't physically dead but brain dead. He had suffered a massive heart attack and was on life support.

The doctors said the only things keeping him alive were the machines. His wife was kissing him, telling him goodbye and that it was okay to leave. I had been doing some extensive fasting and felt incredible faith when I received the phone call. I was still sure God was going to raise him up. So we prayed. I then went back to service, believing God.

Going back that evening, Bro. Will was sitting up in bed. He was crying as I entered the room. He said, "Pastor, do you realize I was dead?" I assured him I did in fact know that. He knew a miracle had taken place, as did our church family. To God be the glory!



R. S. Carter, Staten Island, NY -- While preaching at a special anniversary service in Bronx, NY, the Lord placed a message on my heart entitled "Are you ready for your miracle?" I felt this was from the Lord. The services were on their way when I arrived. The assistant pastor announced he only had a few weeks to live because of cancer in his lungs. Immediately the Spirit witnessed to me that this was the person to receive the miracle.

I preached, then I asked those ready to receive their miracle to come up front. The assistant pastor came up, and I said, "Brother, the Lord sent me here today for you to receive your miracle." He nodded, and I prayed. Outwardly nothing appeared to change. But I felt confident the Lord had accomplished His purpose.

About two months went by and District Conference was in progress. I looked up to see the assistant pastor walking up the aisle. I quickly moved toward him and asked, "Brother, how are you?" He looked surprised and answered, "Don't you know? I went to my doctor in Florida, and they cannot find any cancer." To God be all the glory and praise!



Glen A. Stickler, Middletown, DE -- I was conducting a revival at a church in Cedar Lake, Indiana, pastored by Bro. G. T. Grinder. We prayed for a 12-year-old blind girl who came to the front of the church. After prayer she and her mom went back to their seats. I started preaching, and the mom of this 12-year-old girl began to shout and cry proclaiming that her daughter could see. Needless to say, this miraculous healing ignited a fire in that revival which resulted in numerous people receiving the Holy Ghost.

The most amazing miracle God allowed me to witness is the complete healing of my grandmother. She was taken to the hospital with bleeding issues. They took her to surgery and discovered she was eaten up with cancer. The doctor told the family she had a couple of weeks to live. My grandmother was a minister and demonstrated extraordinary faith in God. We all prayed and ministers across the country who knew her prayed. She lived an additional 10 years and one day just went to sleep and woke up on the other side of eternity.



Michael Deckard, Unionville, IN -- God has done great things in my life as well as the church I pastor. At the age of 14, I contracted a virus that caused my body to become paralyzed. It was called myelitis. The doctor advised my parents that I would be paralyzed for the rest of my life as there was no cure for the disease. I received

letters from many people as well as news that the church was fasting and praying for me. God healed my body after three months of being in a wheelchair. God is good!

Also, there is a lady in our church who has been coming for about a year. She has been deaf in one ear all her life. After coming to church for three months, God miraculously healed her ear and now recently she has been filled with the Holy Ghost, as well as her family members.



David Reynolds, Florissant, MO -- I was building a barn, and I walked to the edge and bent down to put in a screw. The board under my foot gave way, and I was thrown. When I came to, my back was broken and I was paralyzed from my waist down. I still remember lying in the hospital with my pastor, wife, son-in-law and brothers in the church -- all praying for a miracle. At about 5:30, the doctor came and suddenly said to the group,

"Keep praying -- it's working." I was transported to another hospital where there was a doctor who specialized in back injuries. He operated on me and put in two 12" rods along my back hoping it would fuse. I was placed in a full body cast and in the hospital for three weeks. My back is now fused around the rods. God has been good to me!



J. Kurtis Burton, Nashville, TN -- Recently, we made up 100 prayer cloths with our church logo to be anointed with oil and passed out to the needs of the congregation. One was sent to a girl who was expecting her first child. The ultrasound showed the back part of the baby's skull was not developed and there would be serious challenges at birth, even death. Much prayer was given, and our prayer cloth was sent the week of testing. The doctor came in and was amazed because

the baby's skull showed almost complete development. Obedience to the examples of healing in the Bible will produce results.

By Gregg Stone

*The Wright family, Holland, MI*

Offering hope, Bro. Douglas Wright and Cornerstone Tabernacle of Holland, Michigan are dedicated to helping as many people as possible find their way to God, encouraging each and every person to not only find God but also to have their own

duties included ushering, singing in the choir, working as the groundskeeper, helping with outreach, as well as working in Sunday school. Bro. Wright was happy to help fill any need his pastor had. Along this journey, he served as the assistant Sunday school superintendent, head greeter, youth pastor, and became a leader of outreach at the local prison.

"I owe my pastor so much for taking me and so many others under his wing," Bro. Wright explains. "He challenged us, taught us and believed in us, whereas in many cases nobody else did. He literally poured hours upon hours into my life, guiding my journey through each and every step of ministry. To this day he is still the one constant in my life that I look to not only for support but accountability as well. In this age, you cannot put a value on a true man of God who imparts so much of himself into you, and will tell you what you need to hear and not what you want to hear. Along with my pastor and first lady who helped my wife along this journey, I could not begin to put into words what my home church did for me. They were there and supported our efforts every step of the way, and I am indebted to them for life."

personal relationship with Him.

Adhering to the philosophy that "this is anyone's church," Bro. Wright and the members of Cornerstone Tabernacle welcome everyone regardless of race, economic background or educational status. "We are all here by the grace of God," said Bro. Wright. "Everyone we meet, or anyone that comes to Cornerstone Tabernacle, is treated with the same respect. We realize that the person we see initially is in the beginning stages of greatness, and what God needs from us is to love them right where they are until He is able to refine and mold them into a finished product.

"We strive to have exciting Spirit-filled and Spirit-led services, with an emphasis on fulfilling the first commandment spoken in Mark 12:30, 'And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength,'" Bro. Wright said. "We strive to have a well-rounded church with something for everyone: children, teens and adults."

Personal History

Growing up in Flint, Michigan, one of the most economically challenged areas in the United States, Bro. Wright knew it was easy to be consumed by the streets and what they seemed to offer. Losing many friends to violence and seeing many more locked away, he knew something would have to change or he would wind up as just another statistic. "In the end it was a huge factor in my conversion," said Bro. Wright. "I knew that there had to be more to life than what was being offered by the world."

He was invited to church initially by a co-worker, Michelle. The efforts of this young woman ultimately led to Bro. Wright being born again. "The person who witnessed to me, and was my initial contact to this great gospel, is now my wife," said Bro. Wright. "Michelle and I will celebrate 25 years of marriage this year."

The Wrights have two children who play an integral role in the life of the church. Their daughter, Alexis, is one of the youth leaders of Cornerstone Tabernacle and is in charge of multi-media as well as working in the administration department of the church. Their son, Douglas, is involved in the music department and is the church drummer as well.

After receiving the Holy Ghost in 1986, Bro. Wright began a journey that seemed to him too good to be true. Upon his conversion, he was privileged to work in many facets of the church under Pastor Robert E. Henson of South Flint Tabernacle. His

Principles of Growth and Revival

Known for their friendliness, Cornerstone Tabernacle attracts many visitors simply by word of mouth. "Helping people understand that they can live an overcoming Christian life on a daily basis helps us to realize that in doing so we will not only affect ourselves but our families and communities in the process," said Bro. Wright. "I believe the essential requirement for a growing church is that before you launch into outreach, you must spend quality time on 'in reach.' By this, I mean we must prepare the church body to receive what will come through the doors in revival, as well as focusing on their personal growth before trying to reach others. I think a revival pastor needs to place his emphasis on his core leaders, instilling a passion in them for the vision that he has for the church. In turn, they will graft his vision into their everyday walk with God, propelling it to others."

As far as growth is concerned, Cornerstone Tabernacle has utilized a variety of methods and many have been truly successful such as picnics in the parking lot, friend day, baby dedications, dinners, turkey give-a-ways, etc. "As a church we must understand that the seeds we plant may take time to grow, but in God's time it will come to pass," Bro. Wright said.

Personal Ministry

Crediting any success to his Creator, Bro. Wright bases everything he does on one small principle: never forgetting where God has brought him from. "If not for the Lord, where would I be?" said Bro. Wright. "I am not any better than anyone else, but God still saw fit to save me. I can never repay Him, but with every waking moment, my goal is to try. I lead with this same philosophy."

Bro. Wright said he spends 90 percent of Sundays preaching on hope. "I end every service with a high intensity altar call that focuses on those that are in need of something that they have not found before but are in desperate need of," he explains. "On Wednesday



nights, I focus on strengthening the infrastructure of the church or any other pressing needs. I also take time to do pastoral Bible studies at least four times per year, and oftentimes I teach a short series on a particular subject of interest.

"No matter how great a vision a man has, if the church does not buy into it, it will not work. I commend Cornerstone Tabernacle for buying in whole-heartedly to my vision as their pastor."

Organization and Management

Bro. Wright believes that every group is a target group, and he has assembled a great ministerial team committed to reaching the lost. "We have department heads but in name only," Bro. Wright explains.

"Commitment begins and ends with the lost. We meet the needs of the individual now, and then we will sort out their particular grouping later."

Cornerstone Tabernacle has many exciting ministries, including Sunday School, Youth Ministry, Men's Ministry, Ladies Ministry, Outreach, Spanish Ministry, Charity, and Music Ministry.

"I believe that the success of a particular department is not in the mandatory meetings, but in the personal level of relationship that the pastor has with them other than just leadership," said Bro. Wright. "Your relationship as a pastor with your leadership team must be about the lives of your leaders, not just their ministry. In fellowship with your leaders such as taking them out for coffee, going on a hospital visitation, or cleaning the church with them, you will help them to emulate your leadership qualities. You must keep a personal level of communication with your leaders other than just about church matters."

He conducts department head meetings four times per year, and no less than three times per year he conducts special training for all of the department heads. "Each and every leader has a clear-cut job description, which begins and ends with my vision for the church," explains Bro. Wright. "Before we launch any ministry, my wife and I will lead that ministry for the first year, setting an example. Once a leader is chosen for the department, we work closely with them and over time give them more and more liberty until their ministry takes root. At that point, we can step back and watch them lead from afar."

"In training our leadership, it's a 50/50 division. I want them to understand and do their job to the best of their ability, and I want to be sure they are trained to do so. More so than the training, I teach them about the love of God for the lost and that the ministry they are undertaking is a privilege."

Once new converts make the decision to live an overcoming life and have fulfilled the plan of salvation, Bro. Wright instantly involves them in some type of ministry, giving them accountability and making them feel like a vital part of the church. "They may start out with the task of washing the baptismal towels and gowns, taking attendance, folding bulletins, or even washing windows," said Bro. Wright. "In time their ministry will develop and they will want to do more for God as well as form a relationship with the membership of the church."

Church History

Cornerstone Tabernacle was founded approximately 10 years ago; there were two pastors prior to Bro. Wright's installation in 2008. The building consists of a sanctuary that can hold about 550 people, a fellowship hall that can seat 175, along with seven offices, a library, a nursery, seven classrooms, a kitchenette, prayer room, baptismal room and a media room. There is also additional office space and classrooms that will eventually be used for after-school programs, along with a host of adult educational programs.

"We conducted our first service in Holland on May 4, 2008," said Bro. Wright. "We had 22 in attendance and met in a 3,000 square foot building. In June of 2010, we purchased a 28,000 square foot building where we now conduct services. This facility is located on one of the main thoroughways of our city. We now average 275 to 300 people in service on Sundays, and this past Easter we had a record attendance of 428 in service."

Vision for the Future

Bro. Wright and Cornerstone Tabernacle are excited about their future in Holland. "Our vision is to continue spreading our works into different areas of the city, through future daughter works and various ministries," said Bro. Wright. "We look forward to reaching into our city and offering people hope."



Top to bottom: Saints worship at the front of the sanctuary; Pastor Wright preaches to the congregation; two baptisms at the church; exterior view of Cornerstone Tabernacle; the youth group poses for a picture.

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Connect Purposefully With Guests

Your God is awesome. Your church is wonderful. Yet guests who visit your church don't often return. No true connection was made. Why not challenge *every member* of your church to use these seven tips to connect with guests?

1. *Make a personal commitment to intentionally connect with one guest every Sunday.* Ask God to make you aware of visitors. Be diligently alert—in the parking lot, foyer, nursery, hallway, worship service—to notice them. If you accidentally welcome someone who isn't a guest, that's no problem. You've found a new friend.

2. *Once you've found a possible newcomer, pray for God's guidance.* Smile, greet the guest warmly, and introduce yourself. Pay careful attention to his or her name. Repeat it. Write it down. You will want to call them by name next Sunday when they return.

3. *Chat casually and purposefully.* You may ask, "Is this your first time to worship here?" Ask nonintrusive questions such as, "Did you just move to town?" or "What brought you to church today?" Warning: Never ask "Are you a native here?" That reeks of cliquism and warns the guest they aren't welcome unless they're from your town.

4. *As you chat, listen carefully to find things you have in common.* Most importantly, offer friendship. Make a plan to get together this week. For example: Invite them to join you for lunch today, meet for coffee Monday, or be your guest at an upcoming church event.

5. *Give the guest your email or phone number, and ask for their contact info.* Call them Tuesday to remind them of the kids' Wednesday program or on Saturday to say, "I hope you come back again tomorrow. I'll save you a seat!"

6. *Help the guest to connect with at least one other person at the church.* As you converse, think of someone who has a common interest (i.e., children's ages, similar life stage, employment, neighborhood, hobbies or background). Introduce them.

7. *Say these words before the guest departs: "We want you here!"*



The Need Has Never Been Greater!

By Stephen Judd, TCM President



Stephen Judd
www.mansionkids.org

In the last several days, we have received numerous placement calls at Tupelo Children's Mansion. Some of the situations are more urgent than others and require immediate, emergency placement.

This type of situation occurred just a few days ago, and we welcomed two new children to our home this week. These children came because their parents can no longer care for them. Their father has severe dementia and their mother has been diagnosed with cancer and is undergoing aggressive treatment. These treatments leave her so weak and depleted that she just cannot offer the parental care and nurture that these children need. We have already fallen in love with these bright, beautiful, energetic children and are so happy that we can be here during their time of need.

Another young lady will arrive in a few days. She will be returning for a second time. This doesn't often happen, but when it does, we welcome them with open arms. This young lady desperately needs TCM and without immediate placement, she will be destitute. She graduated from our Haven of Hope program a year or so ago and felt confident that she could return home.

But sadly, that has not been the case. The emotional baggage and trauma that she carries will most likely leave a permanent mark on her life. All that we can do is love her, encourage her to graduate, and to put her past behind her. She is a precious young lady who needs our help and we are giving it, without hesitation.

By giving to TCM, you are taking part in each child's rescue. A child should never have to live in fear or shame or go to school hungry. They should always have the opportunity to live each and every day with hope that they can have a better life than the one into which they were born. You help to make that possible.

Will you pray about responding with a financial gift so we can continue to help young people like these mentioned? More and more children are calling to us. Each of them are in need of a loving home, a good

education and a Christian environment where they can grow and develop physically, mentally, emotionally, socially and spiritually.

Whatever you can do will be appreciated so very much and will help to defray the summer-time expenses of caring for the children. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for standing with us as we trust the Lord to do great and mighty works together.

To support TCM with a special offering, go to www.mansionkids.org, or mail your check to TCM, PO Box 167, Tupelo, MS 38802.

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#TCM14

Being a Pastor's Wife

Interviewed By Iscah Spina



Sis. Nancy Arrowood
Seymour, IN

When did you first feel the call of God on your life for ministry? The Lord gives

us the desires of our hearts, and I wanted to marry a preacher from the time I was 10 years old. My parents weren't in church at that time. I compared their lives with my pastor's.

I wanted a life like

he and his family shared. I guess you could say that I fell in love with the ministry at a young age.

What steps did you take as a young person to grow in the Lord? My pastor told me to read a chapter a day in my Bible and to pray every day when I was 10. Those things just became a habit. I tried to never miss church and the good saints of my home church carted me back and forth very faithfully. Later, I went to Apostolic Bible Institute. That was the right place for me to learn and also to find my husband. He was a man following hard after God. Daily, I observed his commitment and dedication. He was never late for classes or missed any classes. He was diligent with his studies and church attendance. He worked a job and kept his school bill paid. All those things impressed me. I believe looking for a husband with these qualities was key in my being in ministry today.

When and where did you and Bro. Arrowood first pastor? We assisted three pastors out of Bible college. We learned a lot. We began pastoring in Frankfort, Indiana when my husband was 29.

What were your expectations of being a pastor's wife and were they correct? I felt I wasn't qualified because of my limited musical ability. I decided to try teaching. I loved it. I determined to teach every age group for at least three months. I thought

then that I could be understanding of each age and assist our teachers in reaching the children in their classes. It was a joyful endeavor.

Four-year-olds were the most challenging. It took six months with that group for me. However by then, I felt such a love and connection with that age group that it was difficult to go to another. As the years have passed I think the most important thing I can do for my husband, myself, and my church is to pray. I was wrong in the beginning to think I had to be musically inclined.

What would you say are some of the most important qualities that a pastor's wife should have? Number one is to love the Lord with your whole heart. Secondly,

love people. No one should be in ministry who doesn't love people. I believe loving people/children is the bedrock of successful teaching. If you love them, you will find a way to help them.

What is the key to balancing church and home? It is something that has to be

worked at, sometimes daily. It is so easy to be guilt-ridden all the time. We can never do enough, it seems. So especially now I have to be realistic about what I can handle and pace myself. It is a great blessing to me that my husband is affirming and understanding. He reminds me that we are in this for the long haul and not a weekend trip. We have been in ministry together 42 years.

What does an average day look like for you as a pastor's wife? I like to rise early and do the most important thing first – prayer and Bible reading. The whole day is so much sweeter, no matter the activities, if I start the day right. There is peace on my pillow at night that way too. I love being available to people. I especially enjoy being with our younger ministers and wives. I work at the church office several days a week. With our day care and school it is a beehive of activity. It is fun. I love it.

What advice would you give to a young pastor's wife? I believe a pastor's wife's

first responsibility is to take excellent care of her husband. "No squabbles on the way to church" is a good rule. Protect him as much as possible from any appearance of evil. Guard him from foolish women who have no clue about propriety. Make your home a place of order, peace and joy. Give him a refuge to retreat to. Take care of his physical needs so he isn't as vulnerable to the devices of the enemy. Love the ministry and don't be jealous of the attention he must give to others. See yourself as a priceless part of your husband's success. Don't be in competition with him. Every accolade he receives is attributed to you too.

Have you ever written any books and if so, please tell us about them? I do prayer journaling almost daily. So I have stacks of journals, if those count. I have written one small book to encourage others to journal entitled *Consider the Lilies*. It shares my journey of personal thoughts, feelings and prayers, with the goal of leading other ladies to journal also. Each example was selected with a specific type of prayer in mind.

I begin my personal devotion time with scripture reading. While reading I look for a scripture or thought that I can apply to my life or use to understand God better. In my meditation I record thoughts in my prayer journal. Following that, I pray, often incorporating what I have studied in my prayer. I also record many of my prayers, which forces me to focus completely on what I am saying. Through this exercise my devotion time has been greatly enhanced. I pray all who read my journal will seek to obtain a better understanding of the God they love and serve.

Bro. and Sis. Arrowood pastor Apostolic Pentecostal Tabernacle in Seymour, IN.

apostolic *alendar* 2014

For information about these events, call the event coordinator. If you would like your event on this list, call (800) 8000-AIS. IBC Perspectives does not endorse any seminar or conference listed. This page is provided simply as a service to the greater Apostolic community.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SPEAKERS	CONTACT / INFO
JULY 23-25	Mile High Conference 2014 Revival of Prayer, Praise and Evangelism	Calvary Apostolic Church 5900 E. Yale Ave. Denver, CO 80222 Host: Don Haymon II	Martyn Ballesterio, Lonnie Treadway, Doug White and Steve Pixler. Guest music ministry by Timothy Spell.	(303) 758-5900 www.cacdenvr.org DEH2@comcast.net
JULY 29-31	IMPACT Family Conference 2014 Day sessions to meet the needs of your entire family unit (Married, Single, Parents, Teens & Children) and your church leadership.	Woodlawn Church Hwy 98 - Columbia, MS Host Pastor: James Carney	Lee Stoneking, Wayne Huntley and Jack Cunningham	For detailed schedule, visit www.woodlawn-church.cc (601) 736-5128
JULY 30-AUG. 1	4th Annual Azusa StreetRiders National Rally Motorcycle rides and outreach services open to the public. Tail of the Dragon, fun, fellowship	First Apostolic Church, 1723 William Blount Dr., Maryville, TN Host: Kenneth Carpenter	Cortt Chavis	www.AzusaStreetRiders.com/event , Fred Beall@AzusaStreetRiders.com 843-450-6200
AUG 2-5	Arkansas Campmeeting - North Little Rock, AR A conference where Apostolic doctrine is not only preached but embraced. The message of Acts 2:38 remains the same!	First Pentecostal Church of North Little Rock, 1401 Calvary Dr., North Little Rock, AR Host Pastor: Joel Holmes	Larry Booker, Jess Parker, Tim Joiner, Raul Alvear Jr, Jon Shoemake, Nathaniel Wilson, Wade Bass, Brad Lambeth, Nathaniel Urshan, Steve Epley, James Townley, Jonathan Alvear, Matt Tuttle, Joy Norris, Mary Wilson, Robin Burgess, Bobby Wendell	For more info visit www.arkansascampmeeting.com
AUG 13-15	The Apostolic Conference - Madison, MS A conference designed for the North American Missionary and Church Planter.	Parkway Pentecostal Church, 1620 Mannsdale Rd., Madison, MS 39110	J.W. Dillon, Brian Kinsey, David Shatwell, Chester Wright, Omar Jolly, Lee Stoneking, and Mark Morgan	For more info: visit www.parkwaychurch.net or call 601-853-2607
AUG 15	Lead (Men's Conference) - Weslaco, TX A place where men can be revived, equipped and empowered to become the guiding force in the home and church.	Pentecostals of Weslaco 502 W. Sugar Cane Dr., Weslaco, TX 78596 Host Pastor: Tony Ybarra	Gordon Poe, Randy Stanton and Ron Wofford	For more info: visit www.gordonpoe.com/TOR/conference . (717) 755-7202
AUG 18	Indiana Bible College Fall Semester Begins Register for Fall classes today!	Indiana Bible College 1502 Sumner Ave. Indianapolis, IN President Paul Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, Lindel Anderson, Dave Brown, Bobby Killmon, Jim Sleeve, others.	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
AUG 21-22	Investing in Futures A conference for those who invest in children. Educating, encouraging and equipping children's ministry workers.	The Apostolic Sanctuary, 1501 John Deere Parkway, Silvis, IL 61239 Host Pastor: Gary Randal	Marrell Cornwell, Steve Cannon, Brent Coltharp, Jerry Jones and Wayne Huntley	For more info: visit invest-in-futures.com
AUG 28	Times of Refreshing - Mattoon, IL TOR will be hosting a minister fellowship dinner after service on Thursday and Friday night. All pastors, assistants, full-time evangelists and spouses are invited.	Apostolic Center Mattoon, IL Host Pastor: Shine and Derold Doughty	Jeff Arnold, Doug White and Gordon Poe	For more info: visit www.gordonpoe.com/TOR/conference . (717) 755-7202
SEPT. 4-5	Mid-America Renewal Conference (MARC) Indianapolis, Indiana - A Power Packed Preaching Conference in the Heart of the Midwest.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN Host: Paul D. Mooney	To be announced	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
SEPT 18-19	ALJC Women's Esprit Ladies Conference The theme is "For Such a Time As This."	Gatlinburg Dept. of Tourism and Convention Center, 300 Reagan Dr., Gatlinburg, TN 37738	Kenny and Penny Carpenter, Gina Vera and Nita Hodges	For more info: contact Dana Green at 832-603-2182
SEPT 19-21	Apostolic Doctrine Conference Strengthening Our Doctrinal Foundation	New Life Fellowship, 7849 Wabash, Terre Haute, IN 47803, Host Pastor: Jeffrey Harpole	Lee Stoneking, Dr. James Hughes and Dr. Daniel Segreaves	For more info: www.newliferetrahaute.com or 812-877-9348
SEPT. 30-OCT. 3	90th Annual UPCI General Conference Official conference of the UPCI. Don't miss it!	St. Louis, MO	To be announced	For more information visit the UPCI website at: www.upci.org
NOV 5-7	West Coast Conference - Fresno, CA 31st Annual Fresno Meeting	Fresno Convention Center, 848 M Street, Fresno, CA	James Townley, Jimmy Johnson, Rocky Dunlap, Wesley Jackson, Tommy Jackson, Ron Garrett and Jesse Galindo	For more information call: (559) 225-1622 www.truthabfresno.org
JAN 30 2015	Indiana Bible College LIVE RECORDING Under the direction of Lindel M. Anderson, Dean of Music	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN Host: Paul D. Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, Lindel Anderson, IBC Choir, IBC Chorale, IBC Praise, others	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
FEB 19-21	WinterFire 2015 WinterFire's focus is ministering to those in ministry. Our objective is that every member of your team will leave renewed and refreshed.	To be announced	Sam Emory, Jelaine Lumpkin, Elias Limones, Mark Morgan, Theodore Brooks and Jerry Jones	For more info: visit www.winterfire.org or visit Twitter: winterfireconf or Facebook: winterfire
FEB 26-28	Indiana Bible College CONNECT 2015 Your chance to visit the IBC campus and see what Bible college is all about!	Indiana Bible College 1502 Sumner Ave Indianapolis, IN 46227 Host: Paul D. Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, Jason Gallion, Bobby Killmon, Lindel Anderson, others.	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069

Theology: Why Is Holiness Being Pushed Away?



Robert L. Rodenbush

■ Church Today

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Transgender Tipping Point

Pastors often ask me what I think will be the next “big issue” to affect America and the church. Satan’s attacks are a flood against culture and traditional values making it hard to pinpoint just one area that will prove problematic for the church.

I do believe, however, that while we have grown accustomed to the homosexual agenda being played out in society and watch as it impacts our youth and families, the threshold of tolerance is being pushed even further. The transgender issue is now being forced into our purview. Like the homosexuals before, the motto is, “If [traditionalists] can’t turn off the shower, they’ll get used to being wet.” And so the flood has swept in. It is the new theme for television shows, the talk of talk shows, and is quickly becoming the “trendy” counterculture among teens, even children.

Transgendered and gender-neutral parenting is the subject of parenting guides, magazines and books. An increasing number of parents are raising their children to be neither boys nor girls. They are raised “gender neutral,” allowed to choose their gender as they grow older. Public schools in America are being re-trained to deal with these situations that affect restrooms, locker rooms and sports. The devastation of political correctness leaves this generation with no reference to go against the current. Transgendered homecoming queens, transgendered children, transgendered parents are all now mainstreaming into every community.

The cover feature of the June 9, 2014 issue of *Time* magazine was entitled, “The Transgender Tipping Point: America’s next civil rights frontier.” Writer Katy Steinmetz begins with this statement, “Nearly a year after the Supreme Court ruled that Americans were free to marry the person they loved, no matter their sex, another civil rights movement is poised to challenge long-held cultural norms and beliefs. Transgender people...are emerging from the margins to fight for an equal place in society. This new transparency is improving the lives of a long misunderstood minority and beginning to yield new policies, as trans activists and their supporters push for changes in schools, hospitals, workplaces, prisons and the military.”

The enemy is poised to push this “new” affront on traditional values right to the core of our culture. Is the church ready to respond? Do we know how we are going to deal with transgender young people who visit our youth services? Wars are best won through confusion and disorientation. Satan has entrapped these souls into a physical and spiritual war in which their deceived minds betray their own bodies. While they have been deceived, we must not allow our youth and churches to become trapped in confusion about issues of sexuality. We must embrace the absolutes and true authority found in the Bible. In the end, this will not push people away from the church; rather, in the middle of chaos and confusion, the church will emerge as the beacon of hope with real answers.



Bobby Killmon

■ Theology

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Why has there been a push away from holiness in our pews?

This is a complex issue and deserves more space than the small allotment of this article space, but let me point to a few things. First, the pew is often reflective of the pulpit. Because of the false and shallow charges of legalism, pulpits can be intimidated away from addressing these things. If you do say something is “conservative,” or what I call just biblical, be ready to be attacked. That’s the climate we are living in and the spirit of the age working against us. Paul was clear though in saying he was free from the blood of all men because he had not shunned from declaring the full counsel of God. That means as ministers and preachers we are accountable for what we preach AND don’t preach.

But let me get to more fertile grounds of discussion. How has the average church member been moved? It cannot be only laid at the feet of silent pulpits – as egregious as that is when true. In every home in Israel, every Friday before Sabbath, Proverbs 31 was read. So, in every home in Israel at least once a week what a godly woman should be was lifted up and praised. The problem is now that through entertainment and marketing the pattern of the world, and what it means to be woman, is being defined both in more volume and more clarity from our culture. Instead of godly examples we have lifted up other things in our homes and it’s no wonder our women and daughters are struggling with issues of beauty.

Media is a powerful teaching force and a \$250 billion dollar a year business in just the US. The average American is exposed to 3000 ads a day and will spend two years of their life watching TV commercials. The fascinating thing is everyone feels personally exempt from the force of advertising. But the Editor-in-Chief of Advertising Age said, “Only 8% of an ad’s message is received by the conscious mind. The rest is worked and reworked deep within the recesses of the brain.” So, these ads stay with us working subconsciously, creating an environment in which we all “swim in” like fish. It’s hard to stay healthy and have godly standards if our minds are swimming constantly in a toxic environment. That’s the subconscious effect.

The reality of marketing on the mind of the people in the pew must be exposed. There are quite a few resources to teach and preach from but if one hasn’t read a book like *The Marketing of Evil* they are behind on understanding these real forces. Our job is to not be silent in the pulpit and to expose the attacks of our day by showing where they are entering our lives at home. It might be good to start reading things like Proverbs 31 again as a healthy alternative while we also remove the competing ideas.



T. W. Massengale

■ Church Growth

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In my opinion, our church lacks focus. The various ministries all seem to be doing their own thing and the end result is everyone going a dozen different directions with little being accomplished.

Your thoughts on how to fix this?

Only the pastor can set the overall vision and direction for the church. So, from your statement, there appears to be the need for an annual planning session with all the departments and ministries in which the direction for the coming year is clearly spelled

out and all the various ministries all work together to see that vision realized. This involves goal setting, vision casting, and group planning so that everyone knows what exactly we will, by faith, accomplish by the end of the year.

It is important that we “clarify the win” as Andy Stanley writes in his well-received book, *Seven Practices of Effective Ministry* (Multnomah Publishers, 2004). He writes, “Most churches do not have a reliable system for defining and measuring what success looks like at every level of the organization.” For people to be successful, they need to know their ultimate aim and purpose. They need to know how God and the pastor define “success.” For example, what is the primary

purpose of the Youth Department? Social events? Fund raising? Youth evangelism? Great youth services? Or is it to see the youth of your church grow and mature into solid, productive Christians that contribute to the growth and success of the church? When every department and ministry knows their primary purpose, then every departmental activity can be designed to help further that goal and achieve good success.

Every church activity and event should be planned by asking, “what do we want people to walk away and do?” What we plan should always help us accomplish the two ultimate goals of the church within this dispensation: Win the Lost and Perfect The Saints. Our Lord will say “well done” if do these well.

Arkansas C APOSTOL PR



Larry Booker
Sat 7 pm



Jess Parker
Sun 10 AM



Tim Joiner
Sun 7 PM



Raul Alvear, Jr.
Sun 7 PM



Jon Shoemake
Mon 11 AM



Nathaniel Wilson
Mon 12 PM



Wade
Mon 1



Joy Norris
Mon 11 AM



Mary Wilson
Mon 12 PM

AUGUST

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Campmeeting

PUBLIC TEACHING



Steve Bass
Mon 3:30 PM



Brad Lambeth
Mon 7 PM



Nathaniel Urshan
Mon 7 PM



Steve Epley
Tue 11 AM



James Townley
Tue 12 PM



Jonathan Alvear
Tue 1:30 PM



Matt Tuttle
Tue 7 PM

2-5, 2014

CAMPMEETING.COM



Robin Burgess
Tue 11 AM



Bobbye Wendell
Tue 12 PM



Carol Clemans

Spiritual Growth

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Emotional Healing in the Church

God came to earth in the flesh to bring us salvation, but He also came to heal the broken-hearted, bind up the wounded and set the captives free (of their stinkin' thinkin'). Are we as a church body becoming equipped to be healing helpers? People can be saved but deeply wounded by sexual abuse, dysfunctional family relationships, divorce, pornography addiction, etc.

Do you know why a sexual abuse victim may be a "cutter"? Do you wonder why a young "sweet" teen becomes rebellious and promiscuous? Do you know why a young person withdraws from everyone? These are just a few symptoms of a sexual abuse victim. Many are exposed to porn before, during or after the sexual abuse. There is always a reason behind unusual extreme acting out.

Some church leaders have not exposed the sexual abuse and help the perpetrator in the church blame this atrocity on the victim! In some cases, when the sexual abuse has taken place for years, the victim is told she/he needs to forgive and move on. I challenge all pastors/leaders to contact the police department of your city and learn exactly what the mandated reporting laws are in your state.

Any type of abuse and especially sexual abuse needs to be exposed. The victim needs God-based counseling. The emotional damage of sexual abuse penetrates deep into the heart/soul of the victim. Every pastor/leader needs to read the book: *The Door of Hope* by Jan Frank – a personal account of her sexual abuse growing up by her stepfather and how she came to a healing process through God and made helping other victims her life's ministry mission.

Any type of abuse causes a deep distorted God-concept for the victim. Many perpetrators are heads of family who may have leadership positions in the church. Can you imagine the betrayal to the child when the person who is supposed to love and protect you sexually abuses you? Let's get educated so we can be conduits for healing instead of condemning or covering up this horrible sin.

Carol Clemans is a Certified Pastoral Counselor, anointed Bible teacher for churches & conferences/Christian Life Coach. She provides counseling nationwide by phone and Skype (636) 448-0121. Go to: www.carolclemans.org - 70+ articles, teaching CD's, DVD's, book: *God's Design for Marriage*. Rev. Harold & Carol Clemans' pastor is Jerry Dillon, Madison, MS.



Brian Norman

Revival Concepts

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Understanding Anointing

"Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, HATH ANOINTED THEE WITH the oil of gladness above thy fellows" - Hebrews 1:9.

Oh to be anointed! That should be the cry of every minister and believer. But what does it mean to be anointed? The Greek word for "anointed" in Hebrews 1:9 is *chrio*. It means that by contact someone is consecrated to an office or religious service. This is the work of the Holy Spirit.

Not only do we need the anointing, we need the different kinds of anointing. Hebrews 1:9 is not talking about an apostleship, prophetic or pastoral anointing. The text clearly is talking about an anointing of "gladness," which means there is more than one kind of anointing.

Every minister has his own anointing that God hath anointed him with. And though we may try to be all things to all men, the reality is there is a fivefold ministry of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers (Eph. 4:11). These gifts are intended to bless the body, causing maturity in the believers and growth in the churches as they operate Biblically. How burdensome it is, both to the individual and others, when someone ignores the other gifts God has given and doesn't allow the anointing of those gifts from God to flow in his or her life.

Just today I had a discussion with a great pastor. He asked me about the successes we have been seeing the Lord give in the Harvest Conferences we conduct. I told him, "You are anointed for things I simply am not anointed for. But there are things I am anointed for that you are not. We need each other." Readily, that revival-minded pastor agreed.

A whole city was converted to Jesus Christ due to the ministry of the first N.T. evangelist and his anointing (Acts 8). If we are to be as fruitful as God intends in our ministries we must learn to allow other people's anointing to operate Biblically. Without it we will never experience the level of revival, fruitfulness and growth Jesus intends to give us. I want what God wants. I want the level of revival, fruitfulness and growth Jesus wants to give me.

Brian Norman travels full-time preaching Jesus Christ. Phone: 636-544-0627 Website: GlobalEvangelism.org or HarvestConference.org



Aubrey Jayroe

Finance

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I have been asked to become a member of the Board of Directors of our church. Is there anything I need to know regarding serving in this position before I accept?

Yes, below is a list of items that you should be able to answer prior to serving. Serving is an honor but also a responsibility, so you need to be sure you can agree to meet the needs of the position of a board member and can give your time and efforts to serving.

1. Do you agree with the overall mission and objective of the organization and do you feel you can contribute by being on the board?
2. Can you honestly work with the leadership without being disagreeable?
3. Can you accept the overall decision of the board even though you personally may not agree with the issue?
4. Do you accept the description of a board member and can you fulfill the responsibilities as stated?
5. Can you work in harmony with the other board members and staff and refrain from discussing the issues with anyone else (including your spouse)?

In addition, you should be aware of the following:

1. How often does the board meet?
2. Are you provided with information about the finances of the organization?
3. Does the organization operate within an annual budget and does the board review it and approve it annually?
4. Does the organization have an annual membership business meeting?
5. Does the organization have an annual review of its financial statement?
6. Are the corporate resolutions/policies up-to-date and how often are they reviewed?
7. Have the by-laws been reviewed within the past 3-5 years to bring them up-to-date?
8. Is there a system of checks and balances to prevent conflicts of interest between the board and the organization?
9. Does the board have adequate director's and officer's liability insurance?
10. Has the board been indemnified with an official document of indemnification?

Aubrey L. Jayroe is an Accredited Tax Advisor, Accredited Tax Preparer and Enrolled Agent by the IRS, as well as an Apostolic pastor. Contact him at: (870) 633-6045. Jayroe & Company, P.O. Box 1217, Forrest City, AR 72336. Email: jayroeone@sbcglobal.net



Eric K. Hall

Investments

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Does God Want His People To Invest?

To answer this question, let's look at the parable of the talents in the book of Matthew. I don't want to take the time to reiterate the entire story here, so I strongly encourage you to read it for yourself. Before I get into the story, you need to understand what is meant by a talent. In biblical times, a talent was a very large measure of money. So when the story talks about people being entrusted with a talent, it means that they were being entrusted with a very large amount of wealth. Understand that this story is talking about spiritual things as well. This story is talking about investing the life God gave us in eternity and in living for Him but is also talking about money.

In the story, the master goes away for a while and gives varying amounts of money to three of his most trusted servants to invest while he is away. One servant received five talents, another received three talents and the last received one talent. The story tells us that the amounts of money were decided based upon the ability of each of the servants to handle the money properly. As the story progresses, the servant with five talents of money and the servant with three both invest their portion and generate a return for the master. The servant who was given only one talent hid it so that it would not be lost or stolen. He was very afraid of what the master's reaction would be if any of the money was lost.

After the master returned, the first two servants each returned to the master what he had originally given them along with whatever return they generated with it while the master was away. The last servant, however, dug up the one talent he had hidden and returned it to the

master bragging that he did not lose any of it. The master was pleased with the servants who had invested but became very angry with the servant who had done nothing but hidden the one talent with which he was entrusted. The master told the servant that at the very least he should have put it in the bank so it would earn some interest.

This story tells us, without question, that God not only wants His people to invest, He wants them to invest wisely. You cannot argue this point. The story clearly states that the servant with only one talent was reprimanded and ultimately punished for not investing the master's money. You could argue that this story is strictly referring to spiritual things, but if investing were not part of God's plan for our money, would He have used it as an illustration in this parable?

Eric K. Hall is an Independent Financial Advisor with Fisher Investments and the Senior Pastor of Greater Life Church in Greentown, IN. Contact him at (765) 860-9335, e.hall@fi.com. Member FINRA/SPIC

THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS**MD Man Claims College Rejected Him For Expressing Faith in God**

A Maryland man is suing the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) for a first amendment violation after the school allegedly rejected him for professing his faith in God. Brandon Jenkins claims that during a Spring 2013 admissions interview, a CCBC staff member asked, "What is the most important thing to you?" Jenkins answered, "My God."

He was denied admission into their radiation therapy program shortly afterward. When Jenkins asked for more information regarding the rejection, program director Adrienne Dougherty explained that it was due to more qualified applicants, and because of his spiritual answer.

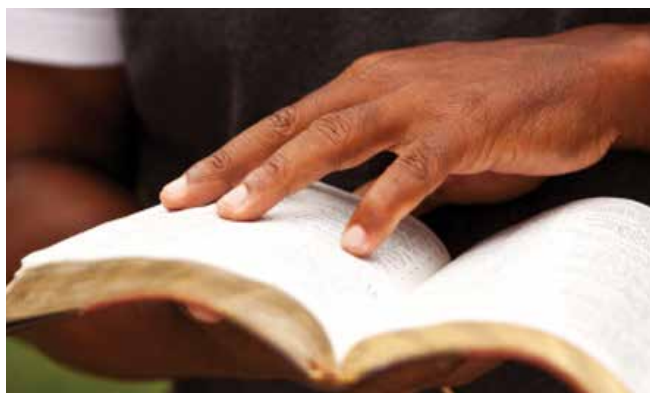
"I understand that religion is a major part of your life and that was evident in your recommendation letters; however, this field is not the place for religion," Dougherty allegedly wrote in an email.

"We have many patients who come to us for treatment from many different religions and some who believe in nothing. If you interview in the future, you may want to leave your thoughts and beliefs out of the interview process."

Jenkins, represented by the American Center for Law and Justice, filed suit recently in the U.S. District Court of Maryland. He is seeking admittance into the radiation therapy program and unspecified monetary damages.

GOVERNMENT TRENDS**IRS Confirms Abortions Eligible For Tax Deduction**

In a list of odd tax deductions, the *Washington Examiner* pointed out that women who have an abortion are eligible to get a tax deduction. And while pro-abortion advocates hyperventilate over Hobby Lobby not wanting to provide every type of birth control without a co-pay, it turns out that birth control pills can be deducted if prescribed by a doctor. Also, a person reportedly can deduct the purchase of pregnancy test kits and vasectomies.

**Evangelicals Admit Finding Time for Daily Bible Reading and Prayer a Struggle**

New research has shed light on the difficulties evangelicals have in making time for their spiritual life. In particular, the Evangelical Alliance's study found that evangelicals struggle to find time for both reading the Bible and praying each day.

Of the over 1,500 surveyed, nearly all (90 percent) said they read the Bible regularly, but only 31 percent said they set aside a substantial period of time each day to pray.

Although 87 percent agreed that every Christian needs to spend time alone with God on a daily basis, and that without that their faith will suffer, 42 percent said they find it difficult to find time on a regular disciplined basis to pray and read the Bible.

Nearly a fifth (18 percent) said they do not have a fixed pattern of prayer but rather pray when the chance or need arises. This figure rises to 29 percent among those born after 1980.

Over half of those surveyed (60 percent) said they prayed "on the move," while walking or using transport. When they do find the time to pray, evangelicals are most likely to be asking God to bless their family (49 percent).

"Older people (those born before 1960) are significantly more disciplined and structured in their prayer patterns," the Alliance noted.

Nearly two-thirds (63 percent) admitted to being easily distracted when spending time with God and while most (88 percent) agreed it was important for a Christian to read or study the Bible on a daily basis, in practice only half are managing to do this. Another 40 percent said they read the Bible several times each week.

There was a substantial difference in Bible engagement between older and younger Christians, with 60 percent of those born before 1960 managing to read their Bible daily, compared to just 31 percent of younger Christians.

Tellingly, busy Martha was the Bible character evangelicals were most likely to say they identified with (43 percent).

"She was selected almost three times more than her contemplative sister Mary, indicating that busy lifestyles are a widespread feature of contemporary discipleship," the Alliance said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

■ According to recent research by The Center for the Study of Theological Education at Auburn Seminary, seminary graduates face suffocating debt. Many students graduating in 2011 with a master's of divinity degree exited with a debt load of more than \$40,000, and around 5% had debts totaling more than \$80,000. To survive, the graduates or their

spouses took second or even third jobs.

■ Photographers can now be forced to work gay weddings, the United States Supreme Court decided by silence recently. The justices reportedly ignored an opportunity to reaffirm the basic principle that the government can't trample on fundamental rights of free speech and religion.

LEGAL TRENDS**FL Student Forced to Stop Reading Bible in Free Time**

A Florida teacher is facing a lawsuit after forcing a 12-year-old student to call his parents for reading his Bible during free reading time.

Giovanni Rubeo, a student at Park Lakes Elementary School in Ft.



Giovanni Rubeo and his father

Lauderdale, had brought out his Bible for free reading time in February and March of this year, and had been told to put it away.

When Giovanni's father heard of this, he determined that his son should be able to read religious material under his constitutional rights. Rubeo told his son to call him if the teacher told him to stop reading his Bible again.

This time, the teacher ordered Giovanni to call his parents in front of the class and proceeded to leave a message. "I noticed that he has a book -- a religious book -- in the classroom. He's not permitted to read those books in my classroom," the teacher said in the recording.

Religious liberty attorneys at the Liberty Institute are representing the Rubeo family. They are pushing for students to be allowed to read religious material during free reading time; they also are asking for a letter of apology for the incident.

"This is the most shocking piece of evidence I've seen in the 12 years of religious liberty work that I've been doing," said Liberty Institute director of litigation Hiram Sasser.

RELIGIOUS TRENDS**New Research Indicates Islam Growing Faster Than Christianity**

New research shows that the global numbers of Christians has remained stagnant, while Islam has skyrocketed as a worldwide religion, reports *Christianity Today*.

Christianity has remained about the same, but Islam has almost doubled in members. Christians made up 34.5 percent of the world's population in 1900 but fell to 32.9 percent in 2010. Muslims made up 12.3 percent of the world's population in 1900 but rose to 22.5 percent in 2010.



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Why True Science

Transcribed by Susan Thomas



Science is the discovery of the natural world. Science has been used to benefit mankind. But since man has an inherent sinful nature, it is also used in a variety of ways to destroy God's creation. Since the days of Copernicus, Galileo and Spinoza, a tension has existed many times between science and the Bible. On occasion the established Church had a misunderstanding of the Bible, and hence persecuted true science, such as with the geocentric model of the Universe. Slowly, with the collapse of Christian culture in the West, the tables have turned. No longer does the institutionalized Church sometimes persecute science. The scientific worldview which permeates so much of modern culture, at the U.N. and in the U.S. especially, is at war with Biblical Christianity. Accommodation with the naturalistic worldview leads to capitulation and destruction for true Christianity. We have the truth. Our goal is to proclaim it. And true science, rightly interpreted, will always confirm the Bible.

The Encyclopedists of Europe in the 1750s, fueled by Voltaire's scathing rebuke of Church and Christianity, began to actively search for a worldview to replace Christianity in the popular mind. Men such as James Hutton, Comte de Buffon and Erasmus Darwin, among many others, began to promulgate a worldview that would later become what is known as the Theory of Evolution. This atheistic mindset sought any means to replace the God of the Bible with human reason. This is called the Enlightenment, but in reality was leading into a new dark world devoid of objective truth and ethics. James Billington, Librarian of Congress, has written an amazing tome detailing the advance of this grim philosophical contagion, beginning from the coffee shops of Europe in the 1770s to the killing fields of communism in the 20th century.

The great scientific advancements of our modern day are not due to belief in evolution as a mechanism for the upward transmigration and transmutation of species. As a matter of fact, it is a stultifying influence on true science. Our prophesied explosion of knowledge, as foretold in Daniel 12:4, can be traced to the bevy of Christian scientists beginning primarily in the 17th century who "thought God's thoughts after Him" and gave us the scientific keys for the mastery of so much of the world around us. Dr. Henry Morris, in his great book *Men of Science, Men of God*, details how each sphere of the massive technological exposition of the past 100+ years has its roots in Bible-believing scientists. Isaac Newton wrote more on the Bible than he did science. This is amazing, considering he co-founded Calculus, discovered the laws of Physics, Gravity, Motion, Optics and so much more. He is considered by many to be the greatest scientist who ever lived. Louis Pasteur of France fought Charles Darwin, and actually delivered the death blow to Darwinism with his ingenious disproval of spontaneous generation. All current, beneficial spheres of science had their beginning with the work of scientists operating under the assumption of a Biblical worldview.

If macroevolution were true, it would not have to be continually buttressed and propped up by lies. Each of the "icons of evolution," which are the best arguments in favor of evolution, have been consistently shown to be misleading and falsified. Take the "missing links" over the years. Nebraska Man, Piltdown Man, Heidelberg Man, Java Man, Peking Man, Australopithecus, Lucy etc. have all been shown to be either severely lacking in evidence or contrary evidence was covered up, or they were shown to be deliberate hoaxes. Entire books are fielded showing the culpability of these frauds. Yet, in the popular mind, in college textbooks and classrooms, in documentaries and on internet resources, they and others are constantly trotted out as proofs of evolution. Just a little digging below the surface shows them to be highly suspect at best, and deliberately fraudulent at worst.

Other supposed proofs of evolution that have been discredited or had doubt highly cast upon them are: the supposed ability to create amino acids replicating conditions of the early earth, Phylogeny recapitulates Ontogeny, Archaeopteryx, peppered moths, fossil horses, and Darwin's Tree of Life. As an example, Darwin conveniently postulated that Precambrian fossils had been destroyed by heat or another process, since the Cambrian explosion showed all fossils fully formed with no intermediate species.

Darwin's only degree was a Bachelors of Theology. He wanted to believe in God when younger; it seems obvious when reading his autobiography. But during his five-year voyage on the HMS Beagle, he read the wrong books and began to see God's remarkable creation around him thru non-creationist lenses. He shared many of his thoughts through the years but was compelled to write them when a young challenger, Alfred Wallace, had come to nearly the same conclusions as him. In November of 1859, a book that was to forever negatively change the

Supports Scripture

world was published: *The Origin of Species*. Darwin's deadly legacy was the basis of a collapse of morals, and eventually, as he said in his 1871 book, the descent of man. Man was no longer a special creation by God, endowed with an eternal soul but merely an animal, according to Darwin. Darwin of course led to Nietzsche. And Nietzsche's ideas of political will, the death of God and the birth of superman gave rise to Hitler. Even Hitler's philosophical road map was called "Mein Kampf," which means "my struggle," a direct link to Darwinism.

Seemingly all fields of endeavor in the modern world have been tainted with Darwinism, with the possible exception of basic math. In the legal field, law is constantly changing. It is no longer based on absolutes but an evolutionary metaphysic. Marriage, morality and government are based on changeability and not the authority of the Word of God. Freudian psychology says man invented God. The healthcare industry now has quality of life provisions, instead of each life being precious. Abortion is used as birth control, with no consideration of the life of the child which science has fully confirmed as human and functioning. All things are now mutable and pliable and not confined to the dictates of God, all according to an evolutionary naturalistic worldview. Racism, of course, uses evolution as a justification, just as Darwin did.

What Is To Be Done?

Truth has its own power. Lenin said facts are stubborn things, when trying to introduce his evolutionary-based communist ethic in Russia. As people of truth, our greatest weapon against the errors of evolution, that have even infected our own ranks, is to speak the truth in love. It is a great comfort that when we speak of an inerrant Bible and the Creation narrative found therein, we not only know that it is intrinsically true, but the weight of evidence is on our side! All science, properly interpreted, confirms the truth of the Bible.

Evidences Biblical Creationism

Symbiosis is an incontrovertible evidence of Biblical creation. Life is dependent upon other life. If the odds of evolution are impossible according to normal statistical analysis, requiring far more chance than the number of electrons in the universe, how could two of every species evolve at approximately the same time, with almost no variation, with one having the capacity to bear seed, and the other with a convenient womb? Not just a man and woman mind you, but perfect pairs of sheep, deer, elephants, cows, dogs, cats, etc. It sounds an awful lot like creation as mentioned in Genesis 1. As a matter of fact, that is the only explanation!

Bees require flowers. Flowers require bees. They would have had to evolve at identically the same time, each with that capacity of need and provision for what the other needed and provided. It sounds like instant special creation.

It requires so much faith to be an evolutionist. Satan is the father of lies. And he has authored this well-crafted scheme to dethrone and debunk God. Atheists have proclaimed loudly for decades that if Genesis chapters 1-3 are shown to be false, there is no basis for Christianity. Why? Because the reason for Jesus is to save us from the effects of Adam's sin. No Adam, no need for Jesus. Why else would a multibillion dollar edifice be erected to keep truth out and indoctrinate our young?

Anyway, mammals breathe out carbon dioxide and breathe in oxygen. Plants and trees need carbon dioxide and supply oxygen. Sounds like special, instantaneous creation to me! Evolutions millions and billions of years are impossible.

August Weissman disproved the inheritance of acquired characteristics. We now know this is false on another level

as well, because of DNA. An amputee does not pass on a predilection for missing a limb to his children. His outward trauma does not affect his DNA. Rats who have their tails cut off to a thousand generations are still born with tails, because the outward removal of the tail has no effect on the DNA. The inheritance of acquired characteristics is a pillar of macroevolution, and it does not stand.



Steven Waldron, New Life of Albany
Albany, Georgia

Darwin knew the eye baffled him. It shouldn't exist in evolutionary theory. As a matter of fact, almost no parts of complex creatures should exist according to evolution. Why? If evolution says that beneficial mutations are passed on from generation to generation, gradually becoming better and more refined, the eye is a closed system as are most systems of complex organisms. A blob of eye tissue would serve no purpose before it was fully functioning, and therefore would not be passed down but eradicated as useless in a partial state. It is the same for other systems in our bodies as well. A partial liver is useless. A third of a circulatory system doesn't function. A mass of brain cells not connected as the nerve center of the body is useless. In Darwinian theory, these should have been expunged during the generational evolutionary theory as unnecessary and detrimental. Mankind, as are all complex life forms, are closed systems. They are all or nothing systems. Unless formed complete, they are utterly useless. This is yet another of literally thousands of evidences for Biblical creationism for which evolutionary science has no answer.

The design inference is obvious to anyone who takes the time to objectively take a look at the matter. Francis Collins began as an atheist, when heading the Human Genome Project. This was an ambitious program to map all 3.1 billion strands of a human DNA. He ended the quest as a Christian. He said if the computer he was using for simulation was obviously designed, the far more complex DNA structure he was observing had to also be designed. Even the atheist Richard Dawkins now agrees that design had to be used in creation, but he looks for the design from aliens instead of Jesus.

Conclusion

The world's foremost atheist Antony Flew, when confronted with the evidence, finally said there had to be a God. Forty percent of all philosophy professors in the U.S. now believe in God. The number was 1% in the 1960s. Why the upward surge? Because the evidence is overwhelming. We have the truth! Keep praying, preaching and loving! Compromise in this area will leaven the entire Gospel. This world needs to see the real Apostolic Pentecostal Church in action, not some watered-down charade of accommodation. It is not always easy. The way is daunting sometimes. And it seems the entire world's system is against truth, and ridicules it. But truth is always truth, it is always right, and it is always liberating. And it is the hope for this world. If God is right in Genesis chapters 1-3, then He's right at Calvary, He's right in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost, He's right about judgment to come and a Heaven to gain and a hell to shun. And the evidence shows overwhelmingly that God is true!

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The Joys of Children's Evangelism

By Charlotte L. Pound



Tim and Yvonne Rimmer
Murfreesboro, TN

"Innovative, creatively ingenious, anointed, effective, ordained of God!" Those are just a few words from pastors describing the children's ministry of Tim and Yvonne

Rimmer of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Tim Rimmer is a licensed minister with the UPCI and a trained, award-winning clown. Sis. Rimmer is an accredited author and licensed counselor. Together, they have developed a children's ministry called "God's Handywork" (GHW) and have been ministering to groups of all ages for over 20 years.

God's Handywork was birthed through a yearning to see lost children saved from a dying world. In this day and age of drugs, peer pressure, violence and child abuse, the Rimmers have accepted the call of God to minister to what they call our church's *leaders of tomorrow*. Using a variety of puppets, object lessons, action songs, Gospel illusions, scientific experiments, clowning, stories and drama, they offer power-packed evangelistic services that minister to the young and the young at heart. "We don't ever want to miss an opportunity to instill a bit of truth into all

we do," Bro. Rimmer said.

The Rimmers feel that their emphasis on the altar call is what sets GHW apart. "We believe that the altar call is the most vital part of the service and should never be omitted," he said. "We use a child's favorite food item, peanut butter and jelly, to explain Acts 2:38. We use a dynamic blend of illusions, puppets and drama to keep the service exciting and to keep their attention. Our reward is watching God pour out His Spirit in the altar." Bro. Rimmer feels that all our churches should put a greater emphasis on children's ministry and children's crusades. "Where else, but in Apostolic churches, are kids going to hear truth? Where are they going to find real love? Certainly not in a public school where God has been banned, and sin is running rampant. And for some, home is no better with filth being piped in through television, movies and the lifestyles of their non-Christian parents. If we don't have a dynamic children's ministry in our churches, then the denominational church down the road will, or worse yet, Hollywood will continue to pervade their minds with ungodliness, sex and violence. The children must learn about the wages of sin and that there is a true 'alternative lifestyle' through Jesus Christ," he stated.



Their children's ministry, God's Handywork, has enjoyed real success in recent years. "We saw an amazing harvest of souls in the year of 2012," explained Bro. Rimmer. "In 2013, while traveling to 11 different states and ministering at various camps, vacation Bible schools, rallies and crusades, we witnessed 335 individuals filled with the Holy Ghost. Through our ministry God has allowed us to see kids with special needs receive the Holy Ghost. In Pennsylvania, one boy with autism spoke in tongues for the very first time. This was not an isolated incident. Over the years we have seen several kids with autism or Asperger's receive the Holy Ghost."

GHW also accept pledges and donations through a plan called "Partners in Kids Ministry."

For more information and to see a host of pastoral testimonials, visit their website www.godshandywork.org. You may also contact Bro. and Sis. Rimmer by email: imac clown@godshandywork.org or www.twitter.com/gwhministries. Cell#: 615.972.7193



"Unveiling the Mysteries of the Tabernacle" Apostolic Author Gives Readers Insight Into Sacred Place

By Charlotte L. Pound



Dianne Ellis
Beaumont, TX

"Even though the physical construction of the Tabernacle has ceased to exist over time, its spiritual parallels and implications continue to reveal the great things of God and His Kingdom. Within and without, it speaks in sacred symbols of how man would enter

into the place where the Spirit of God dwelt above the Mercy Seat."—D. Ellis

After studying and researching the subject for over 25 years, Sis. Dianne Ellis of Beaumont, Texas (under the leadership of Pastor J. Elms) has completed a new book that gives readers insight into the enigmatic subject of the Tabernacle. *Unveiling the Mysteries of the Tabernacle* consists of over 200 pages of in-depth study of each aspect of the Tabernacle and explains how it was a type and shadow of Jesus Christ.

"When studying the Tabernacle there is a moment where one pauses and prepares to be ushered through the curtains into the presence of His Holiness," said Sis. Ellis. "There has never been a greater light shined upon the life of our Lord than the Tabernacle. We need to understand how important this place really was and still is today."

This work originated from seeing a need for a book that was pretty much an A-Z about the Tabernacle. "God has definitely given me a number of revelations, but I have discovered it is an inexhaustive subject. I wrote it with Bible colleges students, who like to dig a little deeper into the Word, in mind. Included in this work is how to pray through the Tabernacle, which can greatly enhance one's prayer life when practiced on a daily basis," she said.

"The subject of my book is a topic that anyone should be interested in because the Tabernacle is important to God. I find that there is more scripture on the Tabernacle than there is on the creation of the world. Pastors should teach this to their churches

because it shows how God was giving the plan of salvation via the Tabernacle (i.e. one door, one way to God)."

The author has received very positive response to the book. "Some very encouraging feedback came from Bro. Marvin Cole, pastor emeritus at my church," she said. "After reading the book he said, 'Everyone should read this book.' I took this as high commendation from a spiritual giant, but I give all the glory to God."

The 15-chapter book sells for \$21. At this time, Sis. Ellis is printing books as requested in the GBC (spiral bound) format. They can be purchased from her website.

Sis. Ellis received the Holy Ghost in 1963. She has served on the ministerial staff at a Houston church. She has been a requested speaker in churches and ladies conferences in the United States and internationally. She has also founded children's ministries in several churches, and is the author of several other books. For more information and to order books contact Sis. Ellis on her website: treasuresunlimited.org.



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Word To The Wise:

The squeaky wheel may get the grease, or it may be the first to be replaced.

* * * * *

A young preacher was asked by the local funeral director to hold a grave-side burial service at a small local cemetery for someone with no family or friends. The preacher started early but quickly got himself lost, making several wrong turns.

Eventually, a half-hour late, he saw a backhoe and its crew, but the hearse was nowhere in sight, and the workmen were eating lunch.

The diligent young pastor went to the open grave and found the vault lid already in place.

Taking out his book, he read the service. Feeling guilty because of his tardiness, he preached an impassioned and lengthy service, sending the deceased to the great beyond in style.

As he was returning to his car, he overheard one of the workmen say: "I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years and I ain't never seen anything like that."

* * * * *



"It's a tricky theological point. You say you covet your neighbor's humility?"

A man dies and goes to heaven. St. Peter meets him at the Pearly Gates and says, "Here's how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you've done and I give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was. When you reach 100 points, you get in."

"Okay," the man says, "I was married to the same woman for 50 years and never cheated on her and loved her deep in my heart."

"That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth two points."

"Two points?!" he says. "Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministry with my tithe and service."

"Terrific!" says St. Peter. "That's certainly worth a point."

"One point?!" Well, I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for homeless veterans."

"Fantastic, that's good for two more points," he says.

"Two points?!" Exasperated, the man cries, "At this rate the only way I'll get into heaven is by the grace of God."

"Bingo! 100 points! Come on in!" [See Titus 3:5]

* * * * *

An elderly couple is lying in bed one morning, having just awakened from a good night's sleep. The husband takes his wife by the hand and she responds, "Don't touch me."

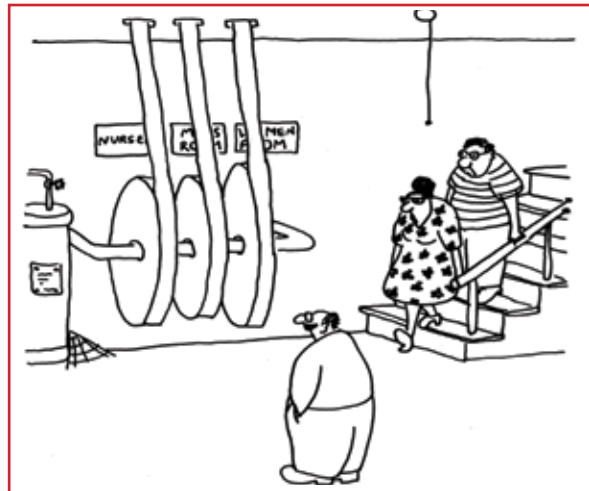
"Why not?" he asks. She answers back, "Because I'm dead."

The husband says to her, "What are you talking about? We're both lying here in bed together and talking to one another."

The wife says, "No, I'm definitely dead."

Her husband insists, "You're not dead. What in the world makes you think you're dead?"

His wife answers, "I know I'm dead because I woke up this morning and nothing hurts!"



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"... it was Isaiah who said ..."



* * * * *

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At an Optometrist's office: "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."

On a Plumber's truck: "We repair what your husband fixed."

At a Tire Shop in Milwaukee: "Invite us to your next blowout."

In a Non-smoking Area: "If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action."

On a Maternity Room door: "Push. Push. Push."

Outside a Muffler Shop: "No appointment necessary. We hear you coming."

In a Veterinarian's waiting room: "Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

At the Electric Company: "We would be delighted if you send in your payment. However, if you don't, you will be de-lighted."

In the front yard of a Funeral Home: "Drive carefully. We'll wait."

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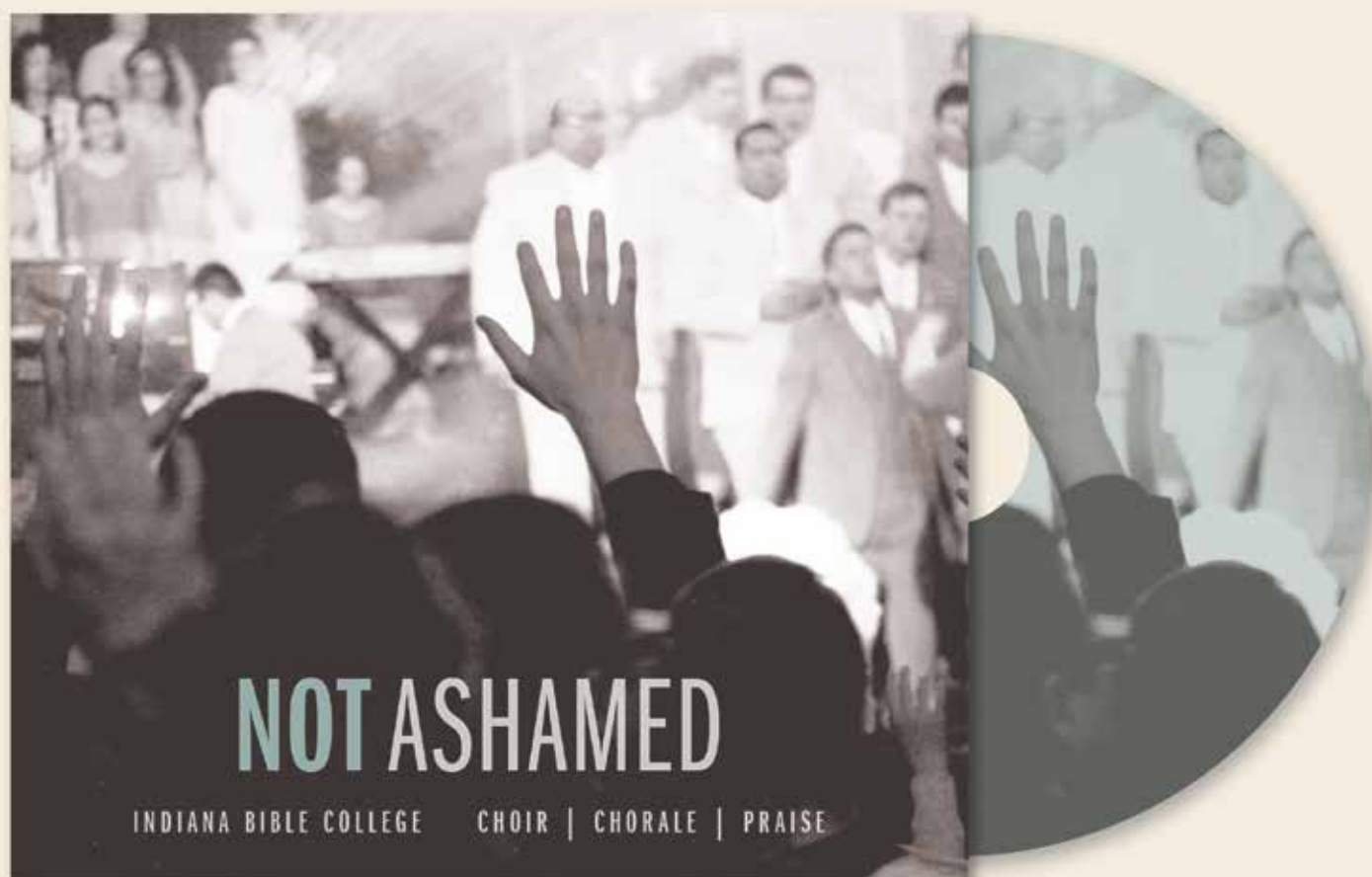
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