

LAMPLIGHTER

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

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No. 6



The Promises
of Christmas

William Hallmark



Observations by the Editor

Praise the Lord!

This has been a year filled with blessings from the Lord, and I praise Him for them.

We expanded from two national TV networks to three, adding the FaithTV Network that broadcasts its programs over SkyAngel. We doubled our outreach over the Inspiration Network. And Day-Star began broadcasting our program into Israel.

Perhaps our greatest blessing came when SkyAngel decided to broadcast ten of our video programs as TV specials over their network. Each program is being broadcast three times, and we are receiving a great response to them.

In the field of foreign missions, we have been involved in financing ministries in Israel, and we have provided substantial funds for each of Dennis Pollock's trips to Africa. Dennis is our former associate evangelist who served this ministry for 12 years. He now heads up his own ministry called Spirit of Grace. It is aimed at conducting evangelistic and healing crusades in Africa.

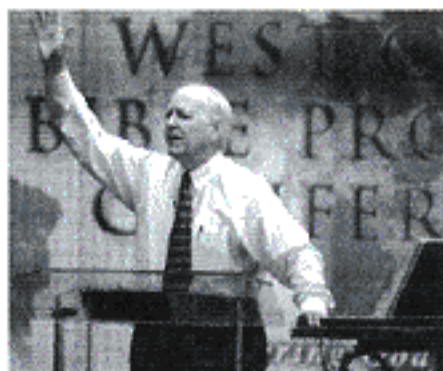
We also raised over \$35,000 for the construction of a church building in Kimberley, South Africa. And we assisted a pastor in the Philippines to purchase a truck to use in his evangelistic campaigns.

Financially, we were able to increase the participation in our Prophecy Partner Program to over 1,800 people. And we are well on our way to ending another year with all bills paid in full.

Personally, I can hardly wait to see what the Lord has in store for us in 2007.

Accountability

In September the ministry's books and operations were audited by The Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA). Everything was found to be in order, and the ministry subsequently received a letter from the ECFA stating, "On the basis of the review, we found Lamb & Lion Ministries in full compliance with the ECFA's Standards. You are commended for your continuing commitment to these Standards."



Dr. Reagan preaching at the San Diego Christian Worship Center during a Bible prophecy conference sponsored by Don Perkins' According to Prophecy Ministries — September 2006.

We issue a monthly financial statement, and anyone desiring a copy can get one by simply asking. We also make our annual audit available for distribution. We believe that a charitable organization that operates on donations should be open and above-board regarding every aspect of its finances, both income and expenditures.

How You Can Help

There are two very important things you can do to help this ministry as the year comes to a close. The first is to either renew your Prophecy Partner commitment for 2007 or become a new Prophecy Partner. See page 18 for details. The second is to consider sending us a special donation of \$20 to help cover the cost of printing and mailing this magazine to you during 2007.

Our Cover

The wonderful image on the cover of our magazine this month is by a Christian artist named William Hallmark. It is titled "Peaceful Dwelling." It illustrates the promise of Isaiah 11:6 which says, "The wolf will dwell with the lamb."

Mr. Hallmark is a native of Birmingham, Alabama. You can find a complete selection of his magnificent paintings on his website at www.williamhallmarkart.com. His paintings capture the unique symbolism of Bible verses with amazing insight and understanding.

May you have a joyous Christmas and a blessed New Year!

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The Lamplighter is free of charge to anyone requesting it. Lamb & Lion Ministries is a non-denominational ministry whose purpose is to proclaim to as many people as possible as quickly as possible that Jesus is returning soon.

The Promises of Christmas



The church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. This church is located on the traditional site of the birth of Jesus.

Dr. David R. Reagan

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus this year during the Christmas season, let's remember the promises that were made to Mary when she was visited by the Angel Gabriel:

Behold, you will conceive in your womb and
bear a son,
And you shall call His name Jesus.
He will be great, and will be called the Son
of the Most High;
And the Lord God will give to Him the throne
of His father, David,
And He will reign over the house of Jacob
forever;
And of His kingdom there will be no end.

— Luke 1:31-33

Seven Glorious Promises

This magnificent statement contains seven promises. Four of them relate to the First Advent of the Lord:

- 1) Mary would conceive a child.
- 2) Mary would give birth to a son.
- 3) The son would be great.
- 4) The son would be called "the Son of God."

All four of these prophecies were fulfilled in the life of Jesus.

Mary did conceive (Matthew 1:18-20) and bear a son (Matthew 1:25). His name was called Jesus (Matthew 1:21). He was great (Luke 7:16), and He was called the Son of God (Matthew 16:16, Matthew 27:54, and Mark 1:1).

The last three promises which Gabriel made to Mary have not been fulfilled. They relate to the Second Coming of Jesus:

- 5) He will be given the throne of David.
- 6) He will reign over the house of Jacob.
- 7) There will be no end to His kingdom.

I call these three promises the "forgotten promises" of Christmas because they are not taught by most churches in Christendom today. That's because most churches take the position that Jesus will never return to this earth to reign. This is called the Amillennial viewpoint.

Promises Spiritualized

The Amillennial view is based upon the supposition that the Bible does not mean what it says. To substantiate the viewpoint, its proponents are forced to spiritualize Scripture.

Thus, in their interpretation of the last three promises made to Mary by Gabriel, they convert the throne of David into the throne of God and the house of Jacob becomes the Church. They then conclude that the promises have been fulfilled in the current reign of Jesus from His Father's throne over His Church.



This silver star in the basement of the Church of the Nativity supposedly marks the place where Jesus was born.

The Throne of David

There is no doubt that Jesus is currently reigning from His Father's throne over His kingdom, the Church. But to identify that reign with the one promised to Mary takes a great leap of imagination.

The "throne of David" is not the throne of God. The throne of God is in Heaven. The throne of David is in Jerusalem (Psalm 122:5).

Jesus Himself clearly differentiates between the throne of God and His own throne in Revelation 3:21. In that verse, Jesus says that He will one day allow believers to sit with Him on His throne just as His Father is currently allowing Him to share His throne.

Jesus is not on the throne of David today. He is sitting at the right hand of His Father, on His Father's throne. He will occupy the throne of David when He returns to earth to reign from Mt. Zion in Jerusalem (Isaiah 24:21-23).



The House of Jacob

The "house of Jacob" is not the Church. This is an Old Testament term for the children of Israel (Exodus 19:3). The Church is never referred to in Scripture as the house of Jacob.

The Bible teaches that a remnant of the Jews will one day accept Jesus as their Messiah (Zechariah 12:10, Romans 9:27, and Romans 11:25-26). This will occur at the end of seven years of terrible suffering called the Tribulation, or "the time of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7).

When Jesus returns at the end of that time of suffering, the Jewish remnant will be gathered to the land of Israel and will be

made the foremost nation in the world (Ezekiel 37:11-28 and Zechariah 8:22-23). Jesus will then rule over the house of Jacob.

The Eternal Kingdom

The current Church kingdom is not an everlasting kingdom. The Church Age kingdom will end with the Rapture of the Church.

The Church kingdom will be followed by the Millennial kingdom when Jesus will reign over all the earth from Mt. Zion in Jerusalem (Isaiah 2:1-4). That kingdom will last one thousand years (Revelation 20:1-7).

The final, Eternal kingdom of Christ will be established on a new, perfected earth (1 Corinthians 15:24 and Revelation 21:1-8).



Believing God's Word

Why can't we accept the promises made to Mary to mean what they say? The first four meant exactly what they said. Why must the last three be spiritualized? The only reason for spiritualizing them is to force them to conform to some preconceived doctrine.

I believe God knows how to communicate. If God had intended to promise Mary that her Son would reign from Heaven over the Church forever, He would have said so. Instead, He reaffirmed to her the promise He had made many times through the Old Testament prophets that His Son would reign from David's throne in Jerusalem over Israel and that He would be given a kingdom that would last forever (Isaiah 9:6-7 and Ezekiel 37:21-28).

If the promises God made to the Jews did not mean what they said, then how can we be sure that His promises to the Church mean what they say? I believe God means what He says.

A Christmas Hope

During this Christmas season I am going to praise God for sending His Son to die for my sins.

I am also going to pray that God will soon send His Son again to fulfill the "forgotten promises" which Gabriel made to Mary. I thank God that He never forgets a promise. ✚

The Nativity: A Different Perspective

Most Christians have read Luke's account of the birth of Jesus so many times that it has become mundane. That is unfortunate, because it is a glorious story.

To give it fresh meaning, it is reproduced below from the *Jewish New Testament*, a translation by a Messianic Jew named David Stern. As you will see, this translation captures the Jewishness of the original text.

The Annunciation: Luke 1:26 - 38



In the sixth month, the angel Gavri'el was sent by God to a city in the Galil called Natzeret, to a virgin engaged to a man named Yosef, of the house of David; the virgin's name was Miryam.

Approaching her, the angel said, "Shalom, favored lady! Adonai is with you!" She was deeply troubled by his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Miryam, for you have found favor with God. Look! You will become pregnant, you will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Yeshua. He will be great, he will be called Son of Ha'Elyon. Adonai, God, will give him the throne of his forefather David; and he will rule the House of Ya'akov forever — there will be no end to his Kingdom."

"How can this be," asked Miryam of the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered her, "The Ruach HaKodesh will come over you, the power of Ha'Elyon will cover you. Therefore the holy child born to you will be called the Son of God . . . For with God, nothing is impossible."

Miryam said, "I am the servant of Adonai; may it happen to me as you have said."

The Birth: Luke 2:8 - 19



In the countryside nearby were some shepherds spending the night in the fields, guarding their flocks, when an angel of Adonai appeared to them, and the Sh'khinah of Adonai shone around them.

They were terrified; but the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid, because I am here announcing to you Good News that will bring great joy to all the people. This very day, in the town of David, there was born for you a Deliverer who is the Messiah, the Lord. Here is how you will know: you will find a baby wrapped in cloth and lying in a feeding trough."

Suddenly, along with the angel was a vast army from heaven praising God: "In the highest heaven, glory to God! And on earth, peace among people of good will!"

The Dedication: Luke 2:25 - 32

There was in Yerushalayim a man named Shim'on. This man was a tzaddik, he was devout, he waited eagerly for God to comfort Israel, and the Ruach HaKodesh was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Ruach HaKodesh that he would not die before he had seen the Messiah of Adonai.

Prompted by the Spirit, he went into the Temple courts; and when the parents brought in the child Yeshua to do for him what the Torah required, Shim'on took him in his arms, made a b'rakhah to God, and said, "Now, Adonai, according to your word, your servant is at peace as you let him go; for I have seen with my own eyes your yeshu'ah, which you prepared in the presence of all peoples — a light that will bring revelation to the Goyim and glory to your people Israel."

Glossary of Terms:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Adonai — the Lord, Yahweh | Shim'on — Simon |
| b'rakhah — blessing | Sh'khinah — Glorious Presence of God |
| Galil — Galilee | Torah — The Pentateuch |
| Goyim — Gentiles | tzaddik — Righteous man |
| Ha'Elyon — The Highest | Yerushalayim — Jerusalem |
| Miryam — Mary | Yeshua — Jesus |
| Natzeret — Nazareth | yeshu'ah — salvation |
| Ruach HaKodesh — Holy Spirit | Yosef — Joseph |

Is the Church the Kingdom?

Dr. David R. Reagan

Let's consider in detail the assertion of Amillennialists that the Church is the kingdom and there is no other kingdom promised for the future, certainly not a Millennial kingdom when Jesus will reign over all the earth from the throne of David in Jerusalem.

The Amillennialist argument is usually expressed as follows: "The Lord is not coming back to establish a kingdom here on earth because the kingdom was established in the First Century in the form of the Church, and that is the only kingdom that will ever exist on earth."

I know this argument well because I grew up in a church that taught it. We were so dogmatic about it that we refused to pray "The Lord's Prayer" because it contained the phrase, "Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in Heaven." Our position was that the kingdom had already come in the form of the Church, and therefore such a prayer was irrelevant, since it had already been fulfilled.

This argument that "the Church is the kingdom, and therefore there is no future kingdom" is the cornerstone argument of most Amillennialists. It is usually accompanied with wild assertions that "Premillennialists degrade the importance of the Church," or "Premillennialists believe that Jesus failed in His mission to establish the kingdom."

An Irrelevant Argument

All of this is really ridiculous, because the argument that the kingdom is the Church completely misses the point of Premillennialism. I am a Premillennialist, and I do not deny that the Church is the current manifestation of God's kingdom upon the earth.

Let me say that again in a different way: *I would agree that the Church is God's kingdom on the earth today.* Despite all the propaganda to the contrary, there are many Premillennialists who do not deny that Jesus is currently reigning in glory over His kingdom, the Church. It is true that there are some Premillennialists, known as Dispensationalists, who do make a distinction between the kingdom and the Church. But their viewpoint is not representative of all Premillennialists.

Diversity among Premillennialists

The thing to be kept in mind here is that there are Premillennialists and there are Premillennialists. In other words, Premillennialism is not a monolithic doctrine. All Premillennialists believe that Jesus is coming back to this earth to establish a kingdom, but beyond that basic belief, they differ widely.

Likewise, all Christians believe that Jesus is Lord, but beyond that basic belief, they disagree on many things. To attack the

validity of Premillennialism by asserting that Premillennialists are wrong because they believe the Church is not the kingdom is equivalent to attacking the validity of Christianity by asserting that Christians are wrong because they believe in the infallibility of the Pope!

I am a Christian, but I do not believe in the infallibility of the Pope. I am a Premillennialist, but I do not believe in the doctrine that the Church and the kingdom are distinctive entities. But sometimes there is just no way to win this point. I say this because when I labor mightily to stress that all Premillennialists do not believe the same things, I am often confronted with the counter-argument that the disagreement which exists among Premillennialists is proof positive that Premillennialism is wrong!

The fallacy of this kind of thinking can be illustrated decisively by pointing out that the same argument could be applied to Christianity as a whole — that is, Christianity is invalid because Christians disagree! This, of course, is sheer nonsense.

It should be kept in mind, too, that Amillennialists disagree strongly with each other. Some spiritualize the kingdom completely while others materialize it in the Church. Some deny that there will ever be a Millennium of any kind; others argue we have been in a spiritual Millennium ever since the Cross. Some take the position that the book of Revelation was fulfilled in the First Century in the pouring out of God's wrath on the Jews. Others assert that the book is a prophecy about the struggle between the Church and

the Roman Empire. Others argue that the book is a prophecy about the battle between Catholics and Protestants. And still others idealize the book to the point of contending that it represents nothing except the ongoing conflict between the forces of good and evil. There are even Amillennialists who believe that our eternal abode will be a new earth, whereas most would hotly deny this, arguing instead that we will spend eternity in an ethereal spirit world.

The Amillennial Contention

There are four basic arguments that Amillennialists use to justify their contention that the kingdom was established in the First Century in the form of the Church and that the Church is the only kingdom which Christ will ever have on this earth:

- 1) They point to passages like Acts 2:29-31 to establish the fact that Jesus is currently reigning.
- 2) They refer to scriptures like Matthew 10:7 to illustrate that Jesus taught the kingdom was "near" or "at hand."
- 3) They use Matthew 16:18-19 to prove that Jesus used the words "church" and "kingdom" interchangeably.
- 4) They utilize scriptures like Hebrews 12:28 and Revelation 1:9 to emphasize that the kingdom is a present reality.



"The Victorious Lion of Judah" by C. Michael Dudash. A rare painting showing Jesus reigning over all the world.

The Diversity of the Kingdom Concept

All I can say in response to these scriptural references is "Amen." I agree that they prove the Church is the current manifestation of God's kingdom in the world. But to say that the kingdom is the Church is not the same as saying that the kingdom is *only* the Church.

The Scriptures clearly teach that the Church is the kingdom. They do not teach that the kingdom is *only* the Church. Consider these references to the kingdom in scripture:

- 1) The kingdom is identified with the creation itself, for God is sovereign over the creation. See Psalm 93:1-2 and 1 Chronicles 29:11.
- 2) The kingdom is expressed in the nation of Israel. See Exodus 19:6 and 1 Samuel 8:7.
- 3) The kingdom is equated with the Church. See Colossians 1:13 and Revelation 1:9.
- 4) The kingdom is viewed as something more than the Church, yet to come in the future. See Matthew 8:11, Luke 22:28-30, Acts 14:22, 1 Corinthians 6:9, and 2 Peter 1:11.
- 5) The kingdom is yet future, to take the form of a reign of Christ and His saints upon the earth. See Daniel 7:18, 27, 2 Timothy 2:12, Revelation 3:21, and Revelation 20:6.
- 6) The kingdom is yet future, to take the form ultimately of a reign of God over the redeemed upon a new earth. See 1 Corinthians 15:24-28 and Revelation 21:1-4.

The Unity of the Kingdom Concept

I believe these scriptures teach that God has always had a kingdom upon this earth, but it has been manifested in different ways. The kingdom was originally expressed in the creation itself, in its perfect obedience to God's will. With the corruption of the creation through the sin of man, the kingdom was expressed in the lives of the Patriarchs who, like Job, responded obediently in faith to God's will. The kingdom became focused in a more tangible manner after the call of Abraham and the emergence of the nation of Israel. Since Pentecost, the kingdom has been expressed in the Church. But the Bible promises different expressions of the kingdom in the future -- first, in the form of a thousand year rule of Jesus upon this earth, and second, in the form of an eternal rule of God upon a new earth.

Notice that the progression here is both circular and expansive. It is circular in that it begins and ends with the reign of God over a creation that is in perfect submission. It is expansive in that after the Fall it constantly expands in scope from a few Patriarchs and their families, to the nation of Israel, to the Church, and finally to all nations of the world.

The kingdom is thus past, present, and future. It is currently expressed in the Church, but it is like a rose in the bud, yet to bloom in its full glory. The kingdom has always been coming, and it will continue to come until God's will is done perfectly. Even during the Millennial reign of Jesus the kingdom will be

coming, for the Bible teaches that rebellion will be lurking in the hearts of men.

The consummation of the kingdom will not come until all enemies of God have been subdued. That will occur at the end of the Millennial reign of Jesus (Revelation 20:7-15) at which time He will surrender the kingdom to His Father, and God Himself will reign forever over a redeemed creation (Romans 8:18-23 and 1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

"Is the Church the kingdom? Yes and no. Yes it is the Lord's kingdom in the world today. No, it is not the full expression of the kingdom."

Jesus and the Kingdom

This concept of the progressive unfolding of the kingdom was taught by Jesus in the parable in which He compared the kingdom of God to the growth of grain, stating "the soil produces crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, then the mature grain in the head" (Mark 4:26-29).

Jesus clearly expressed His belief in a future, literal Jewish kingdom here on earth at the time of His Ascension. As He stood with his disciples on the Mount of Olives, they asked Him, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" (Acts 1:6). He responded, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority" (Acts 1:7). Notice, Jesus did not rebuke His disciples by telling them that the kingdom was going to be a spiritual kingdom called the Church and not a Jewish kingdom here on earth. Rather, He simply told them that it was not God's will to reveal to them when the Jewish kingdom would be established.

Jesus also expressed the progressive coming of the kingdom in the prayer He taught His disciples to pray when He said: "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). This is a clear expression of Hebrew parallelism, a poetic form in which the first statement is refined and defined by the second. Thus, to pray, "Thy kingdom come," is to pray, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." We certainly have not achieved that goal during the current Church Age.

The ultimate truth about the concept of the kingdom is that Jesus Himself was the incarnation of all that the concept represents, for He obeyed God perfectly in all things (Hebrews 5:8-9).

Answering the Question

Is the Church the kingdom? Yes and no. Yes it is the Lord's kingdom in the world today. No, it is not the full expression of the kingdom. The kingdom is present and yet still coming. Let us pray for its more glorious expression by joining the Apostle John in his prayer: "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).

Then the sovereignty, the dominion, and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him. — Daniel 7:27 ✦

The Error of Replacement Theology

Dr. David R. Reagan

The argument that the Church is the fulfillment of all the Bible's kingdom prophecies is not the only error of Amillennialism. An equally serious one is the assertion that the Church has replaced Israel. This is called Replacement Theology.

The argument usually goes like this: "Since the Jews rejected Jesus as their Messiah, God rejected them. He poured out His wrath upon them, scattered them all over the earth, and transferred the promises made to them to 'Spiritual Israel,' the Church. God has no purpose left for the Jews. The re-establishment of modern day Israel is, therefore, merely an accident of history with no spiritual meaning."

This viewpoint is held by most of the old mainline, liberal denominations like the Methodists, Presbyterians, and Episcopalians. It is also held by some conservative groups like the Churches of Christ and the Church of God of Anderson, Indiana. Advocates of the view can even be found among Southern Baptists, although most Baptists would reject it.

I would contend that the view is thoroughly unbiblical.

The Jews' Position with God

There is no doubt that God poured out His wrath on the Jewish people in the First Century in response to their rejection of His Son, Jesus, as their Messiah. And there is no doubt they have remained under the discipline of God to this day. But that does not mean they have been rejected by God.

God loves the Jewish people, even in their rebellion. In the everlasting Abrahamic Covenant, God told Abraham that He would bless those who bless Israel and curse those who curse them (Genesis 12:3). In like manner, He told the prophet Zechariah that he who touches Israel, "touches the apple of His eye" (Zechariah 2:8).

Isaiah proclaimed that God could never forget Israel because He has them "inscribed on the palms of His hands" (Isaiah 49:14-16). Jeremiah stated that the Jewish people would exist as a nation forever (Jeremiah 31:36). And prophet after prophet asserted that in the end times, a great remnant of the Jews will be saved when they accept Jesus as their Messiah (Isaiah 10:20-22; Jeremiah 31:1-7, 31-34; Ezekiel 6:8-10; Daniel 12:1; Hosea 2:14-20; Joel 2:31-32; Micah 7:18-20; Zephaniah 3:12-13; and Zechariah 12:10).

Paul's Viewpoint

"But," say the Amillennialists, "all these promises were annulled by the Jews' rejection of Jesus as their Messiah." This assertion explains why chapters 9 through 11 of Romans have been the most ignored and despised chapters of the New Testament throughout Church history. Often, these chapters are simply dismissed as an "irrelevant parenthesis" in the book of Romans.

But the truth is that they are anything but that. In these chapters Paul uses the Jewish people as the quintessential



example of God's grace. Despite their history of rebellion against God's will, and their continuing rebellion, Paul teaches that God still loves them, still has a purpose for them, and is still determined to bring a great remnant of them to salvation in Jesus.

In fact, Paul repudiates Replacement Theology before he even gets to these chapters. He begins chapter 3 with two rhetorical questions:

- 1) Do Jews have any advantage with God?
- 2) Has their unbelief nullified the faithfulness of God?

Historically the Church has answered the first question with a "No!" despite the fact that Romans 1:16 says pointedly that the Gospel is God's power of salvation for "the Jew first."

With regard to the second question, the Church has consistently answered with a resounding "Yes!" arguing that God has "washed His hands of the Jews" because of their unbelief.

But how does the Apostle Paul answer these questions? He responds in exactly the opposite way. He declares that the Jews do have an advantage because "they were entrusted with the oracles of God" (Romans 3:2). This is a reference to the fact that every book of the Bible (yes, I would include the Gospel of Luke and the book of Acts) was written by a Jew. With regard to the second question as to whether or not God has rejected the Jews, Paul responds with great emotion, "May it never be!" (Romans 3:4).

The Truth of Romans 9-11

Paul returns to this theme in chapters 9-11. He begins by talking about how important the Jews have been in God's redemptive history, and how important they continue to be (Romans 9:3-4):

... my brethren, my kinsmen, according to the flesh, who are Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons and the glory and the

covenants and the giving of the Law and the temple service and the promises . . .

Note that Paul is talking about physical Jews, not spiritual ones, and note that he refers to the continuing validity of God's promises to them. In Romans 9:27 he refers to the Old Testament promise that God will one day save a great remnant of the Jews, specifically quoting Isaiah 10:22.

He begins chapter 11 with another rhetorical question: "I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He?" For 2,000 years the Catholic Church has answered this question with a dogmatic "Yes!" When the Reformation occurred, the resulting Protestant churches joined in the chorus. But Paul answers it by saying, "May it never be . . . *God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew*" (Romans 11:1-2, emphasis added).

Again, he affirms that a remnant will be saved (Romans 11:5) by grace after "the fullness of the Gentiles has come in" to the Church (Romans 11:25). Then, as Paul considers the stubbornness of his brethren in contrast to the patient, loving-kindness of God toward them, he cries out from his heart, "Oh, the depth of the riches, both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!" (Romans 11:33).

God's Plan for Israel

It is only when you understand how much God loves the Jewish people and how determined He is to bring a great remnant to salvation, that you can begin to understand what is going on in the Middle East today. The Bible clearly reveals that the 20th Century regathering of the Jewish people from the four corners of the earth back to their homeland is a supernatural act of God that is the first step in bringing about the salvation of a remnant (Isaiah 11: 10-12).

Specifically, the Scriptures teach that once the Jews are regathered in unbelief and their nation is re-established, God will bring all the nations of the earth against them over the issue of who is going to control Jerusalem (Zechariah 12:2-3). The hatred of the Jews and the opposition to their state will climax during the last half of the Tribulation when the Antichrist will turn against them and attempt to annihilate them from the face of the earth (Revelation 12:12-17). During this terrible period of three and a half years, the Antichrist will succeed in killing two-thirds of the Jewish people (Zechariah 13:8).

That's the bad news. But the incredibly good news is that those remaining will be brought to the end of themselves, and in their total desperation, they will turn their hearts toward God. At that moment, Jesus will appear in the heavens, and the Jewish remnant "will look upon Him whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only Son, and they will weep bitterly over Him, like the bitter weeping over a first born" (Zechariah 12:10). They will call upon the name of the Lord (Joel 2:31-32), and they will cry out, "Baruch Haba Adonai!" meaning, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Matthew 23:38-39).

God's Amazing Grace

When I first started preaching about God's love for the Jewish people and His determination to pursue them until a great



remnant repents and accepts His Son as their Messiah, my wife said to me, "You make me want to be a Jew."

"No," I responded, "you don't want to be a Jew because the overwhelming odds are that if you were a Jew, you would have a spiritual veil over your eyes (2 Corinthians 3:14), and you would refuse to acknowledge Jesus as your Messiah."

And then I made a point to her that I encouraged her never to forget: "Ann, God is not doing one thing for the Jewish people that He is not willing to do for all of us."

Keep in mind, the Jewish people are God's Chosen People (Deuteronomy 7:6). That does not mean they are saved. Rather, it means they were called by God to be witnesses of Him (Isaiah 43:10-12). Accordingly, when you study their history, you can come to an understanding of what it means to have a relationship with God. Their history shows that when you are faithful, God blesses. When you rebel, He disciplines. And when you repent, He forgives and forgets and starts blessing again (read the book of Judges).

Currently, the Jewish people are under discipline. They have been for two thousand years. But one day soon their eyes will be opened to the reality of Jesus as their Messiah. When that happens, they will be overcome with grief, they will be swept by repentance, and a great remnant will be saved by grace through faith.

God's continuing love for the Jews despite their persistent spiritual rebellion is a great demonstration of the meaning of grace — second only to the Cross itself. People often say to me, "How could God possibly be behind the worldwide regathering of the Jewish people when they are still caught up in unbelief? The only thing they deserve is death."

But that is exactly the point. *The only thing any of us deserve is death.* But "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

We can thank God that those of us who have put our faith in Jesus will never receive what we deserve. Praise God for His amazing grace! And praise Jesus for His willingness to suffer and die so that we might be reconciled to the Father. ❖

Two Lebanese – Americans speak out

All eyes on Lebanon

Joseph Farah

(Editor's note: Joseph Farah is a Lebanese-American journalist who is the founder and editor of WorldNetDaily, an Internet news service located at www.wnd.com. This article was posted on his website on August 1, 2006.)

You know, it's funny.

For years I've been trying to get people to pay attention to the deaths and destruction and injustices being perpetrated on my beloved Lebanon.

And nobody cared.

The World's Lack of Concern

When Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Liberation Organization tried to take over the country and make it his terrorist playground, nobody cared.

When people were dying by the thousands in the civil war, nobody cared.

When Syria had its boot on the neck of its tiny neighbor for 25 years, nobody cared.

When Iran dispatched Hezbollah terrorists into the country to undermine home rule by Lebanese, nobody cared.

When Muslims chased millions of Christians from the country, tipping the balance of power, nobody cared.

The World's Sudden Interest

But now, all eyes are on Lebanon.

Do you know why?

Because Israel has tried to clean up this hornet's nest. Yet, all we hear about is how many Lebanese are dying.

Can I let you in on a little secret?

Guess what the total death toll is among Lebanese during the extent of this war — including Hezbollah terrorists, many of whom are not really Lebanese?

You better sit down.

The total death toll is just over 500.

Now, far be it for me to minimize death tolls. One innocent death is a tragedy. But this is the total — all terrorists, civilians, Lebanese army, everything.

The whole world is going nuts over this "slaughter."

The Need for Perspective

What is needed is some perspective here. May I offer it?

Last month alone, U.S. troops in Afghanistan announced killing 600 "suspected" Taliban. That's one month alone. We've

been occupying this foreign country since 2002. It began in response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. U.S. forces went halfway around the world to attack a sovereign nation, to overthrow the government and kill as many people as it deemed necessary over the last five years to prevent more terrorist attacks in the future. Few would suggest that Afghanistan represents any imminent threat to the U.S. today. By the way, according to U.S. military spokesmen, a total of 1,700

Afghanis have been killed since the start of the year. That includes some civilians, some aid workers and more than 70 foreign troops.

But, last time I checked, there weren't demonstrations in the streets of the U.S. or elsewhere around the world over this war.

Instead, everybody is going ape over Lebanon . . .

The Real Issue

Does any of this make sense?

Do you think those screaming about the bloodshed in Lebanon really give a hoot about Lebanon? If so, where have they been for the last 30 years?

Why is Lebanon the top story in every newscast? Why is Lebanon on the front page of every newspaper? Don't you get the impression that the violence there is probably worse than anywhere else on the planet from this focus?

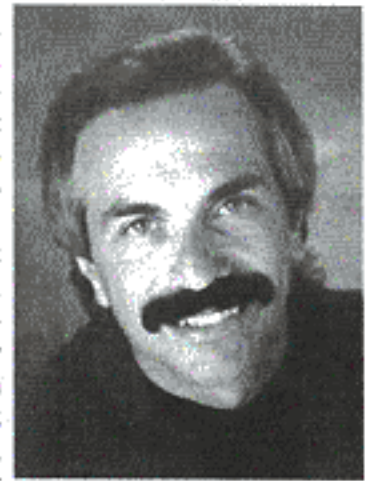
Clearly it is not.

And the only difference is who's doing the b*** kicking in Lebanon.

What Lebanon Really Needs

As for me, an American of Lebanese and Syrian heritage, I don't want to see a "cease-fire." I want to see Lebanon freed of the terrorist blight, once and for all. I want to see Lebanon freed from domination by Iran and Syria. I want to see Lebanon be Lebanon. I don't want to see Lebanon suffer for another 30 years. It's time to clean up the mess and allow this poor, little country to heal.

And that means getting rid of the disease of Hezbollah — now. ✦



Joseph Farah

about the Israeli-Hezbollah War

Supporting Israel

Brigitte Gabriel

(Editor's note: This speech was delivered at an anti-terrorism conference held at Duke University on October 14, 2004. Brigitte Gabriel is a Lebanese-American who is founder and director of the American Congress for Truth [ACT], a Virginia-based organization whose purpose is to expose the threat of Islamic fundamentalism. Notice that this speech was delivered two years before the outbreak of the recent war, but it addresses the underlying issues.)

I'm proud and honored to stand here today, as a Lebanese speaking for Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East. As someone who was raised in an Arabic country, I want to give you a glimpse into the heart of the Arabic world.

I was raised in Lebanon, where I was taught that the Jews were evil, Israel was the devil, and the only time we will have peace in the Middle East is when we kill all the Jews and drive them into the sea.

A Change in Perspective

When the Moslems and Palestinians declared Jihad on the Christians in 1975, they started massacring the Christians, city after city. I ended up living in a bomb shelter underground from age 10 to 17, without electricity, eating grass to live, and crawling under sniper bullets to a spring to get water.

It was Israel who came to help the Christians in Lebanon. My mother was wounded by a Moslem's shell, and was taken into an Israeli hospital for treatment. When we entered the emergency room, I was shocked at what I saw. There were hundreds of people wounded — Moslems, Palestinians, Christians, Lebanese, and Israeli soldiers were lying on the floor. The doctors treated everyone according to their injury. They treated my mother before they treated the Israeli soldier lying next to her. They didn't see religion, they didn't see political affiliation, they saw people in need and they helped.

For the first time in my life I experienced a human quality that I know my culture would not have shown to their enemy. I experienced the values of the Israelis, who were able to love their enemy in their most trying moments. I spent 22 days at that hospital. Those days changed my life and the way I believe information, the way I listen to the radio or to television. I realized I had been sold a fabricated lie by my government about the Jews and Israel. I knew for a fact that if I was a Jew standing in an Arab hospital, I would be lynched amid shouts of joy of "Allah Akbar," God is great.

An Eye-Opening Friendship

I became friends with some of the families of the Israeli wounded soldiers. One in particular, Rina, had a son who had been blinded in both eyes.

One day I was visiting with her, and the Israeli army band

came to play songs to lift the spirits of the wounded soldiers. As they surrounded the bed of Rina's son, playing a song about Jerusalem, Rina and I started crying. I felt out of place and started walking out of the room, but Rina grabbed my hand and pulled me back. She hugged me crying and said, "It is not your fault." We just stood there crying, holding each other's hands.



Brigitte Gabriel

What a contrast between her, a mother looking at her deformed 19 year old son and still able to love me the enemy, and between a Moslem mother who sends her son to blow himself up to smithereens just to kill a few Jews or Christians.

The Essential Differences

The difference between the Arabic world and Israel is a difference in values and character. It's barbarism verses civilization. It's democracy verses dictatorship. It's goodness verses evil.

Once upon a time, there was a special place in the lowest depths of hell for anyone who would intentionally murder a child. Now, the intentional murder of Israeli children is legitimized as Palestinian "armed struggle."

However, once such behavior is legitimized against Israel, it is legitimized every where in the world, constrained by nothing more than the subjective belief of people who would wrap themselves in dynamite and nails for the purpose of killing children in the name of god . . .

They blame suicide bombing on the "desperation of occupation." Let me tell you the truth. The first major terror bombing committed by Arabs against the Jewish state occurred ten weeks before Israel even became independent.

On Sunday morning, February 22, 1948, in anticipation of Israel's independence, a triple truck bomb was detonated by Arab terrorists on Ben Yehuda Street in Jerusalem. Fifty-four people were killed, and hundreds were wounded. Thus, it is obvious that Arab terrorism is caused not by the "desperation" of "occupation", but by the VERY THOUGHT of a Jewish state.

So many times in history in the last 100 years, citizens have stood by and done nothing, allowing evil to prevail. As America stood up against and defeated Communism, now it is time to stand up against the terror of religious bigotry and intolerance. It's time for all of us to stand up and support and defend the state of Israel, which is the front line of the war against terrorism. ♦

Let Jews Live in Their Homeland!

Israel Harel

(Editor's note: Israel Harel is an opinion columnist for a newspaper in Jerusalem called *Ha'aretz*.)

The term *Judenrein* means an area cleansed of Jews. In the past, this German Nazi concept was applied throughout Europe. Now we hear American and other liberals saying that Jewish communities on the biblical land of Judea and Samaria, the cradle of the Jewish nation, must be emptied of all their inhabitants, so that even in a Jewish homeland there can be *Judenrein* areas.

The expulsion of the Jews from Europe, which reached its height during World War II, was a manifestly barbaric and inhumane act. But there, at least, the Jews were unwelcome guests, having lived in that area for merely a thousand years or so. However, to drive out the Jewish community of Hebron, where the matriarchs and patriarchs of the Jewish people are buried and King David first ruled 3,000 years ago, is unthinkable.

The United States is dotted with towns named for biblical cities in Israel: Hebron, Shilo, Bethlehem. But according to the terminology of many in the U.S. press, the Israeli Shilo, the



Israel Harel

original one, is a "settlement," and consequently must be cleansed of Jews.

If someone decided to expel Jews from Shiloh, Ohio, or Hebron, Neb., USA Today might be among the first to come out against what it would likely term racism. Why then does it support the expulsion of Jews from the original Shilo, the Jewish one? Why are Jews living in their own homeland considered "an obstacle to peace"?

Why is the only place in the world where Jews cannot live, according to liberals, the very place where the Jewish faith was born, where it developed monotheism, where the Judeo-Christian civilization took shape, and where the Jewish people returned after 2,000 years of exile?

It is not the presence of Jews in the settlements that is a provocation to Palestinians; it is the presence of Jews anywhere in Israel on either side of the Green Line, the 1949 armistice line.

So, if you support the expulsion of Jews from Europe, America or anywhere else, you're a racist. But if you advocate the expulsion of Jews from the heart of their homeland, you're a liberal.

Liberals' demand to drive Jews off their own land to create a *Judenrein* area, in the land of the Jews, of all places, is the height of hypocrisy by those who claim to be fair-minded advocates of justice in the world. ✧

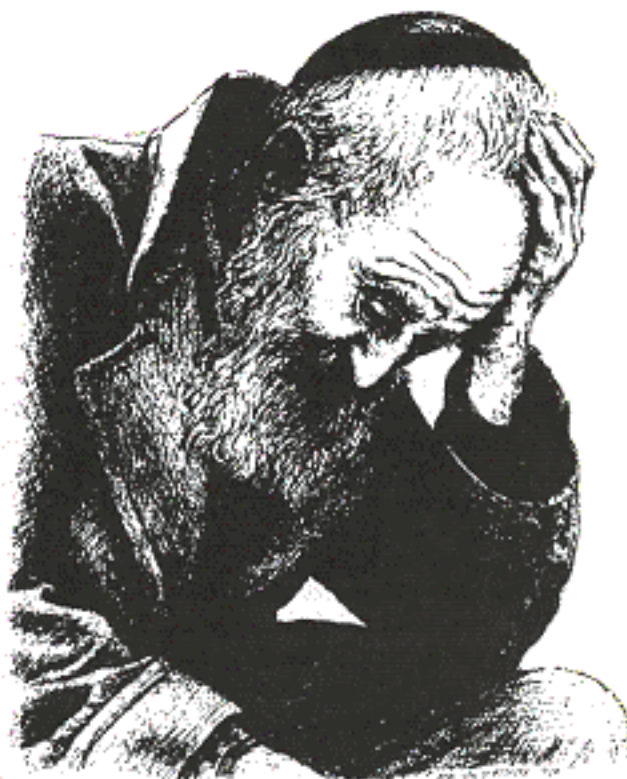
The World's Hypocrisy

Dr. David R. Reagan

The observations above by Israel Harel reminded me of the hypocrisy that characterizes the foreign policies of most of the Western nations with regard to Israel.

- They denounce terrorism and refuse to compromise with terrorists, yet they demand that Israel negotiate with terrorist regimes that are determined to destroy the Jewish state.
- They target terrorists like Abu Mussab al-Zarqawi and Osama bin Laden for assassination and then condemn Israel for doing the same thing.
- They demand that all Jews move out of the "occupied territories" that constitute the heart of Israel so that any new Palestinian state will be free of all Jews. Yet, they demand that Israel keep its current one million Palestinians and open its doors to more.
- They condemn Israel for its "disproportionate" response to terrorists attacks when every one of them would be doing the same thing if they were attacked.
- They sit silently on the sidelines as long as Israel is under attack, but the moment that Israel starts responding in self-defense, they rush to the United Nations to arrange a cease fire.

These hypocritical nations are calling for the condemnation of God that is promised in Joel 3:1-2 where it says that He will enter into judgment against all those who attempt to divide up the land He has given the Jewish people. ✧



PRAY for the PEACE of JERUSALEM
Design: PBT Group/Conary Photo: 121.6

4 Things Wrong!

Anonymous

(Editor's note: This article by an unknown author was written between the World Wars and was published by the New Jersey Tract Society of Ramsey, New Jersey. A printer in Franklin, Tennessee found the tract in his father's Bible. The formatting of the original tract has been maintained.)

Things cannot be right while they are wrong. It would seem unnecessary to say such a thing, yet that very thing needs to be said just now. When Paul and his associates came to Thessalonica the multitude said: "These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also" (Acts 17:6).

Now that is precisely what the world needs, for things are wrong-side up. The spectacle of the world's diplomats gathered to bring about "world peace" and to "make war impossible," without the slightest attempt to diagnose the world's disease, is deplorable. Universal peace is what God has promised (Isaiah 2:1-5), but God tells us also how it will come about. At the present writing, England demands that she be let alone with her unquestioned "supremacy of the seas," and America speaks of doubling her navy. This does not look like beating swords into plowshares, or spears into pruning hooks, as foretold in Isaiah 2:4.

Four things are wrong, and the world will not be right till these four wrongs are righted. And since these are wholly and only in God's power to right, we must wait, and in the meantime finish the only work He has given us to do — namely, make Christ known in all the earth.

What then are the four things wrong?

1) The Church is out of place.

The True Church has already repudiated the world and confesses herself a stranger and pilgrim. She journeys to a heavenly city where her Lord is. She is the body of which He is the head. She is out of place here, and is expecting each moment to be taken home. Her Lord has promised to come and take her away to be with Himself. Now one of the first things God will do in righting things is to take the Church into Heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17).



2) The Jew is out of place.

The Jew ought to be in Palestine. God has promised to bless the nations through His earthly people, and is Himself without a channel for His blessing to the nations while His people are out of their land. They will go back and finally become the head of the nations (Jeremiah 23:5-8 and 32:37-41). In Psalm 67, Israel calls on God to bless HER, that all the earth may be blessed.



3) The Devil is out of place.

We are expressly told that the devil is in the heavens, when he

ought to be in the pit. How can things be right with the evil one in power? In Revelation 11:15 God says "the kingdoms of the world are become the kingdom of Christ." In chapter 12, the devil is cast out of heaven as the first step necessary to the establishment of Christ's rule. What word have we had from our statesmen about this? Have they read Jeremiah 8:9? "The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the Word of the Lord: and what wisdom is in them?" Satan is the cause of all the trouble and unrest, but his future is set forth in Revelation 12 and Revelation 20.



4) The King is out of place.

Christ came as a King (Matthew 2:2). He was rejected and Caesar was chosen in His place (John 19:15). And now after nearly 2,000 years of its self-chosen kings the world is tired. But the only remedy given is "Democracy — the rule of the people." The rightful King is in heaven, and should be on earth. He has no throne of His own in heaven (Revelation 3:21). He is heir to David's throne and ought to be reigning in Jerusalem (Luke 1:31-33). What then is the matter with the world?



IT HAS NO KING!

The rightful King is absent, and while He is away, petty princes fight for power that belongs to none of them (Ezekiel 21:26-27; Zechariah 14:9,16; Revelation 19:11-18). Psalm 72 describes Christ's kingdom and reign on earth.

Now —

- 1st When the Church is in heaven.
- 2nd When the Jew is back in his land.
- 3rd When the devil is in the pit,
- 4th When Christ is reigning in Jerusalem.

ALL THINGS ARE RIGHT

The nations will be quiet (Psalm 72:11),
They will learn war no more (Isaiah 2:4).
They will all go up to Jerusalem to worship (Zechariah 14:16).
The desert will blossom as the rose (Isaiah 35),
And the glory of the Lord will cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea (Habakkuk 2:14).

HALLELUJAH!

Editor's note: I want to thank Gary Fisher, founder and director of Lion of Judah Ministries in Franklin, Tennessee for bringing this remarkable pamphlet to my attention.

Since this pamphlet was written, most likely in the 1920's, one of the four things out of place has now been put back in place by the miraculous hand of God — namely, the Jewish people. The next thing to be put in its proper place is the Church when the Rapture occurs. That event could happen any moment. The Devil will be put in his place at the end of the Tribulation when he will be confined to the pit (Revelation 20: 1-3). Jesus will then begin His glorious thousand year reign (Revelation 20:4-10), and the King will be in His proper place. *Maranatha!*

Television Update

In late August the SkyAngel Network in Naples, Florida began broadcasting ten TV specials featuring video programs produced by this ministry. Each program will be broadcast three times. For a detailed listing of all the programs and their broadcast times, go to the home page of our website (www.lamblion.com) and click on the SkyAngel logo.

“Christ in Prophecy” Broadcast Schedule

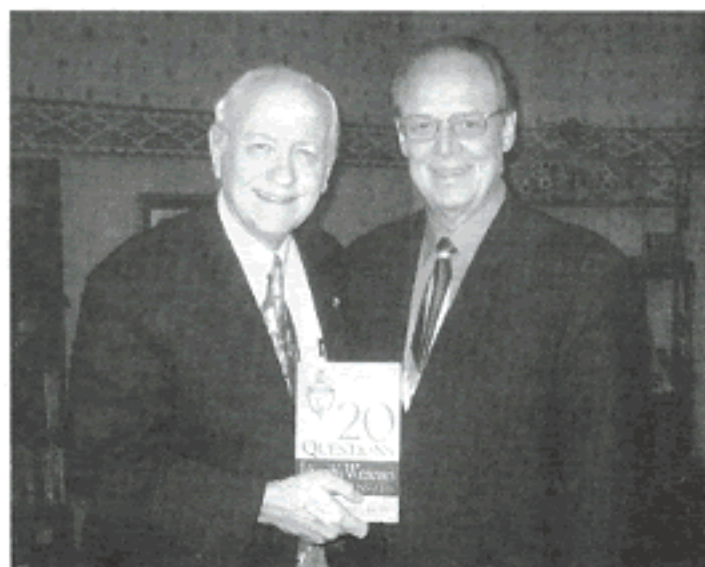
| DayStar Network DirecTV Channel 369 DISH Channel 263 | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Zone | Pacific | Mountain | Central | Eastern |
| Day & Time | Wed. 4:00pm | Wed. 5:00pm | Wed. 6:00pm | Wed. 7:00pm |
| | Sun. 10:30pm | Sun. 11:30pm | Mon. 12:30am | Mon. 1:30am |

| Inspiration Network Available on cable networks | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Zone | Pacific | Mountain | Central | Eastern |
| Day & Time | Tues. 5:30pm | Tues. 6:30pm | Tues. 7:30pm | Tues. 8:30pm |
| | Wed. 8:00am | Wed. 9:00am | Wed. 10:00am | Wed. 11:00am |

| FaithTV Network SkyAngel Channel 9708 | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Zone | Pacific | Mountain | Central | Eastern |
| Day & Time | Sun. 10:30am | Sun. 11:30am | Sun. 12:30pm | Sun. 1:30pm |



“Christ in Prophecy” is also broadcast throughout southern Louisiana on the Family Vision Network: Sunday at 6:30pm; Monday at 8:30am; and Wednesday at 7:00pm. For specific stations, check the network’s website at www.kajn.com/family_vision. ❖



Dr. Reagan is shown above with Dr. Charles Love.

Dr. Reagan recently videotaped two television programs with Dr. Charles Love, pastor emeritus of Cornerstone Church in Riverside, CA. Dr. Love is the author of a book entitled *20 Questions Jehovah's Witnesses Cannot Answer*. Dr. Love was a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses for 30 years before he discovered the true Jesus and salvation by grace through faith in Jesus as Messiah.

In the first program Dr. Love shared his personal witness about how he was delivered from the spiritual darkness of the JW cult. In the second program he discussed in detail all the major doctrines of the JW's and showed how they contradict the Scriptures.

You can purchase a copy of his book from us for \$15 (including the cost of shipping) by calling 1-800-705-8316. ❖

An Equipment Need



We have an immediate need for a new piece of television production equipment. It is a digital switcher which will be used to switch from one camera to another while videotaping a program. All our new equipment purchases need to be compatible with high-definition production, something that will be required of all television producers by the year 2009. This machine meets that qualification. The cost is \$12,000. We have \$6,000 of that in hand. If you feel led of the Lord to help us purchase this item, please mark your donation with the words, “TV Equipment.” Thanks! ❖

Recent Visitors To Our Ministry



Dr. Reagan and Dr. Todd Bradley

Dr. Todd Bradley is an associate professor of missions at Criswell College in Dallas and is the co-founder of the Pasche Institute for Jewish Studies. Prior to his arrival at Criswell in January 2004, he spent 29 years as a U.S. Air Force officer serving in a variety of intercultural and foreign liaison assignments in the Middle East and Europe.

The Pasche Institute (pronounced PASH-ee) was founded to multiply and strengthen leaders for ministry to the Jewish people and to significantly contribute to the scholarship of Jewish studies. It is the only accredited evangelical program of this nature in the United States. For more information about the Institute and its programs, check out their website at www.pascheinstitute.com. ❖



Ray and Trayce Gano

Ray Gano is the founder and director of Prophezine, an Internet Bible prophecy website of outstanding quality. He is assisted in his work by his wife, Trayce. You can find the site on the Internet at www.prophezine.com.

In addition to providing in-depth articles about Bible prophecy in the news today, the Gano's website features two blogs, one by Ray and one by Trayce, several forums on a variety of topics, and a weekly radio broadcast.

Ray and Trayce love to interact with their website visitors. Their website is a great place to go for answers to questions regarding Bible prophecy. ❖

An Outstanding Prophecy Book For Teens And New Christians

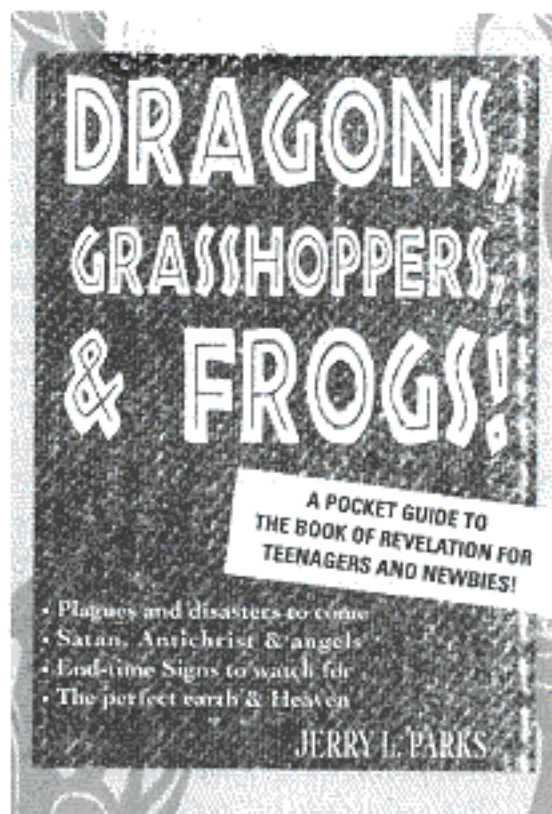
Dr. David R. Parks

Jerry Parks may have a doctorate in theology, but it has not made him intellectually stuffy or rendered him incapable of communicating effectively with young people. His commentary on the book of Revelation, entitled *Dragons, Grasshoppers & Frogs!* was designed to communicate with teens, and it is a smashing success.

I was absolutely fascinated by the book. When I started reading it, I just could not put it down. I was shouting, "Hallelujah," by the end of the very first chapter. Dr. Parks is obviously a person who really knows and understands Bible prophecy in general and the book of Revelation in particular. And he has been blessed with formidable communication skills.

When I wrote to Dr. Parks to congratulate him on the book, I asked him how he had come up with the idea of writing it. He replied: "The idea for the book sprang from my after-school, middle school prayer group. They wanted to learn Revelation. To attempt to write a handbook simple enough for teens to 'wade' across and yet thorough enough for new Christians to learn from was a daunting task."

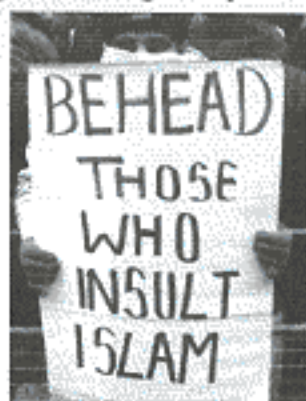
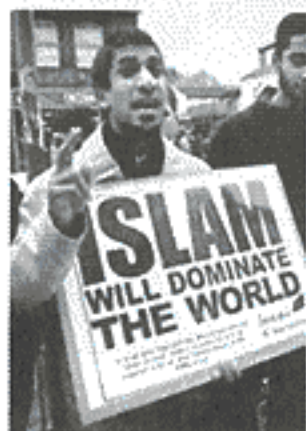
Dr. Parks is a middle school teacher in Lexington, Kentucky, where he attends Southland Christian Church. The book runs 125 pages in length and can be purchased for \$13.95 from Amazon.com. ❖



The "Peaceful Religion" reveals its true nature —

Below are pictures taken in London recently during a parade of Muslims. It is interesting how any insult to Islam, whether real or imagined, generates a violent response from Muslims who simultaneously claim that their religion is a "religion of peace."

TIMES and Seasons



The Ford Motor Company has become one of the nation's leading corporate sponsors of homosexuality. The American Family Association has called on them repeatedly to

stop giving aid and comfort to homosexual activist groups. At one point in time they agreed, but they quickly decided to renege on the agreement. The AFA then called for a national boycott of their products. The company lost \$1.4 billion dollars in the first half of this year, but it would rather save money by cutting production, dealers and employees than end its financial support of homosexual groups. In addition to financial support, Ford requires all its employees to attend "diversity training" classes where lectures are given on the necessity to accept the homosexual lifestyle.



Wal-Mart, the world's leading retailer, has jumped on the homosexual band wagon. They recently joined the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. Wal-Mart agreed

to give the organization \$25,000 to pay for two conferences scheduled by the group.

"Woe to those who call evil good . . ." — Isaiah 5:20

Placating Islam —

America's number one Christian television network, The Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN), has caved in to Islamic pressure. During this past year they have expelled from

their network two very popular TV shows: Hal Lindsey's and Zola Levitt's. At first they explained their action by saying, "The problem we faced was receiving very serious and threatening emails and letters because of statements Hal and Zola made concerning Islam and the Arab people." When Christians responded by saying they were shocked that TBN would be intimidated into canceling programs that tell the truth about Islam, the network changed its explanation.



The new spin is that the network desires to proclaim the Gospel in Muslim areas of the world and cannot effectively do so if it is carrying programs that are critical of Islam. Let's thank the Lord for the DayStar Network which has picked up both programs and which broadcasts them through the Arab world without apology.

Works Salvation —



Warren Buffett is one of the world's richest men, with a net worth of more than \$44 billion. He recently gave \$30 billion to charity and said he believed he would go to heaven because of his generosity. Here's how he put it: "There is more than one way to get to Heaven, but this is a great way."

"You are saved by grace through faith . . . not as a result of works, that no one should boast." —

Ephesians 2:8-9

"Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no man comes to the Father, but through Me.'" — John 14:6 ✚



Mel's Night Out —

A lot of newspaper columns have been written about Mel Gibson's drunken slur against the Jewish people. But only Christian commentator Cal Thomas mentioned an equally important aspect of the escapade: "What was a married man with seven children doing in a bar until 2am with young women hanging all over him?"

Quip of the Month —

"With hurricanes, tornados, fires out of control, mud slides, flooding, severe thunderstorms tearing up the country from one end to another, and with the threat of bird flu and terrorist attacks, are we sure this is a good time to take God out of the Pledge of Allegiance?" — Jay Leno

The Middle East Conflict —



"The Middle East conflict is difficult to solve, but it is among the simplest conflicts in history to understand.

The Arab and other Muslim enemies of Israel . . . want Israel destroyed. That is why there is a Middle East conflict. Everything else is commentary." — Dennis Prager

"The Palestinians could have a state on the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem tomorrow, if they and the Arab League would clearly recognize Israel, normalize relations, and renounce violence. Anyone who says otherwise doesn't know Israel today.

Give Israel peace, and Israel will give you land." — Thomas Friedman



The Bankruptcy of Psychiatry —

"The American Psychiatric Association specializes in turning ordinary human frailty into disease . . . The association has been inventing mental illnesses for the last 50 years or so. The original diagnostic manual appeared in 1952 and contained 107 diagnoses and 132 pages. The second edition burst forth in 1968 with 180 diagnoses. In 1980, the association produced a 494 page tome with 226 conditions. Then, in 1994, the manual exploded to 886 pages and 365 conditions, representing a 340% increase in the number of diseases over 42 years.

Nowhere in the rest of medicine has such a proliferation of categories occurred. The reason for the difference between psychiatry and other medical specialties has more to do with ideology than with science." — Irwin Savodnik, professor of psychiatry and philosophy at UCLA.

Food for Thought



Same-Sex Marriage —

"When nothing is either true or false and all decisions about life and morals are based on personal choices and whatever 'new trend' happens to capture our attention, we lose our moral sense, which, like an immune system, was established to protect us from cultural, as well as biological viruses . . .

When there is no 'no' to any behavior, then there must be 'yes' to every behavior. If same-sex 'marriage' is allowed, no one will ever be able to say 'no' to anything again." — Cal Thomas

Government —

"The most terrifying words in the English language are: 'I'm from the government, and I'm here to help.'" — Ronald Reagan

"The nearest thing to eternal life we will ever see on this earth is a government program." — Ronald Reagan

Evolution —

"Belief in modern evolution makes atheists of people. One can have a religious view that is compatible with evolution only if that religious view is indistinguishable from atheism." — Will Provine, atheist and professor of biological science at Cornell University.



Mohammed —



"Mohammed posed as the apostle of God, the seal of the prophets, the destroyer of idolatry, the preacher of the one true God, and the reformer of morals. But his life was marked by innumerable marriages, great licentiousness, deeds of rapine, warfare, conquests, and unmerciful butcheries. All the time he invoked God's holy name to sanction his evil deeds, ordering prayers while at the same time propagating Islam everywhere by fire and sword." — Father J. L. Menezes in his book, *The Life and Religion of Mohammed: The Prophet of Arabia*.

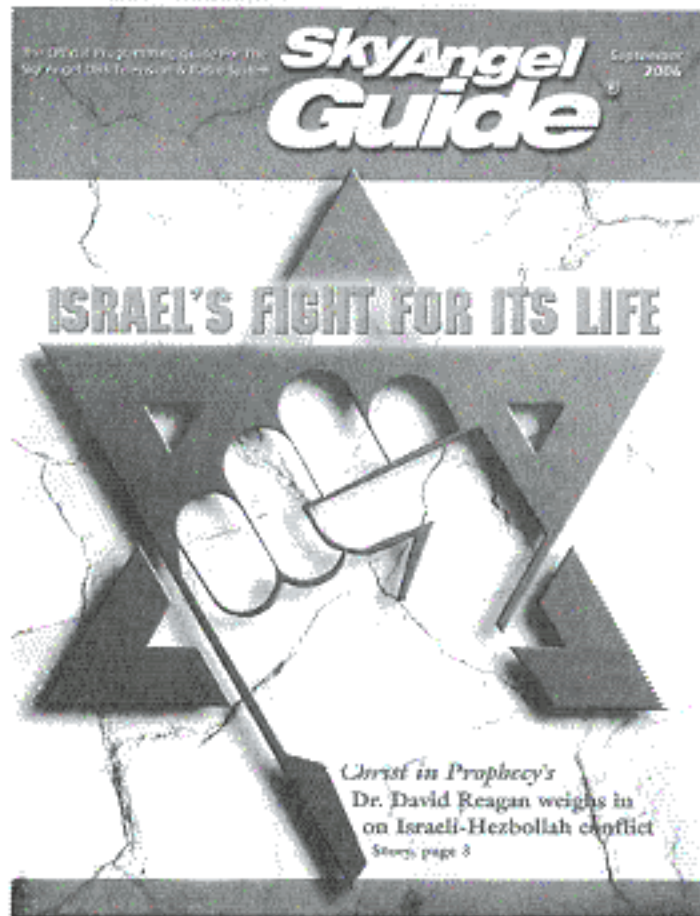
The Second Coming —

"There are at least 1,845 references to Christ's rule on the earth in the Old Testament. A total of 17 Old Testament books give prominence to the event. Of 216 chapters in the New Testament, there are 318 references to the Second Coming. It is mentioned in 23 of 27 New Testament books." — Chuck Missler



Ministry News

The September edition of the SkyAngel's program guide featured Lamb & Lion Ministries on its cover. Inside, the magazine presented an in-depth interview with Dr. Reagan about Israel's war with Hezbollah. The magazine also devoted a full page to the ten TV specials it is airing that feature video programs produced by this ministry. You can find out more about SkyAngel and its programming at www.skyangel.com.



Holy Land Pilgrimage — The Ministry's next pilgrimage to Israel has been scheduled for early June of next year, June 2 through June 14. Dr. Reagan will lead the tour. The group will fly non-stop from Atlanta to Tel Aviv via Delta Airlines. They will spend two nights in Tel Aviv, two nights in Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee, and five nights in Jerusalem. To obtain a detailed brochure, call 1-800-705-8316.

Missions — We currently have two major missions projects. One is the construction of a church building in Kimberley, South Africa. We have thus far raised \$26,000. We need an additional \$10,000 to complete the construction. Hopefully, the building can be finished in early 2007. When it is completed, Dr. Reagan and Dennis Pollock plan to fly to South Africa to dedicate the new facility and to hold a pastor's conference and evangelistic crusade. The other project is in the Philippines. We are trying to help Pastor Remegio Blanco purchase a mini-truck. He needs this truck to haul equipment for his outdoor crusades. We have raised \$5,000 thus far. We need to provide him with an additional \$3,000. If you feel led to help us with either one of these projects, please designate your donation for "South Africa" or the "Philippines."

Change of Address — It costs us 83¢ every time a copy of our magazine is returned in the mail. It would be very beneficial to us if you would call us or send us a change of address notification when you move. Thanks!

The Lamplighter — If you want to continue to receive copies of *The Lamplighter* magazine, we may need to hear from you. At the end of each year, we remove from our mailing list any person we have not heard from during the past two years. So, if you have not sent a donation or purchased a product from us for two years, we need you to contact us and let us know that you want to continue receiving the magazine. There is no subscription cost. The magazine is free of charge. We would appreciate your consideration of a gift of \$20 or more, since that is what it costs us to print and mail six issues of the magazine, but no donation is required. If you are uncertain about your status, give us a call at 972-736-3567. We want to send the magazine only to those who are truly interested in receiving it.

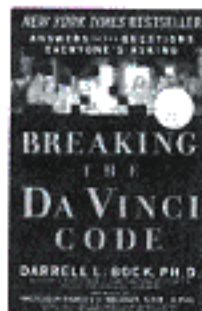
Prophecy Partners — Our Prophecy Partners provide the financial base for this ministry. They are the people who make a commitment to give \$20 a month or more for one year's time. We suggest a goal of one dollar a day for a year, or about \$30 per month, but the minimum commitment is \$20 per month. As a Prophecy Partner, you will receive a monthly report from Dr. Reagan about the ministry's activities and prayer needs. You will also receive a monthly gift, usually a DVD containing a video program. To become a Prophecy Partner, just send us a note with your first donation, or call 1-800-705-8316.



Dr. Reagan is shown above with Mr. & Mrs. Wallace LeBlanc of Crowley, Louisiana. The LeBlancs have been Prophecy Partners ever since the program began in 1987.

Finances — Our television broadcast costs are running almost \$10,000 per week, and that does not include production costs. Television is expensive, but it is well worth the cost. Our program, "Christ in Prophecy," is being broadcast on three national networks. It is also being aired throughout the world by DayStar on a dozen or more satellites. Since mid-summer, it has been available in Israel. We need your prayers and financial support to keep producing and broadcasting new programs that will help people understand that Jesus is the only hope for the world and that He is returning soon. Thank you! ❖

Good Gifts for Christmas



Breaking the Da Vinci Code — Darrell Bock, a professor at Dallas Theological Seminary, has written the best book to date on *The Da Vinci Code*. It is easy to read and it focuses on the major issues raised by the book — namely, the divinity of Jesus and the authority of the Scriptures. This is must reading for those who desire to defend the faith against reckless attacks. The book runs 190 pages in length. \$15. **Sale: \$10!**

Eye to Eye — This is a powerful, hard-hitting book about the consequences of participating in the end time division of the land of Israel. Written by William Koenig, one of the few White House correspondents who is a Christian. He shows how American pressure on Israel has resulted in remedial judgments on the U.S. in the form of political and economic setbacks and natural disasters. 384 pages. \$20. **Sale: \$15!**



19 Gifts of the Spirit — This is a book that Dr. Reagan refers to frequently in his preaching. He considers it to be the most balanced and scriptural book he has ever read about the gifts of the Spirit. It is written in a practical, down-to-earth style and will definitely help you to discover your spiritual gifts. 226 pages. \$15.

Fast Facts on False Teachings — This is the most popular book we have ever offered on our television program. It presents a quick summary of all the major cults and world religions. Ed Decker is a former Mormon. Ron Carlson is considered to be Christendom's foremost expert on cults and world religions. 255 pages. \$15.



Four Views on Hell — An absolutely fascinating book that presents four different views of Hell, each by a different author. One neat feature of the book is that each main essay is followed by responses from the other three authors. This book will challenge your thinking and drive you into the Scriptures. Designed for serious students of the Word. 190 pages. \$15.

Islam: A Threat or a Challenge? — Dr. Anis Shorrosh, is an Arab-Christian who is an expert on every aspect of Islam, and he writes about his subject fearlessly. This book will help you understand the true nature of Islam and the nature of the threat that it poses to the West. 294 pages. \$15. **Sale \$10!**



Heaven — This is undoubtedly the best book that has ever been written about Heaven. It dispels the myths of men and confirms the truths contained in the Bible. It is written in question and answer form, and it covers every imaginable question about Heaven (and some unimaginable!). Available in hardback only. 516 pages. \$25.

NEW!

America the Beautiful? — Dr. Reagan's book about the United States in Bible prophecy has been published in a second revised and expanded edition. It outlines the principles God follows in dealing with nations, and it will help you to understand how God is placing remedial judgments on America today, calling our nation to repentance. 150 pages. \$10.



Dr. Reagan's book for children (pre-school and elementary). This is the only book ever published for children about end time prophecy. Beautifully illustrated in full color. Large format (8½ by 11"). Durable cover. Contains teaching tips for parents, together with a list of Scripture references. 28 pages. \$7.

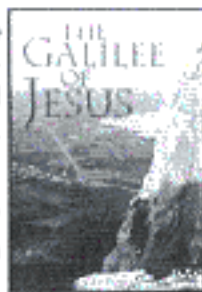
NEW!

God's Plan for the Ages — Dr. Reagan's extensive revision of his best-selling book, *The Master Plan*. It provides an overview of every aspect of Bible prophecy regarding both the First and Second Comings of the Messiah, with a special emphasis on end time prophecies. Contains 42 in-depth chapters and several charts and diagrams. 415 pages. \$15.



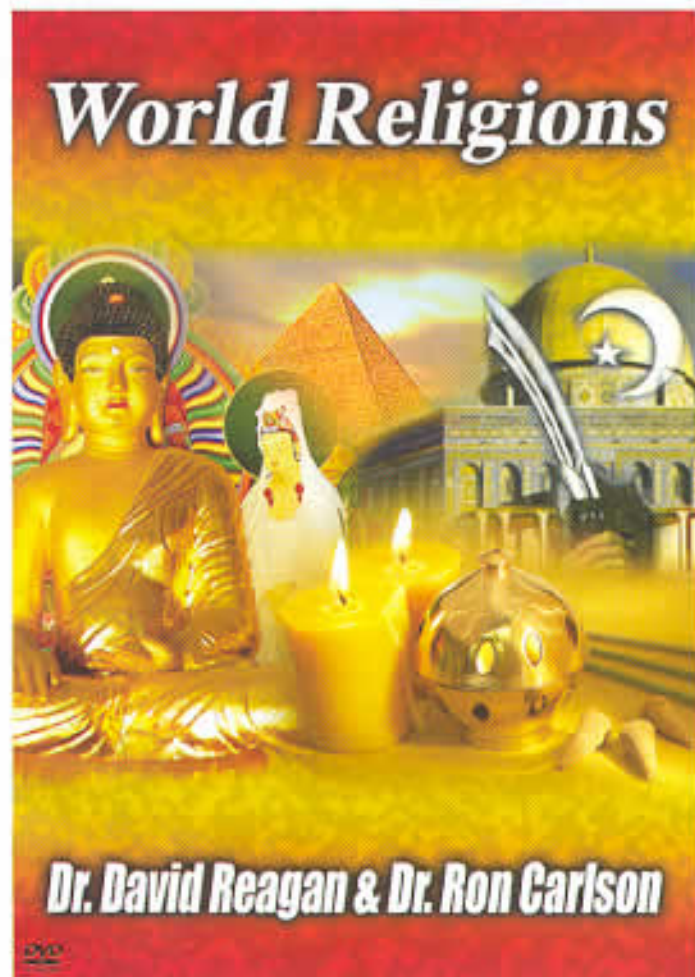
Revelation Revealed — Dr. Reagan presents a 75 minute overview of the entire book of Revelation, covering the book chapter by chapter. The video is rich with maps, charts, diagrams, still photos, animations, and video footage. Dr. Reagan clearly demonstrates that the book of Revelation can be understood and is relevant to Christian living here and now. VHS or DVD, \$15.

The Galilee of Jesus — Our newest video program about Israel. Contains four TV programs about the Galilee that have been edited together. Running time is almost 90 minutes. DVD only, \$15.

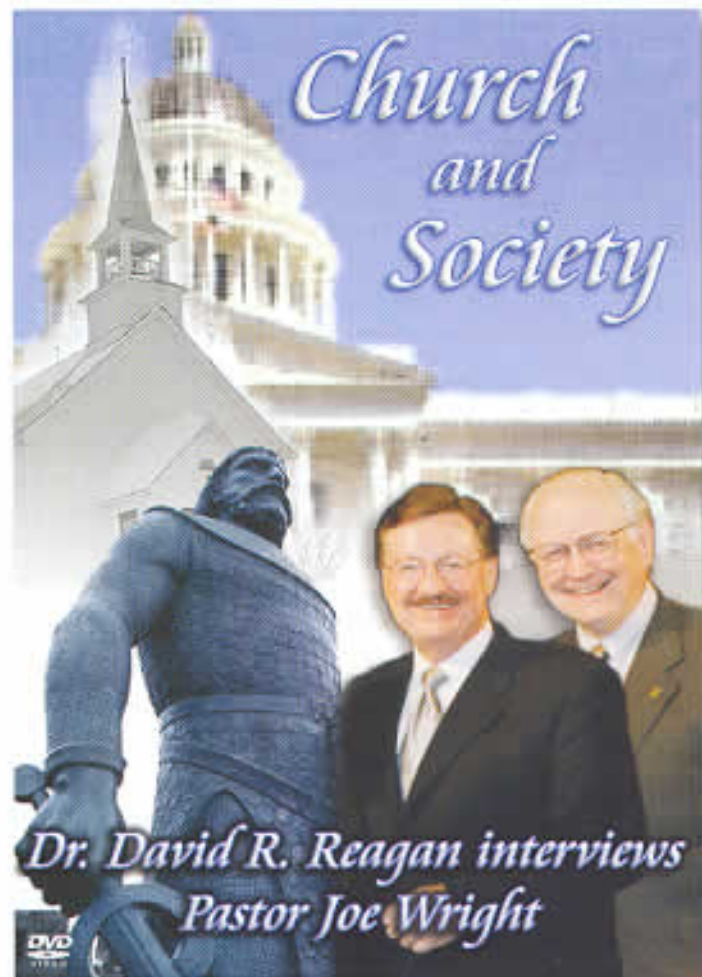


All the items above can be ordered by calling 1-800-705-8316. Call between 8am and 5pm, Mon. - Fri.

Two New Videos Ready for Distribution



A 90 minute interview with Dr. Ron Carlson, Christendom's foremost expert on cults and world religions. The topics include "The Distinctiveness of Christianity," "The Lure of Eastern Religions," "The Essence of Islam," and "The Nature of the New Age Movement." Hard-hitting and thought-provoking in nature. Contains outstanding resource material for Bible study groups. DVD only, \$12.



Dr. Reagan interviews Joe Wright, pastor of Central Christian Church in Wichita, Kansas. Pastor Wright is a strong evangelical who believes that in addition to preaching the Gospel, the Church should take a stand for righteousness. Pastor Wright discusses his campaigns against abortion, pornography, and same-sex marriage. Pastor Wright also reads the famous prayer he prayed before the Kansas State Legislature. The running time is 50 minutes. DVD only, \$12.

Purchase both for \$20 and save \$4. To order, call 800-705-8316 between 8am & 5pm, Mon. thru Fri.



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