



# LAMPLIGHTER

*"Prophecy is like a lamp shining in a dark place." - II Peter 1:19*

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**Jesus of Nazareth**  
The only hope for the world



## Observations by the Editor

### Our Only Hope

Our lead article this month by Dennis Pollock emphasizes Jesus as the only hope for the world. As I read the article, I was reminded of the mammoth statue of Jesus that dominates the skyline of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. It is called Cristo Redentor in Portuguese, meaning Christ the Redeemer.

I have never seen the statue personally, but I have always been fascinated by it. When I searched the Internet for photos, I was astounded at the quantity. There are literally hundreds.

But the depiction of the statue that stole my heart was not a photo. Rather, it was an illustration used on a travel poster in the late 1930's. It is featured on our cover this month. The artist is unknown.

#### A Monumental Sculpture

The statue sits atop Mt. Corcovado (2,310 feet high) overlooking the beautiful but infamous beaches of Rio. The statue stands 90 feet tall and sits on a pedestal that is 35 feet in height, making the total height about 125 feet. The face alone measures 9 feet in length. The arm span from finger tip to finger tip is over 60 feet.

The idea of the statue was conceived in 1921 by an engineer named Heitor da Silva Costa. The classic art nouveau design of the statue was done by a Polish artist, Paul Maximilian Landowski, who resided in France at the time. The statue was cast in concrete in France and then shipped to Brazil in pieces where it was reassembled and finished off with a covering of soapstone mosaics. It weighs 1,145 tons.

The statue was dedicated in 1931. It is visited annually by more than half a million people. The base contains a chapel that will seat 150 people. The entire structure was completely restored in the winter of 2000.

#### The True Christ

Christians can rejoice that the true Christ we worship is not a cold stone monument like the gods of Hinduism and Buddhism. Our Jesus is a living person, resurrected from the dead, who sits at the right hand of the Creator in Heaven. He is a personal God who is loving and caring.



He loves His creation and He has paid the price to redeem it from Man's sin.

One day soon our blessed Redeemer will return to claim the dominion He won on the Cross. Satan will be bound, Jesus will reign from Mt. Zion in Jerusalem, and the earth will be flooded with peace, righteousness, and justice.

#### Previous Issue

Our January-February issue concerning the truth about Islam has proved to be the most popular one that we have ever published. We have received hundreds of orders for extra copies. Some churches have ordered copies for all their members. Extra copies are available at one dollar each. You can order them by calling 1-800-705-8316.

#### Next Issue

Our next issue will focus on "Prophecy Fulfilled." The lead article will provide the historical details behind the very first event in the 20th Century that led to the fulfillment of an end time Bible prophecy. ✱

### The Lamplighter

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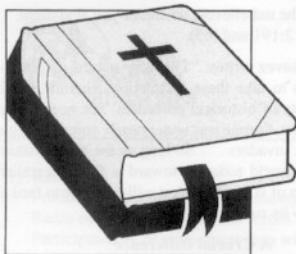
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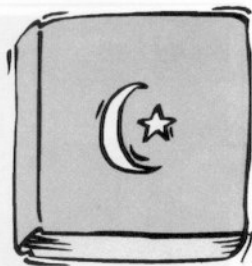


# Christianity & Islam

## Do we worship the same God?

Dennis Pollock

- ▶ Are Yahweh and Allah the same gods?
- ▶ Are the Bible and the Koran compatible?
- ▶ Are Jesus and Mohammed both Saviors?
- ▶ Are Christianity and Islam both peace-loving religions?



Since our military response to September 11, American political leadership, and in some instances, religious leadership, have been bending over backwards to assure the American public that the terrorists who committed these atrocities were not representative of Islam. They were merely a fanatic fringe group who somehow misunderstood the teachings of the Koran.

A major news magazine pasted on its cover page: "The Hijacking of One of the World's Great Religions," not so subtly implying that Osama and company must have somehow been goofing off when their religious instructors taught them about the peace-loving nature of Mohammed.

President Bush spoke with unusual firmness at the outset of our invasion of Afghanistan, and told the world's Muslims, "We respect your religion." While I respect Mr. Bush for his firmness and moral convictions, I cannot say that I respect his respect of Islam. I have a hard time imagining the prophet Elijah telling the Baal worshipers how much he respected their religion! When you read the Scriptures, you just don't find much respect for any religion other than God's revelation of Himself through Israel, and ultimately, through His Son Jesus.

### Theological Drivel

Of course one might well have expected the political leaders to kowtow to Islam. With their perceived need of being inclusive and offending as few as possible, the prospect of alienating millions of Arab-Americans, and upsetting the oil-rich Arab nations of the Middle East must be appalling to contemplate. What really is upsetting is to hear religious leaders fervently trying to convince us that "we all worship the same God."

The argument goes something like this. Christians believe in one God who created all things. Moslems believe in one God who created all things. Therefore the God of the Scriptures, Yahweh, and the Moslem god, Allah are one and the same. They are simply two different names for the same divine Being. It's kind of like a guy who is called Robert by his casual acquaintances and Bob by his close friends — same guy, different labels.

A Catholic Bishop, Edward Braxton, wrote: "If you accept monotheism, the belief that there is only one God, you realize that Yahweh, the God of Israel, Abba Father, the God of Jesus Christ, and Allah the God of Islam is the SAME God, since there is only one God. Judaism does not have God, Christianity does not have God, Islam does not have God. If the God in whom we believe is God, then we do not have God, God has us!"

The only people who could swallow such patent drivel would

be those who knew nothing of the Bible, nothing of the Koran, or nothing of either. Those who gain even the most rudimentary knowledge of the "gods" presented by the two books will quickly recognize two radically different personalities are being described.

### The Perspective of Jesus

Jesus dealt with this very issue in His famous conversation with the "woman at the well." This lady was a Samaritan, and as such claimed a relationship with God. The Samaritans claimed to be the true followers of Moses and, like the Jews, believed in one God. Jesus told this woman something that would certainly offend today's "different strokes for different folks" crowd: "We know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews" (John 4:22).

It is interesting that Jesus used the plural "we." Errant as the Jews were in their views of the Messiah, as many problems as they had in continually offending the God that had chosen them, He still acknowledged that it was the Jews and only the Jews who had the correct understanding of the nature of God. And that understanding had been given by God Himself through the Jewish writings we call the Scriptures.

Jesus went on to say that those who worship God *must* worship Him "in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). To worship God in truth is to worship Him for who He truly is. Those who would relate to their Creator are going to have to get it right as to who He is and what He is like. And it is only through the Holy Spirit and the Scriptures that any man or woman will ever worship God in Spirit and in truth.

### Misguided Zealots?

Those who defend Islam as a religion of peace try very hard to convince us that the terrorists of September 11 were ignorant zealots who totally missed the point of their religion. If these were the only Koran inspired thugs, maybe we could believe them. But our world is full of angry young Moslems, brought up on the Koran, who would gladly kill or be killed in the name of Allah.

Nationally syndicated columnist Don Feder wrote an article for the "we respect Islam" crowd where he states that there sure must be a lot of Moslems who don't understand their own religion, and perhaps need us Westerners to straighten them out. He lists:

The suicide squad from the Pakistan-based Army of the Prophet Mohammed that blew up the legislative assembly building in Kashmir on October, 1, 2001, killing 26.

Sheik Ahmed Abu Halabiya, who, in a recent ser-



"Islam is a religion in which God requires you to send your son to die for him.

Christianity is a faith in which God sent His Son to die for you."

John Ashcroft  
U.S. Attorney General

Slay the unbelievers wherever you find them.  
(Sura 2:191 and 9:5)

Linda Chavez writes: "The very nature of fundamentalism is to take these instructions literally. And there is plenty of historical precedent. For nearly one thousand years, Europe was under nearly constant siege from Islamic invaders . . . So long as the trend within the Moslem world today is toward a fundamentalist interpretation of Islam, the West will continue to face a new threat to its survival."

#### A Crucial Difference

Now it can be argued that there are millions of peaceful Muslims that either ignore these verses or refuse to take them at face value. Granted. In Christianity there are millions of professing Christians who don't take their Scriptures seriously either. The difference is that, when Christians take their Bibles seriously it makes them more loving, forgiving, and peaceful.

Christians are forced to deal with Scriptures that exhort love rather than violence:

Love your enemies. (Matthew 5:44)

Forgive those who trespass against you.  
(Matthew 6:14)

Do good to those who hate you. (Luke 6:27)

Bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. (Luke 6:28)

Here we find one of the radical differences between Christianity and Islam. The closer you get to the teaching of Christ, the more forgiving and peaceful you become. When a Moslem gets serious about the Koran, and starts practicing his religion earnestly, he just might rent an apartment in the U.S., take flying lessons, and go out in a blaze of glory. Suicide bombers and airplane hijackers are the evangelicals of Islam!

#### Yahweh vs. Allah

Clearly we are talking about two different gods here. They go by different names, make different demands, and offer different plans of salvation.

In Christianity, the salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus. The Muslim version is to acknowledge Allah as god and Mohammed as his prophet, pray five times a day, give to the poor, fast during Ramadan, visit Mecca, and *hope* you make it. There is one special dispensation in Islam: martyrs are given an automatic ticket to heaven, with no questions asked — blow yourself up in the cause of Allah and you're in!

To say that Christians and Moslems worship the same God is absurd. Suppose someone tells me, "Oh, yes, I know your wife. She's about six feet tall, with jet-black hair, a heart tattoo on her left arm, and walks with a decided limp. I met her last night, and she told me she was your wife." My response would be, "She may have told you she was my wife, but I can tell you for sure, 'That ain't her.'"

To paraphrase a cliché, "If it doesn't look like a duck, doesn't walk like a duck, and doesn't quack like a duck, it's probably not a duck!"

mon broadcast on Palestinian Authority television raved: "Have no mercy on the Jews . . . Where you are, kill those Jews and Americans who are like them."

Muslim leaders in Nigeria who have plunged the nation into chaos by trying to impose Islamic law on non-Moslems.

Demonstrators from West Africa to Indonesia, who hail Osama bin Laden as a savior. In Indonesia, where the Lashkar Jihad forcibly converts Christians to Islam, 50 percent of respondents to an online poll said bin Laden is a "freedom fighter."

Then, of course, there is that never ending supply of young Palestinian men, who are willing, in the name of Allah, to strap a bomb upon themselves, walk into a Jewish area where there are plenty of women and children, and blow themselves up. The Palestinians boast that they have enough volunteers for such "missions" to keep killing Jews for the next hundred years.

#### Islam and Violence

Any serious thinker has got to wonder if there isn't perhaps something in the Koran that encourages such violence.

The truth is that the Koran has a liberal sprinkling of "do unto them before they do unto you" type verses. A few of these would include:

Allah's curse is on the unbelievers. (Sura 2:89)

Allah is the enemy of the unbelievers. (Sura 2:98)

Do not take Jews and Christians as friends.  
(Sura 5:51)

Fighting is enjoined on you. (Sura 2:216)

Those who believe fight in the way of Allah.  
(Sura 4:76)

Fight those who do not believe in Allah.  
(Sura 9:29)





### The One True God

The God revealed in the Scriptures outshines Mohammed's poor imitation as much as the blazing sun outshines a cheap flashlight. Holy, awesome, just, compassionate, and merciful, He is the great "I AM THAT I AM." Miraculously He has gone further than merely inspire writers to describe His marvelous character. In the Person of His Son, God has visited our planet. John writes, "No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him" (John 1:18).

Like virtually every major religion except Christianity, the Muslim version of salvation depends upon good works and offers no guarantees. Only through the Biblical revelation do we find God's utterly unique plan for reconciling sinful men with Himself.

Jesus declares: "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent" (John 6:29).

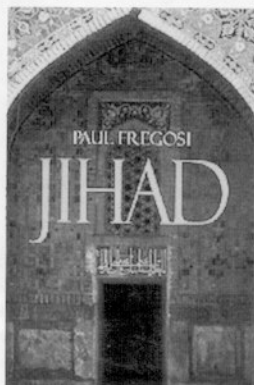
Paul writes: "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us" (Titus 3:5).

Peter proclaims: "Whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins" (Acts 10:43).

Through the Scriptures, through the Holy Spirit, and through the Person of Jesus Christ, the eternal I AM has made Himself known to His creation. If you like, you can reject Him and form for yourself an imitation such as Allah, Krishna, or Buddha. He gives you that choice. But don't deceive yourself with this nonsense about all of us worshiping the same God. We have it on good authority that those who worship the true God must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth! ❖



## A Significant Book



The *Jihad*, the Muslim Holy War against Christians and other faiths, has raged in the Middle East, Europe, Africa and Asia for over 1,300 years, and has now reached the Americas. Even though the *jihad* has been a fact of life in much of the world for more than a millennium, it remains the most unrecorded and disregarded major event in history. The book *Jihad in the West*, by Paul Fregosi seeks to redress this oversight (New York: Prometheus Books, 1998).

Paul Fregosi was born in Marseille and educated in France and Britain. He is a world traveler who has lived and worked in Australia, Tahiti, Italy, North Africa, Switzerland, Brazil, Canada, and the United States. He is the author of the highly acclaimed book about Napoleon called *Dreams of Empire*. He currently resides in London.

Fregosi faced a wall of opposition to the publication of this book about the history of *jihad* in Europe. It was originally scheduled to be printed by a London publisher but was abruptly canceled due to fear of Muslim reprisals.

### Exposing the Brutal Truth about Islam

This is the first history of the Muslim wars in Europe ever to be published. Fregosi emphasizes this surprising point in his first chapter: "Hundreds of books . . . have appeared on its Christian counterpart, the Crusades, to which the Jihad is often compared, although they lasted less than two hundred years and unlike the Jihad, which is universal, were largely but not completely confined to the Holy Land. Moreover, the Crusades have been over for more than 700 years, while a Jihad is still going on in the world."

Fregosi emphasizes that *jihad* is a natural expression of Islam, and not a perversion. "Islam has always preached war. Its founder and its heroes were warriors. 'The sword is the key to heaven and hell,' Mohammed told his followers . . . Muslims who kill are following the commands of Mohammed, but Christians who kill . . . are ignoring the words of Christ. Therein perhaps lies one of the basic philosophical differences, as well as one of the basic ethical differences, between Islam and Christianity." ❖

# Insightful Observations about Islam

## A Totalitarian Ideology



"Radical Islamism is . . . a movement based on a totalitarian ideology, which promotes violence and militancy in the form of *Jihad*. Its segregationist view of society — based on the concept of *dhimmitude* — is racist, intolerant, xenophobic, supremacist, discriminatory, anti-democratic, and has become genocidal." — Mary Elizabeth Hansen, spokesperson for The Coalition for the Defense of Human Rights.

## Israel Not the Cause

"It is not Washington's support for Israel that caused Arab terrorists to destroy the World Trade Center and attack the Pentagon, although bin Laden is desperately hoping he can sell that line to most of his co-religionists . . . America's world dominance was the real reason they carried out their suicide assaults . . . Western dominance over the entire Muslim world, and especially its powerful influence over the Arab rulers of Arabia, would be reason enough for their holy war even if Israel had never been reborn in 1948." — David Dolan, Jerusalem-based author and journalist.



## The Goal is the Destruction of the Free World



"Here is the awful truth. Radical Islam is absolutely, utterly and totally at war with the world's Western democratic nations . . . As impossible as it is to comprehend, radical Islam's express goal is to destroy the democratic Free World physically and/or financially and to replace her with a fundamentalist Islamic world order . . ." — Ari Sorko-Ram, Messianic Jewish leader in Israel.

## A Mad Fantasy

"Some of you may find it hard to believe that Islamic militants truly cling to the mad fantasy of destroying America. Make no mistake, they do. Unless they are stopped now, their attacks will continue, and become even more lethal in the future." — Benjamin Netanyahu, former Prime Minister of Israel.



## The Meaning of the Attack

"The attack on America was a warning that said, 'We, the terrorists, are sufficiently determined to execute the most daring missions; we are rich enough to finance missions costing a lot of money; we are sufficiently dedicated to our sacred ideal to commit suicide in its cause; we are sufficiently sophisticated to overcome all the police forces and intelligence organizations of the Western world; and we hate you so much that we will not hesitate to destroy your cities and wipe out millions of infidels like you if the opportunity arises.'" — Tommy Lapid, member of the Israeli Knesset and head of the Shinui Party (a Holocaust survivor).



## Why the Constant Disclaimers?

"Why must we constantly repeat that we are not at war with Islam? We never declared war on Islam. It was Islamic fanatics who, killing 4,000 Americans in the name of God, declared war on us. Why then are we the ones required to continually demonstrate our religious tolerance and respect for others? . . .



"Imagine if 19 murderous Christian fundamentalists hijacked four airplanes over Saudi Arabia and, in the name of Jesus, crashed them into the holy cities of Mecca and Medina, destroying the holy Kaaba and killing thousands of innocent Muslim pilgrims. Could anyone doubt that the entire Christian world — clergy and theologians, leaders and lay folk — would rise as one to denounce the act and declare it a sacrilege? Yankee Stadium could not hold the trainloads of priests and preachers, reverends and rectors — why, even rabbis would demand entry — that would descend upon a mass service of atonement, shame, ostracism, and excommunication . . .

"And yet, after September 11, where were the Muslim theologians and clergy, the imams and mullahs, rising around the world to declare that September 11 was a crime against Islam?

"Hence that great post-September 11 oddity: Deafening silence from the spiritual authorities of Islam, obsessive chatter from Americans, largely Christian, filling that silence with near apologetic professions of good faith and tolerance.

"This is not just odd, it is demeaning. Who attacked whom? Who should be doing the soul-searching and the breast-beating? Why are we acting as if we bear guilt for our own victimization?" — Charles Krauthammer, syndicated columnist in a column dated November 23, 2001.

## Pride in Killing

Hassan Hotari, 54, father of Saeed, the young suicide bomber who killed himself and 21 Jewish teenagers on June 1 at a disco in Tel Aviv: "I am very happy and proud of what my son did and, frankly, I am a bit jealous. I wish I had done the bombing. My son has fulfilled the Prophet's [Mohammed's] wishes. He has become a hero! Tell me, what more could a father ask? My prayer is that Saeed's brothers, friends and fellow Palestinians will sacrifice their lives, too. There is no better way to show God you love him."



## A Commitment to Violence



"There are 123 verses in the Koran about killing and fighting. Ours is not a passive religion." — Statement by a Muslim spokesman of the Islamic Liberation Party at a rally in London in August of 1994.

## A Wicked and Violent Religion



"I don't believe [Islam] is a wonderful, peaceful religion... It is wicked, violent, and not of the same God [as Christianity]... When you read the Koran... it instructs the killing of the infidel, for those that are non-Muslim... It wasn't Methodists flying into those buildings, it wasn't Lutherans. It was an attack on this country by people of the Islamic faith." — Franklin Graham, Christian evangelist. Note: Ken Woodward, religion editor of *Newsweek* magazine replied, "Obviously, Mr. Graham is not his father's son in terms of discretion."

## The Ultimate Islamic Hope

"The *Jihad* means the conquest of non-Muslim territory. The domination of Koranic Law from one end of the earth to the other is... the final goal... of this war of conquest." — Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran.



# A Contrast in Faiths

## George Zeller and Dave Reagan

- Mohammed's method was compulsion (Sura 9:29).
- Jesus relied on voluntary conversion (Matthew 28:19).
- Mohammed's disciples killed for the faith (Sura 2:191).
- Jesus's disciples were killed for their faith (Matt. 5:10-12).
- Mohammed was a prophet of war (Sura 4:94).
- Jesus was the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6-7).
- Mohammed was a taker of life (Sura 5:33).
- Jesus is the giver of life (John 10:27-28).
- Mohammed practiced force (Sura 5:33).
- Jesus preached faith (John 6:29, 35).
- Mohammed was a warrior (Sura 2:216).
- Jesus is a deliverer (Colossians 1:13).
- Mohammed taught, "Convert or die!" (Sura 9:5).
- Jesus said, "Believe and live!" (John 6:47, 11:25-26).
- Mohammed was swift to shed blood (Sura 2:191).
- Jesus shed His own blood for Mankind's salvation (Ephesians 1:7).
- Mohammed preached "Death to the infidels!" (Sura 5:33).
- Jesus prayed, "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).



- Mohammed declared a holy war (*jihad*) against infidels.
  - Jesus won a holy victory on Calvary's cross (Colossians 2:14-15).
  - Mohammed called upon his followers to fight to build a world-wide kingdom (Sura 2:190-193).
  - Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36).
  - Mohammed called Jews "monkeys and apes" (Sura 2:65, 5:60).
  - Jesus said, "Salvation is from the Jews" (John 4:22).
  - Mohammed called Jesus "an apostle of Allah" (Sura 4:171).
  - Jesus pronounced Mohammed to be a false prophet (Matthew 24:11).
  - The apostle Paul also proclaimed Mohammed to be a false prophet (Galatians 1:8-9).
  - Mohammed proclaimed one god named Allah (Sura 112:1).
  - Jesus proclaimed Himself to be God (John 8:58, 10:30).
  - Mohammed rejected Jesus as the Son of God (Sura 112:2-3).
  - Jesus said, "He who rejects Me rejects the One who sent Me" (Luke 10:16).
  - Mohammed's tomb is occupied.
  - Jesus' tomb is empty! (Mark 16:1-6).
- Note: George Zeller is pastor of Middletown Baptist Church in Middletown, Connecticut.



# *I'm Not Wild About* **Harry Potter**

Dennis Pollock

I was one of those awkward moments that could not be avoided. My wife and I were attending that annual American ritual known as "open house" where parents get to meet their children's new teachers and ask them that classic question, "How's he doing?" We were discussing our youngest son's progress when the teacher got around to sharing a few means by which we could encourage our son to read at home.

Her intentions were excellent, I have no doubt, but the method she chose was one I could not be silent about. She told us that the Harry Potter books were wonderful for motivating children to read on their own. When I informed her we could in no way allow our son to read such occult material, there was an awkward pause, and then the usual defense and protestations about Harry Potter being a well written fantasy and so on.

I suppose I made a rather poor impression upon this teacher that night. I'm sure she thought of me as being one of those humorless, right wing fundamentalists whose only joy in life is to rant and rave against innocent pleasures.

## **Rowling's Defense**



Joanne Rowling

Joanne Rowling, the author of the Harry Potter books, was asked in an Internet interview about the controversy stirred up by her novels. She replied, "Are we talking about the religious right again? If so, I'd say 'hogwash' is a pretty good description!"

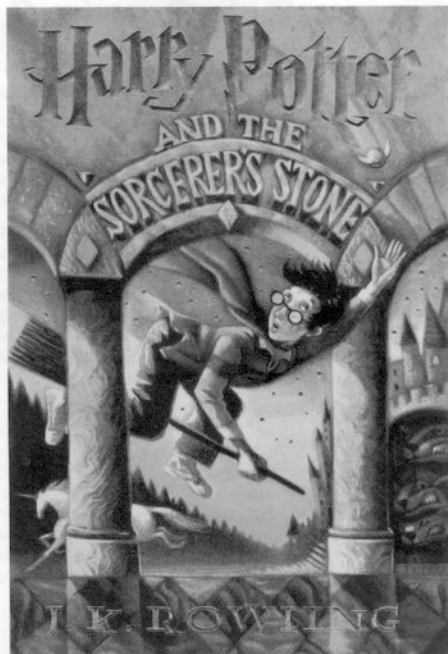
Ms. Rowling has done numerous interviews about her books and has often been asked about the so-called fundamentalist Christians who dare to oppose her. Besides her "hogwash" comment, she has one major justification that she uses again and again.

In fact this argument has been picked up by many professing Christians to justify a book series where the main character is attending a school to learn to be a proficient wizard. (By the way, in case the word wizard throws you, a wizard is simply the male form of a witch. Girls become witches, boys become wizards.)

Rowling's argument is that these books are highly moral books. They present a definite picture of a universe where love is better than hate, and nice is superior to nasty. Children who read these books will learn to be good little boys and girls, because Harry is a good boy.

## **Is Morality a Justification?**

Edgar Cayce (1877- 1945) was a man who seemed to do people a lot of good. While still a young man, Cayce had the gift to be able to lie down, go into a sort of trance, and tell people what was wrong with their physical bodies. Because he lived in a day when things were a lot looser in the medical community, he also could prescribe remedies for their ailments. Some of them



The first book in the Harry Potter series.

were medicines that could be found on a shelf, and some were various herbs and natural remedies. Lo and behold, the people got better. Many testified to near miraculous cures.

Cayce would give these readings, as he called them, and advise people not only of their physical problems, but would also counsel them in more spiritual matters. He always took a highly moral tone. Cruelty to others, greed, lust, and various sins of the flesh were always strongly rebuked and warned against. These things were harmful to the human spirit and contributed to the weakness of the body.

Yes, if you went to Cayce for one of his readings, you could always be sure to get a great big dose of morality thrown in. Love was the best way; treating others as you would have them treat you was the pathway to health and success.

And yet after a while Cayce went deeper still. He began to not only tell people of their physical and moral conditions, he also started telling them of how their past lives had contributed to their present situations. Yes, Cayce soon established himself as a full fledged promoter of reincarnation. Of course, he never counseled anyone to come to Christ and be born again. After all, if you had an almost never-ending number of lives to get things right, the whole idea of the new birth would be meaningless.

You see, the devil does not really mind if you're a bit moral, as long as you keep your distance from Jesus Christ. When God's plan of redemption is completed, hell will be filled with moral



Daniel Radcliffe plays Harry Potter in the movie.

people — good, solid pillars of their communities who paid their taxes, kept their lawns neatly trimmed, attended their children's PTA meetings faithfully, and perhaps even served on many committees at their churches. They just never got around to being born again by asking Christ for the forgiveness of their sins.

To say that the Harry Potter books are OK because they insert morality here and there, while promoting witchcraft and wizardry, is to show a spiritual naïveté of the highest order.

### Witchcraft is not Fantasy

Just why are we Evangelicals (at least many of us) so bothered by these fantasy books? After all, no one really takes them seriously. The problem lies with the nature of evil. If there was no such thing as evil, if witchcraft and sorcery, curses and spells, demons and Satan were merely inventions from the fertile mind of a creative children's writer, we could easily write the whole thing off. It's all just pretend.

The truth is that these things are not fantasy. Harry Potter may be invented, and the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft may be fictional, but witchcraft is most decidedly real. God had some definite things to say about witchcraft to Israel, when he established His people in the promised land of Canaan:

When you come into the land which the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or **one who practices witchcraft**, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or **one who conjures spells**, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For **all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord**, and because of these abominations the Lord your God drives them out from before you. (Deuteronomy 18:9-12 — emphasis added)

In the book of Second Kings, here is what God says about Manasseh, considered the most wicked king in Israel's history:

Also he made his son pass through the fire, practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft, and consulted spiritists and mediums. He did much evil in the

sight of the Lord, to provoke Him to anger. (2 Kings 21:6)

And why does God hate witchcraft so much? Because through witchcraft one is put into contact with the realm of demons, and the archenemy of all that is good, Satan himself.

In the Harry Potter series, you will read of spell casting, levitation, animal sacrifices, astral projection, crystal gazing, and communing with dead souls. Young, impressionable children are getting a rich exposure to the very things that are part and parcel of real witchcraft.

The headmaster at a school in Raleigh, North Carolina noted: "The throngs that lined up to meet Rowling (to autograph their books) are often teeming with children clad in wizard cloaks and sporting lightning-bolt scars tattooed — temporarily — to their foreheads." A representative for the Pagan Federation in England described a flood of new interest in witchcraft and attributed it to such cultural icons as *Harry Potter*, and movies like *Sabrina the Teenage Witch*, and *Buffy The Vampire Slayer*.

A San Francisco newspaper printed what children were saying about the Harry Potter series. They quoted a 9 year old girl named Catherine as saying: "I'd like to go to a wizard school, learn magic and put spells on people. I'd make up an ugly spell, and then it's payback time!" An 11 year old boy named Jeffrey said, "It would be great to be a wizard because you could control situations and things like teachers."



### If Harry were a Nazi . . .

If you still wonder why Evangelical Christians take all of this so seriously, consider this: Suppose you wrote a play, a comedy, in which the main character of the play was a lovable, funny, cute little . . . Nazi. The whole play dealt with how this cute, lovable little boy went to a Hitler school for youth and learned all the in's and out's of Nazi philosophy.

Further suppose that you took that play, went out and hired actors, and gave it a premier showing in Jerusalem, in the heart of the Jewish quarter of the old city. Do you suppose that it would be very popular? Would there be rave reviews throughout Israel over your wonderful little play?

You know the answer as well as I do. The play would never get through the first act. And why would such a play be so roundly detested? The answer is simple. Considering what Hitler had done to the Jewish race, considering the horrific death and destruction that this madman was responsible for, the thought of taking this gruesome character, and the insane philosophy which he spawned, and trying to make it cute and lovable would be condemned by all. This would be especially true of those older Jews who had lived through the horrors of the concentration camps. They would have a pretty difficult time trying to accept this play as escapism fantasy that does no one any harm.

That, my friends, is exactly the situation with the Harry Potter

books. To try to reach into the dark side, and turn the concepts of witchcraft into something cute and lovable, is utterly folly to anyone who understands the real nature of both good and evil.

### Yearning for the Supernatural

One thing the Harry Potter books and movie do reveal to us is man's constant quest for the supernatural. Instinctively we all look for something which goes beyond the humdrum scope of our lives, something which is a little above and beyond normal experience.

The good news is that you don't have to look to witchcraft to find this. The devil is not the only one who can supply us with supernatural experience. God Almighty, our wonderful loving Heavenly Father, has provided a supernatural life through the Holy Spirit.

When you read the book of Acts, you find the supernatural element all over the place. It begins with Jesus promising the disciples, "You shall receive power, after the Holy Spirit has come upon you." On the day of Pentecost, the power falls. The disciples are supernaturally endowed, and the rest of the book is one supernatural event after another.

We, too, can be filled with the Spirit of God. And while God doesn't promise us a miracle a day, we can experience that wonderful blessing of being led, directed, empowered, and filled with the Holy Spirit.

For those of you who crave fantasy reading, let me encourage you to check out C. S. Lewis' books. His *Chronicles of Narnia*, and other fantasy books are written with a Christian emphasis, and in fact, are often parables of the great New Testament stories and teachings.

### An Exhortation for Parents

And one last word to parents: Your children's greatest leverage, the magical key that opens way too many doors for them, is that time-worn phrase: "But everybody's doing it!" (or in this case reading it). Hold fast to your convictions, Mom and Dad. Let your children know that they are not everybody else; they are special. They belong to God. He has chosen them, and they cannot live like everybody else. God has a great plan for their lives, and they must live by a different standard from their unbelieving neighbors.

Let Harry go to the Hogwarts school; our children have a far greater school than that, the school of discipleship, that school whose Headmaster is the spotless Son of God, Jesus Christ. In His school we shall be equipped to be a blessing on the earth, and to enjoy eternity in the presence of God. ♣

*Note: Dennis Pollock is available to hold meetings and conferences at churches. To contact him, call 972/736-3567.*



## Prophecy Study Resources

### Books

**Wrath and Glory** — Dr. Reagan's latest book. It gives a sweeping overview of the entire book of Revelation, proving that the book is understandable and meaningful and has applications here and now. This book is the product of years of intense study. It is written in a down-to-earth, easy-to-understand style. The book runs 240 pages in length and sells for \$10 plus \$2 for shipping.

**The Christ in Prophecy Study Guide** — A detailed presentation of all the Messianic prophecies of the Bible pertaining to both the First and Second Comings of the Messiah. The prophecies are arranged by topic and are presented in chronological order. The guide contains both a topical index and a scripture index. Printed on 8 1/2 x 11 paper and spiral bound for easy access. 150 pages in length. Cost: \$15 plus \$5 for shipping.

### Videos

**Jehovah-Jireh: The Lord Our Provider** — A new 50 minute video of a sermon by Dave Reagan presented recently at Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Reagan talks about how the God of the Bible is still the God of today — that He is a personal God who is on the throne, hears prayers, and still performs miracles. Dr. Reagan illustrates his points with some exciting and dramatic experiences from his own life. \$10 plus \$2 for mailing.



### Cassette Tapes

**The United States in Bible Prophecy** — A one hour presentation by Dr. Reagan about America's role in end time prophecy. Is the U.S. in end time prophecy? If so, where. If not, why not? Includes observations about the meaning of the September 11th attack on New York and Washington, D.C. Cost is \$5.

**The Truth about Islam** — Contains the essence of Dr. Reagan's article presented in the last issue of the *Lamplighter*. This is a tape that needs to be widely distributed to counter the propaganda that Islam is a peace-loving religion that is compatible with Christianity. Cost is \$5.

To order any of the materials listed above, please call the ministry's toll free number: 1-800/705-8316. ♣



## Acts 29 – A Ministry Worthy of Your Support

Jack and Sally Hollingsworth are nomads for the Lord. They have been traveling back and forth across the United States for nine years, going wherever the Lord leads them. They specialize in ministering to alcoholics, the homeless, and prison inmates. They teach, preach, counsel, and minister mightily in music through Jack's anointed singing.

They call their ministry "Acts 29" because they have taken up where the book of Acts leaves off, continuing to reach out to people in the power of the Holy Spirit with the good news of Jesus. They emphasize a personal, caring God who still performs miracles.

### A Living Miracle

Jack himself is a living miracle. He wandered homeless on the streets for almost 20 years, living in an alcoholic haze. He was declared insane in three different states. But at 3:00am on December 8, 1988, he accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior, and his life was radically transformed.

The person God worked through to get to Jack's heart was the woman who became his wife. Sally was working at a detox center in Lexington, Kentucky. She may be small (4' 10"), but she is tough, and she knew how to handle drunks. She kept confronting Jack with the truth every time he tried to con her.

### A Vibrant Ministry

Acts 29 was launched on September 15, 1993. Since that time Jack and Sally have logged thousands of miles in their motor home, and they have touched the lives of countless people for Jesus Christ.

They have ministered many times with Dr. Reagan. He has known Sally since the early 80's when she started attending his meetings in the Lexington area. After she married Jack, Dave and



Jack and Sally Hollingsworth

Jack started ministering together, with Dave preaching and Jack singing. That close relationship continues to this day. Dave now serves on the board of Acts 29 Ministries.

### A Specific Need

The ministry currently has a very important need. The motor home that Jack and Sally have been driving for a number of years is literally worn out. They urgently need to replace it with a newer, larger, and more durable vehicle.

They recently found what they need at a dealership near Panama City, Florida. It is a much larger mobile home than the one they have now, and it has a diesel engine. It is a bank repo. The dealer was asking \$99,000 for it, but the bank was willing to take much less. The negotiations have been on-going, and the last offer agreed to by the seller was \$58,000!

The need now is to raise this money as quickly as possible before someone else takes advantage of this excellent deal. If you feel led to help, please send a check as soon as possible. Make it payable to Lamb & Lion Ministries, and send it to P.O. Box 919, McKinney, Texas 75070. Or make your donation by credit card by calling 1-800-705-8316. If you send a check, designate it for "Acts 29."

### Special Offer

When you make your donation, let us know if you would like to have a copy of "The Jack Hollingsworth Story." This is a cassette tape program that contains a dramatized version of Jack's life on one side and a collection of his songs on the other side. The drama was broadcast internationally in November of 2001 on the radio program called "Unshackled." ♦



Jack and Sally are shown above standing next to the motor home they hope to purchase.

# New Year's Greetings from the Lamb & Lion Staff



The Lamb & Lion staff is pictured above on the conversation set of the ministry's new video studio. Left to right, standing, Gary Byers, Leo Houck, George Collich, Trey Collich, and Dennis Pollock. Seated, left to right, Dave Reagan, Rachel Houck, Kay Bien, Cathie Grubb, and Don Gordoni.

## We need your support as a Prophecy Partner!

### Program Requirements

The financial base of Lamb & Lion Ministries is provided by its Prophecy Partners. These are the people who pledge to provide \$15 a month or more for one year.

We currently have 1,200 Prophecy Partners. We need to increase that number to at least 1,500 for 2002 if we are to continue expanding our media outreach with the message of the soon return of Jesus.

We ask our Prophecy Partners to aim at giving \$1 a day for a year — or \$30 per month. Many do this, and some give even more. The minimum contribution is \$15 per month.

### Program Benefits

There are many benefits and blessings associated with being a Prophecy Partner. First and foremost is the knowledge that your sacrificial support is going to a ministry whose purpose is to point people to Jesus Christ and to proclaim His soon return.

As a Prophecy Partner you will receive a monthly tape or special publication together with a personal report from Dave Reagan highlighting major events and decisions affecting the ministry.

The tape or publication usually covers some special study topic or current events topic related to Bible prophecy. From time to time a special gift, like the ministry's annual Jewish calendar, is sent to our Prophecy Partners in recognition of their support.

### Program Purposes

Your donations will be used to help pay for our media outreach all across this nation. They will also be used to help cover the cost of the thousands of free tapes and publications which we distribute yearly to people who cannot afford to pay for them.

**We need your support! Join us for 2002.**

### Prophecy Partner Commitment

**Yes!** I want to be a Lamb & Lion Prophecy Partner during 2002.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

2002 Monthly Commitment \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Goal of \$30 per month — minimum of \$15 per month)

or

2002 Yearly Commitment \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Goal of \$360 — minimum of \$180)

Mail to Lamb & Lion Ministries P.O. Box 919, McKinney, TX 75070



## Summary of Outreach Activities During the Year 2001

### 1) Radio

Produced 261 radio programs, ending the year with the Ministry's 5,616th program.  
Radio outreach on 32 stations across the United States.  
Participated in 29 radio interviews with stations all over America.

### 2) Video

Purchased and integrated over three dozen pieces of video equipment.  
Videotaped highlights of missions trip to India.  
Produced five video programs, including "Israel in Bible Prophecy," "Jehovah Jireh," "A Panel Discussion of Bible Prophecy," "Two Sermons by Dennis Pollock," and "A Sermon by Gary Fisher."  
Duplicated and distributed over 4,500 video tapes.

### 3) Audio Cassettes

Produced 7 tape programs on biblical themes.  
Distributed 31,103 cassette tapes, many free of charge.

### 4) Communications

Processed 7,122 radio listener letters.  
Processed 7,346 telephone calls from radio listeners.  
Processed 12,450 email messages.  
Maintained a website reaching people all over the world.

### 5) Preaching and Teaching

Conducted 9 regular meetings at churches.  
Conducted 15 weekend conferences.  
Presented 14 one day sessions at churches.

### 6) Publications

Produced 6 issues of the Ministry's magazine, *The Lamplighter*.  
Published 4 pamphlets on biblical themes.  
Published a calendar with a Holy Land theme.  
Published 3 books: *The Christ in Prophecy Study Guide*, *Making Room for Jesus*, and *Wrath and Glory*.

### 7) Israel

Hosted an introductory tour to the Holy Land.  
Provided extensive relief funds for Jewish refugees.  
Gave financial assistance to six ministries in Israel.

### 8) Missions

Shipped Bible study materials and Bibles to individuals and missions in many different foreign countries.  
Raised \$41,980 for Hands of Luke Ministries in Juarez, Mexico to provide care for orphans, food for the homeless, medical care for the poor, and evangelistic outreach to prison inmates and others.  
Distributed free books and tapes to prison inmates all across the United States.  
Conducted two prophecy conferences in India which were attended by over 200 pastors and evangelists.  
Continued support of a Messianic Jewish ministry in Warsaw, Poland.  
Contributed a total of \$146,825 to missions (13% of the Ministry's total income).

### 9) Conferences

Conducted a regional prophecy conference in Louisiana.  
Held a conference for Prophecy Partners.

### 10) Finances

Received 14,213 gifts from 4,905 donors.  
Received re-certification as a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.  
Ended the calendar year with all bills paid in full for the 22nd year in a row.



Dr. Reagan recording radio programs.





## Financial Report for 2001

The Lord greatly blessed the finances of Lamb & Lion Ministries during the year 2001, and we praise Him for it. Working through generous and faithful donors, the Lord supplied us with sufficient funds to enable us to end the year with all bills paid in full.

On the **income** side, our total income for the year, including carry-over funds from 2000, came to \$1,209,179. This is the second year that our income has totaled more than a million dollars. Our sales of tapes, books and videos topped \$100,000 for the first time, representing ten per cent of our income. Donations from our Prophecy Partners provided 49% of our income. The rest was supplied by supporters who made donations totaling \$150 or less. Our overall number of donors increased dramatically from 3,346 to 4,905 (46% increase).

On the **expense** side, our expenditures broke down as follows:

Salaries and Benefits (10 staff members)	40%
Buildings and Property	3%
Equipment and Furniture	8%
Evangelism Outreach	45%
General Expenses	4%

The low expenditure for buildings and property was due to the fact that both are completely paid for. Under evangelism outreach, we distributed 13% of our total income to foreign missions (\$146,825).

### Continuing Needs

Our continuing needs are \$20,000 for a new cargo van and \$20,000 for computer software and equipment.



The small mini-truck we are currently using is falling apart and needs to be replaced as soon as possible with a larger cargo van.

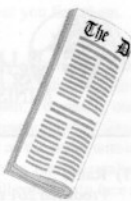
The ministry's software program was designed for churches, not for media ministries like ours. We have to work around it in order to get it to produce what we need. Further, it is DOS based and may not be supported much longer by the manufacturer. The program we need costs \$17,000. That includes conversion of our current data and a week of training for all staff members. The upgrade will require us to purchase some new computer equipment, so our goal is a total of \$20,000. This is a high priority need.

Please designate checks for "Van" or "Software." Thanks!



## Ministry News

**Computer Crash** — Our Internet computer recently crashed and we lost our updated email addresses. The email addresses we restored were the ones that were on the computer last September. If you were receiving Dennis Pollock's outstanding **Prayer and Share Letter** by email and have suddenly stopped getting it, please email us at [lamblion@lamblion.com](mailto:lamblion@lamblion.com) and ask us to put you back on the list. If you have never received this publication, but would like to do so, email us at the same address and ask to be added to the list.



**Holy Land Pilgrimages** — As announced previously, we canceled our tour to the Holy Land that we had scheduled for the spring of this year. Dr. Reagan felt it was just not safe to take a group due to the threat of international terrorism and the violence associated with the Arab uprising in Israel. We had hoped to offer a tour in the fall, but things are still too unsettled both internationally and in Israel. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem — and don't forget our new video entitled **A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**. It runs 75 minutes and shows what we do on a tour to Israel, day by day for nine days. It costs \$18 plus \$2 for shipping.

**Missions** — Dr. Reagan is scheduled to make his first trip to Australia in early May. He has been invited to conduct a prophecy conference at a large Baptist Church in Melbourne. He will also be speaking at several other places while he is in the country. Please put this important outreach on your prayer list.



In September, Dave and Dennis will return to India to conduct a prophecy conference in the capital city of New Delhi. They are also scheduled to conduct a similar conference in Katmandu, the capital city of Nepal. All the costs associated with these two conferences, including travel, lodging, meeting rooms, etc., will total between \$10,000 and \$15,000. Some of this money is needed now for preliminary planning expenses. Please consider a generous donation to make these conferences possible. Mark your check with the words, "India Outreach."



**Meetings and Conferences** — In April Dave Reagan will speak in Tulsa, Oklahoma at a prophecy conference sponsored by Thy Kingdom Come Ministries (3-5). He will also speak at Crossway Baptist Church in Forney, Texas (14) and Northside Christian Church in Clovis, California near Fresno (20-21). Dennis Pollock has a meeting scheduled at Booker Christian Church in Booker, Texas (7-10). In May Dave will spend the first part of the month in Australia. When he returns, he will conduct a conference at Christ's Church in the Valley in San Dimas, California (18-19). Dennis has meetings at First Christian Church in Orangefield, Texas (5-8) and Bethel Temple in Gary, Indiana (19-22). ✦

# Fund Raising Efforts Prove Successful

## The Philippines

Last year we launched a fund raising campaign to build a home for a Philippine pastor, Remegio Blanco, and his wife. The two were living at the time in a bamboo hut which always flooded during the rainy season.

We set a goal of \$10,000. Two thousand of that was for the land and \$8,000 for the home. We rejoice to report that in mid-January we received the final \$2,000 that we needed to complete the project.

The house is pictured below as it appeared at the end of last year. It was almost completed on the outside. The Blanco family hopes to move into the finished house around the end of February.



This is a great blessing for a wonderful man of God who has a great passion for lost souls and a zeal for proclaiming the soon return of the Lord. He conducts evangelistic campaigns and prophecy conferences all over the northern area of the island of Luzon, just north of Manila.

Thanks to all of you who helped make this great blessing possible.

## New York



In response to the attack on America on September 11th of last year, we launched a fund-raising campaign to provide funds for the victims of terror in New York City. The funds were intended for Dave Wilkerson's Times Square Church which had set up a disaster relief center near the site of the World Trade Towers.

Again, you responded very generously, and we ended up raising a total of \$21,000. This money is being used to provide relief to terror victims in the name of Jesus Christ, fulfilling the biblical injunction, "Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to Him through God the Father" (Colossians 3:17).

## Mexico



Dr. Marco Samaniego and his wife, Carmen.

Every year, beginning in December, we conduct a fund-raising campaign for the Hands of Luke Ministry in Juarez, Mexico. This great ministry, headed up by Dr. Marco Samaniego, provides full care for 90 orphans. It also supplies free medical care for the poor, housing for abused women, and a wide range of services for prison inmates. The ministry has established four nutritional centers in the most poverty stricken areas of Juarez, and it uses these centers to provide daily meals for over 500 children.

Thanks once again to your overwhelming generosity, we were able to raise a total of \$42,000 last year for Hands of Luke.

Please keep in mind that Hands of Luke needs volunteer workers throughout the year and can use work teams during school breaks and during the summer months. If you or your church is interested in helping this ministry, you can contact Dr. Marco by writing to 11184 Voyager Cove Dr., El Paso, Texas 79936, or you can call him at 915/479-1248. ✝



Dr. Marco with some of his orphans.



## Dr. Reagan's New Book on Revelation

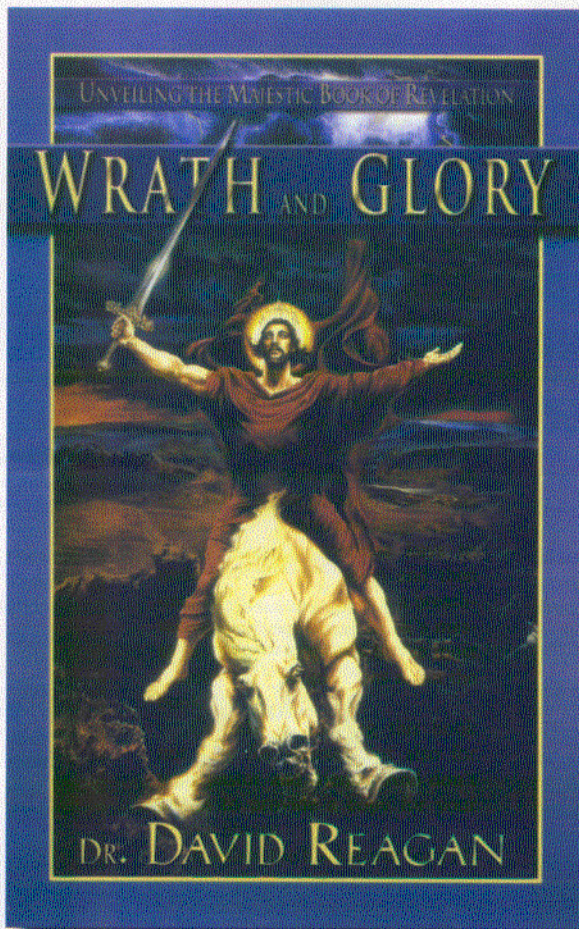
The book of Revelation reveals that when Jesus returns, He will come in both wrath and glory — thus the title of this new book. The subtitle, "Unveiling the Majestic Book of Revelation," is exactly what the book does in a down-to-earth, easy-to-understand manner.

The book is designed to clear away the mystery of Revelation, showing what it means about the future while making it relevant to daily living in the present. It contains many helpful charts and diagrams.

Dr. Reagan provides keys to understanding Revelation and then uses those keys to present a breathtaking overview of the book's message. He also responds to the most frequently asked questions about the book.

Consider purchasing this book not only for yourself but also for your pastor and friends. And don't forget to provide a copy for your church library.

It sells in the bookstores for \$12. We are offering it for the same price (\$10 plus \$2 for mailing). You can order copies today by calling 1-800-705-8316. Call between 8am and 5pm (Central time), Monday through Friday. ✚



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