



מורiel  
"MORIEL"  
God is my teacher

# Moriel Quarterly

DECEMBER 2005

No. 25

## CONTENTS

Testimony .....	7
Godless Godliness? .....	8
The Death of Discernment .....	13
Your Letters .....	14, 21, 29
Jesus in the Talmud .....	15
A Different View of the Cross ...	22
The Truths They Are A Changin' .....	23
Rambling Rose .....	24
Australian News .....	26
American News .....	27
Intelligent Design contra Darwinism .....	28
A Man's heart plans his way but the Lord directs his steps ..	30
Moriel Family Album .....	32

### PUBLISHED BY

MORIEL MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA

### AUSTRALIA & SINGAPORE

Marg Godwin  
P.O. Box 112  
Trafalgar Vic 3824  
Phone: +61 3 5633 2300  
Fax: +61 3 5633 1578  
Email: moriel@vic.australis.com.au

### NEW ZEALAND

Nigel Nicholson  
12 Konini Crescent, Napier

### SOUTH AFRICA

Fred Blomkamp  
P.O. Box 1229  
Fourways, 2055  
Phone: +27 11463 1771  
Fax: +27 11463 6854

### UNITED KINGDOM

Allison Dodd  
P.O. Box 201  
Maidenhead Berks SL6 9FB  
England

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

David Lister  
P.O. Box 100223  
Pittsburgh PA 15233-0223  
Phone: +1 412 321 6154  
Email: morieldavid@yahoo.com

### WEBSITE:

www.moriel.org

# Typology of the Dietary Laws

By Jacob Prasch

The way we look back to Jesus and the Apostles, with roughly 2,000 years having gone by, is the way the apostles would have looked back to Abraham and the patriarchs in the time of Jesus, with nearly another 2,000 years separating them. It's a lot of history. The history of Israel was as old as the history of the church by the time Christ came. God spent a long time setting the historical foundation. To understand Israel in prophecy, we have to understand what it means for us. Twice, (not once, but twice) the New Testament clearly tells us that the Old Testament (OT) history of Israel was written for our instruction. In 1 Cor. 10 it shows that the OT was written to tell us we should not make the same mistakes. Of course in Romans 15 it confirms this.

Just think — 2,000 years of Israeli and Jewish history written so we would learn from it, with the specific emphasis on not making the same mistakes. Because despite being the people of the book, despite being the people who have the true God, despite being in a covenant relationship with God, and despite waiting for the Messiah to come, only a small remnant of Israel was prepared for His first coming. The message? Only a small remnant of so-called Christendom is going to be prepared for His return. Our task is, by the grace of God, to ensure that as many of you people — us people — are among that remnant.

With this in view, we have to understand something about New Testament (NT) eschatology. What the NT does when it teaches about the end is it uses what happened in Israel's past, things that foreshadow or typify what will transpire eschatologically. Specifically, or most specifically, the last day of Judah before the Babylonian captivity, the last days of Samaria before the Assyrian captivity, and the events of 70 AD. Both the first and second temple were destroyed on the same day of the Jewish calendar, *T'ashab Av*, roughly the 9th of August. And the book of Lamentations is still read ritually. The future of the church is prefigured by the past history of Israel. That's why the NT takes things that happened in the last days of Judah and explains this is what the last days are going to be like.

Jeremiah was the main prophet for the last days of Judah. False prophets, destruction of the temple, famine — those same things are recycled. Isaiah and Jeremiah — "fallen, fallen is Babylon." What do you see in the book of Revelation? "Fallen, fallen is Babylon." And of course the mystery religions that began in Babylon found their way in to Asia Minor, particularly the Sea of Pergamum, into the Greco-Roman world. Hence, Jesus begins speaking of the last days as that which is prefigured by the events of 70 AD. Somehow, that foreshadows what is going to happen at the end. In fact when the Jewish believers under Simeon fled Jerusalem for Pella (not Petra, but Pella), they thought that was going to be the rapture. And indeed it does foreshadow something about the coming rapture.

We have to understand the last days of Judah, the last days of Samaria, and the events of 70 AD to understand what will happen in

*Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path*

— PSALM 119:105

the last days One thing that always happened was terrible famine. We read in the last days of Samaria that women would eat their own babies. They would fight over the afterbirth from maternal labor to have something to eat. The same thing happens in 70 AD according to Josephus — a famine. Anthropologists tell us that even the most civilized of people, if they get hungry enough, will eat anything.

In the last days we have to understand there will also be a famine. The physical famines and pestilences that we see are physical shadows of what is happening spiritually. The prophet Amos tells us about this in chapter 8 verse 11, “Behold days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will send a famine on the land, not a famine for bread or the thirst for water, but rather for the hearing of the words of the Lord.” From the time of Malachi to the time of John the Baptist the Jews had no prophet. They had the Maccabees but they had no prophet, there was a famine for the hearing of the word of God. Of course, in this time of famine, John the Baptist comes in the spirit of Elijah and feeds the people during the famine. And that three and half year period with no rain corresponds to the three and a half year period that is coming. Somehow the ministry of Elijah will feed God’s people in this terrible time; but that’s another subject.

Famine recurs repeatedly in the last days. The last days of Samaria, the last days of Jerusalem, the last days of Judah, famine is always there but in the last days it is a famine for the hearing of the word of God. And if people get hungry enough, they will eat anything. With these things in view, turn with me first of all in the NT to the book of Acts chapter 10. In Hebrew the book of Acts is called *masesh dachim*, literally, “what the apostles did.” This is what they did. Beginning in verse 9,

*On the next day, as they were on their way and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. But he became hungry and was desiring to eat; but while they were making preparations, he fell into a trance ...*

That word is *extasis* in Greek, he was in a state of ecstasy; it is not a trance as in transcendental meditation. New Agers have tried to take this out of context and say it is but it was not a trance in the Hinduistic or Yoga sense.

*... and he saw the sky opened up, and an object like a great sheet coming down, lowered by four corners to the ground, and there were in it all kinds of four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air. A voice came to him, “Get up, Peter, kill and eat!” But Peter said, “By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean.” Again a voice came to him a second time, “What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy.”*

Peter tries to explain this to the other apostles following the salvation of the first Gentiles, Cornelius and his family (actually, the Ethiopian eunuch was probably the absolute first, but he had been some sort of proselyte to Judasim). But now Gentiles are actually getting saved, and Romans at that! So in chapter 11 Peter explains this further in verse 7:

*“I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ But I said, ‘By no means, Lord, for nothing unholy or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ But a voice from heaven answered a second time, ‘What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy.’”*

This happens three times. Again, in the last days of Judah, the prophets — the minor prophets particularly — lamented that the people were eating things like mice. They were eating un-kosher animals. Now remember, God sends this famine in the last days. People turn away from the book of the Lord because they turn away from the Lord of the book. Today so much Biblical teaching is not Biblical teaching; it is not exposition. If you go to the average church today in the western world you will hear a few verses, often out of context, and a lot of anecdotes and stories. What you basically have today is motivational psychology, motivational speaking put into Christian jargon mimicking exposition of God’s word. The contemporary church is driven by marketing, consumerist psychology, and an increasing influence of New Age ideas. Why are people going to this?

Now I myself am a moderate Pentecostal, or Charismatic, call me what you will ... I’m a “raving Pentie” as we say in England. Cessationism — the notion that the gifts of the Spirit ended with the apostles — I don’t believe can be sustained from Scripture. However, when the Charismatic movement happened something went wrong. Although I do not deny many people had a genuine renewal of the Holy Spirit, it quickly degenerated into experiential theology. People began basing their doctrine on experience and ultimately, even mysticism. There was a famine for the hearing of the word of God. Listen to the sermons today; they sound like motivational speakers using Christian terms. It is hype-artistry. Why is this happening? It is happening because it is the last days. It is what Amos warned about ... A famine for the hearing of the word of God.

Now let’s understand this idea. The way I want to look at this subject is not so much simply from western grammatical, historical exegesis, but Jewish exegesis called Midrash. The apostles used Midrash. If you want to understand how the NT handles the Old Testament (the Tanach) they are using Midrash. Saint Paul was from the Rabbinic school of Hillel, he was a disciple of the Rabbi Gamaliel. Paul would have been taught the seven *midot* of Rabbi Hillel. One of which was called *binjan ad mishdat hetubim* ...

building an argument from two texts. We have the first text now in the New Testament. As Karl Barth said, “*Novum Testamentum en veterae latet* — the new is in the old concealed, the old is in the new revealed.” Actually, the Plymouth Brethren said that for years, but not until the German scholar said it in Latin did it become acceptable.

Turn with me please to the Hebrew dietary laws, Leviticus chapter 11; we’re looking at Kashrut and famine:

*The LORD spoke again to Moses and to Aaron, saying to them, “Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘These are the creatures which you may eat from all the animals that are on the earth. ‘Whatever divides a hoof, thus making split hoofs, {and} chews the cud, among the animals, that you may eat. ‘Nevertheless, you are not to eat of these, among those which chew the cud, or among those which divide the hoof: the camel, for though it chews cud, it does not divide the hoof, it is unclean to you. ‘Likewise, the shaphan, for though it chews cud, it does not divide the hoof, it is unclean to you; the rabbit also, for though it chews cud, it does not divide the hoof, it is unclean to you; and the pig, for though it divides the hoof, thus making a split hoof, it does not chew cud, it is unclean to you. ‘You shall not eat of their flesh nor touch their carcasses; they are unclean to you. ‘These you may eat, whatever is in the water: all that have fins and scales, those in the water, in the seas or in the rivers, you may eat. ‘But whatever is in the seas and in the rivers that does not have fins and scales among all the teeming life of the water, and among all the living creatures that are in the water, they are detestable things to you, and they shall be abhorrent to you.*

The Hebrew idea here is almost vomit-provoking, or nauseating; the thought of it should be disgusting.

*... you may not eat of their flesh, and their carcasses you shall detest. Whatever in the water does not have fins and scales is abhorrent to you. These, moreover, you shall detest among the birds; they are abhorrent, not to be eaten: the eagle and the vulture and the buzzard, and the kite and the falcon in its kind, every raven in its kind, and the ostrich and the owl and the sea gull and the hawk in its kind, and the little owl and the cormorant and the great owl, and the white owl and the pelican and the carrion vulture, and the stork, the heron in its kinds, and the hoopoe, and the bat. All the winged insects that walk on all fours are detestable to you. Yet these you may eat among all the winged insects which walk on all fours: those which have above their feet jointed legs with which to jump on the earth. These of them you may eat: the locust in its*

*kinds, and the devastating locust in its kinds, and the cricket in its kinds, and the grasshopper in its kinds.*

The idea here is “kinds” — *mim*. God made these things according to their *mim*. When you have biogenetic engineering and people beginning to introduce the DNA of one species into another; you’re doing something that could never happen in a natural environment, despite what the Darwinists say. I’ll tell you why Darwinism will go down the tubes. Man will think that with biogenetic engineering he can control evolution; that’s why it will disappear. But let’s continue:

*But all other winged insects which are four-footed are detestable to you. Lev 11:24 By these, moreover, you will be made unclean: whoever touches their carcasses becomes unclean until evening, Lev 11:25 and whoever picks up any of their carcasses shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening. Lev 11:26 Concerning all the animals which divide the hoof but do not make a split {hoof,} or which do not chew cud, they are unclean to you: whoever touches them becomes unclean. Lev 11:27 Also whatever walks on its paws, among all the creatures that walk on {all} fours, are unclean to you; whoever touches their carcasses becomes unclean until evening, Lev 11:28 and the one who picks up their carcasses shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening; they are unclean to you. Lev 11:29 Now these are to you the unclean among the swarming things which swarm on the earth: the mole, and the mouse, and the great lizard in its kinds, Lev 11:30 and the gecko, and the crocodile, and the lizard, and the sand reptile, and the chameleon. Lev 11:31 These are to you the unclean among all the swarming things; whoever touches them when they are dead becomes unclean until evening. Lev 11:32 Also anything on which one of them may fall when they are dead becomes unclean, including any wooden article, or clothing, or a skin, or a sack—any article of which use is made—it shall be put in the water and be unclean until evening, then it becomes clean. Lev 11:33 As for any earthenware vessel into which one of them may fall, whatever is in it becomes unclean and you shall break the vessel. Lev 11:34 Any of the food which may be eaten, on which water comes, shall become unclean, and any liquid which may be drunk in every vessel shall become unclean. Lev 11:35 Everything, moreover, on which part of their carcass may fall becomes unclean; an oven or a stove shall be smashed; they are unclean and shall continue as unclean to you. Lev 11:36 Nevertheless a spring or a cistern collecting water shall be clean, though the one who touches their*

*carcass shall be unclean. Lev 11:37 If a part of their carcass falls on any seed for sowing which is to be sown, it is clean. Lev 11:38 Though if water is put on the seed and a part of their carcass falls on it, it is unclean to you. Lev 11:39 Also if one of the animals dies which you have for food, the one who touches its carcass becomes unclean until evening. Lev 11:40 He too, who eats some of its carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening, and the one who picks up its carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening. Lev 11:41 Now every swarming thing that swarms on the earth is detestable, not to be eaten. Lev 11:42 Whatever crawls on its belly, and whatever walks on {all} fours, whatever has many feet, in respect to every swarming thing that swarms on the earth, you shall not eat them, for they are detestable. Lev 11:43 Do not render yourselves detestable through any of the swarming things that swarm; and you shall not make yourselves unclean with them so that you become unclean. Lev 11:44 For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. And you shall not make yourselves unclean with any of the swarming things that swarm on the earth. Lev 11:45 For I am the LORD who brought you up from the land of Egypt to be your God; thus you shall be holy, for I am holy.’ “ Lev 11:46 This is the law regarding the animal and the bird, and every living thing that moves in the waters and everything that swarms on the earth, Lev 11:47 to make a distinction between the unclean and the clean, and between the edible creature and the creature which is not to be eaten.*

Notice — to make a distinction. It is decreed in the Torah, the law of God. In the contemporary church the political correctness of the world has so infiltrated the church that the discernment commanded by Scripture, from both the Old Testament and the New, is seen as somehow ungracious. If you discern, you’re not loving. If you say something is unbiblical, that’s unloving. Philippians chapter 1:9 tells us, *let your love (agape) abound more and more in real knowledge with all discernment*. In other words, the word of God says love and discernment are mutually dependant. The secular world says love and discernment are mutually exclusive. The worldly church says the two are mutually exclusive. God says real love can’t abound unless there is discernment.

Don’t eat this stuff! Well, what is this stuff? Obviously if a carcass falls on it, don’t eat it! God knew about microbiology, about bacteriology long before we did. The Jews kept the Torah “that it may go well with you.” God knew about botulism and trichinosis, God knew about such things. Shellfish and swine in the climate of the Middle East

without refrigeration and proper cooking techniques could have been potentially fatal. If the Jews kept these things, it would be safer for them. However there were other kinds of foods that the Jews could have eaten which could also cause those diseases; so there must be more to it.

You have people trying to live under two covenants, such as the Seventh Day Adventists. Now my family are Israeli; we keep Kosher at home for cultural reasons as well as for the sake of our testimony to unsaved Jews. But we would never put it on somebody else. Be careful of those who live under two covenants. Every follower of David Koresh was a Seventh Day Adventist. Satan’s oldest lie in the book is to get people under two covenants. I’m sorry to say we have an extreme access of the Messianic movement, people who are denying even the deity of Yeshua (Jesus). These people are what the early Christians called Ebionites; they believe He is the Messiah but not God. Be careful of those who try to live under two covenants. For cultural reasons, for personal devotions, there is nothing wrong with doing it. A Jew should not give up his identity, neither should Gentiles as Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 7. But we’re not talking simply about covenant; we’re talking about drawing a distinction between the clean and the unclean.

The early church knew these things had meanings. There was a document called the “Epistle of Barnabas” which was rejected as non-canonical. They knew there was a spiritual meaning to it. Unfortunately they said (because the church was becoming anti-Semitic at that time) that the Jews were never intended to actually keep these things; they were only symbols. That’s not true; they were to keep them. In the Talmud, in the Mishnah particularly, the Rabbis understood there were spiritual meanings to these things; but we don’t even need the Mishnah or the Talmud to tell us, even though it helps illuminate the background.

Acts chapter 10 tells us what these things are; they were people who had Pagan doctrine. The Scriptures do not distinguish between the doctrine and those who believe it. Whenever the Bible speaks about false doctrines, it tells you who the people are who propagate it. Jesus hated the deeds of the Nicolaitans. *Niko-laity* = suppression of the people or “laity.” Heavy shepherding — Ezekiel 34 stuff — watch out for them. The apostle John said look out for Diotrophes! Look out for Philetus! Look out for Alexander the coppersmith! Look out for Hymaneus! When people deceive the church with false doctrines, the apostles named them. Today it’s different. Political correctness says, “touch not my anointed.” That’s in Psalms, it’s in Chronicles and it’s in Samuel; and all three places it speaks about King David in the cave of En Gedi with King Saul. No, King David would not touch Saul; he was God’s anointed. I doubt these con-artist, money preachers are,

but Saul was. David wouldn't touch him, but it never stopped David from telling the truth about him, that he was a backslider and a murderer. It never stopped the prophet Samuel from telling the truth about him, that he was a backslider and a murderer. If anybody is silly enough to believe "touch not my anointed" means you don't criticize people who deceive God's people, you should take their Bible and show them: the Hebrews anointed four kinds of people: kings, prophets, judges, and high priests. Every king of Israel was a backslider and most of the kings of Judah. If you think "touch not my anointed" means you don't name these people then quick, tear out Kings, tear out Chronicles! These books touch God's anointed. Get rid of the Epistles. I'm sure Alexander the coppersmith, Hymeneus, Philetus, Diotrefes, etc. thought they were anointed. Herod was the king, yet Jesus said "go tell that fox ..." As a matter of fact, if you think that's what "touch not my anointed" means, just go throw this book away and write your own. That's actually what they've done.

Let's understand this. What are these beliefs? What are these animals? Let's begin with what the Jews could eat. The things they specifically could eat were animals that typified the Messiah in some way. Lamb is kosher. "Behold, the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." The Passover lamb is a symbol of the Messiah. They could eat goat because of the *saer azazel*, the Yom Kippur scapegoat, a picture of the Messiah. You could eat that, you can believe His doctrine. Or you could eat beef. The oxen, the strong would die for the weak as the innocent would die for the guilty. Dove, you know what that is? Kosher. The animals you could eat represented Jesus in some way. The chicken ... in Matthew chapter 23 Jesus says, "Oh Israel I would have gathered you as a chicken gathers her chicks" — verse 37. The Kosher animals are pictures of the Messiah. Un-kosher animals are pictures of the demonic, the Pagan, those with false beliefs.

Don't eat that stuff! Keep away from it! Don't eat insects and don't eat camels. What did Jesus say? Strain a gnat and swallow a camel.

Don't eat pig! What did Jesus say? Cast not your pearls before swine. Don't eat that stuff. Those who mock the gospel ... don't eat that stuff. Islam mocks the gospel. You have to understand the Midrash of what was happening at Gerasene when Jesus cast the demons into the swine. Why into the swine, and why do the swine go off the cliff into the sea of Galilee into the Keneret? Why? Go to the place prepared for Satan and his angels; those who mock the gospel will go into the lake. You understand? It's a picture of the judgment. Don't eat that stuff.

Don't eat snake! Adam and Eve were naked — *arom* in Hebrew. But the snake was *arum*, it had skin but it had no scales. Its sebaceous glands secrete a slime that made it

slippery. The word for cunning is slippery — *arum*. Satan has two modes of attack, the dragon and the serpent. The dragon is the persecutor, the serpent is the seducer. The serpent beguiled the woman. Watch out for spiritual seduction. What did the Lord Jesus say in Matthew chapter 23:33? He spoke of the Rabbinic establishment of His day. He said, "you generation of vipers" — of snakes — watch out for corrupt religious leaders who are in it for the almighty buck, for their own aggrandizement, for their own power.

Don't eat shellfish! Jesus said I'll make you fishers of men. We can get the pearl from the oyster but don't eat the oyster. The meek shall inherit the earth, we'll get their riches, but we don't want what they are. Why? What are shellfish? They're closed and they're at the bottom of the sea. Remember in Revelation? One beast came out of the earth, one came out of the sea. The sea is the nations. They are people who are so far into the world they won't get saved. They're too closed. Don't eat that stuff.

A fox is not kosher. Jesus called Herod of fox. Corrupt leaders.

A wolf? That's obvious. Read John chapter 10. A wolf is not a kosher animal. We have three kinds of pastors today; the Hebrew word for pastor is *ra'ah*; the Lord is my *shepherd*. First of all, you've got wolves in sheep's clothing, then you have good shepherds that protect the sheep from the wolves. How do you know a good pastor? He protects his congregation from the wolves, Jesus said. Most pastors today are neither good shepherds, nor are they wolves, most of them are what Jesus called hirelings. They're in it for the money, their credentials, their pension, their housing allowance ... anything and everything except the welfare of the sheep and the word of God. It's a career, they're hired to do it. Wolf is not kosher.

Dog is not kosher; don't eat dog! Psalm 22:16 — "Dogs surround me; evildoers encompass me ..." To this day the ultra-orthodox pray "I thank God I was not born a dog, a Gentile, or a woman." They are unbelievers.

Vulture is not kosher; don't eat that vulture! Matthew chapter 4 verse 28 — "where the body is gathered, there the vultures will gather." Remember Abraham scared the vultures away?

Keep away from that snake! Keep away from that vulture! Keep away from that clam! Keep away from that fox! Keep away from that wolf! Keep away from that dog! Keep away from that pig! But when people are hungry enough they will eat ANYTHING!

Our ministry has orphanages for AIDS babies in Africa. There's this restaurant I go to in Kenya, and they eat warthog, and they eat rhino, and they eat things you wouldn't believe. I was in there once and the upholstery was striped like a zebra. The waiter comes up wearing a darshiki with stripes, and he puts a

skewer on my plate and he says, "Do you want some zebra?" I'm looking at the zebra, and I'm looking at the stripes, and I'm looking at the zebra, and I said, "What's it like?" He says, "It's nice!" I said, "What's it taste like?" — "It's like donkey!" True story ... I had the chicken! But when people are hungry enough, they will eat anything.

Don't eat that chameleon! The Hebrew word for chameleon is *sabua* — something that changes colors, same as the Hebrew word for hypocrite. One day they're kosher, the next day they're not. One day they're teaching the truth, the next day they're teaching heresy. Understand how it works. Look at Peter's epistle, 2 Peter 2 — "But false prophets arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them." Now, again, I'm not here to throw rocks; I'm simply telling you facts. People ask me, "Why is it that the prophecies of Rick Joyner have failed in that book **The Harvest**?" "Why did the Kansas City prophets get it wrong?" "Why have so many of the documented prophecies of Benny Hinn not happened?" Notice Peter uses false prophets and false teachers interchangeably. Why? If somebody's doctrine is wrong, their prophecies will be wrong. God is not going to give Holy Spirit inspiration and revelation to people who are not grounded in His word.

They secretly introduce destructive heresies. There's a Greek word *pareisaxousin* — they put truth next to error. "Well there's some truth in what they say." When the Jehovah's Witness knocks on the door, there is some truth in what they say. God hates the mixture. The Hebrews couldn't make a garment of flax and wool. It's like lukewarm water. It's neither hot nor cold. What does Jesus do with it? "*So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth.*" Rev 3:16 The very fact that there's a mixture tells you it's not of God. There is always real cheese in the rat trap: it is camouflage. What is *pareisaxousin*? Two pieces of pumpernickel bread from the kosher delicatessen, mustard, maybe some tomato, maybe some brisket of beef, maybe some onions, looks delicious; but right in the middle — some arsenic. *Bon appetite!* A little leaven leavens the whole lump; that's *pareisaxousin*.

That's what Jesus warned would happen. And it is happening. We are commanded to keep away from people who predict things that don't happen, but people will still follow them. Did you notice what's happening in the famine for the word of God? Every gimmick, every fad, it's always the same people and the same churches going with the next wave, but no revival comes. We're moving into a post-Christian, neo-pagan world, and going there quickly. It's what the Bible calls the *apostasia*, the falling away of the last days. Some people say, "well we have to put grain in the toxic stew." I agree, but when you put real grain

the toxic stew it does not stop being toxic. These people don't stop being toxic. It says in Jeremiah 51 "Babylon cannot be healed," false religions cannot be healed. Their fundamental premise is wrong.

The Roman church has two kinds of doctrine — *proxima fidei and de fede*. They can't change a *de fede* doctrine. You have to atone in Purgatory for your own sins. But the Bible says the blood of Christ cleanses from all sin. Different gospel. Paul says, "let them be accursed." "Oh, but you can't say that about the Roman church." I'm not saying it; Paul did. The Holy Spirit said it through him. They cannot change the doctrine. If you want to know what Roman Catholicism is, don't ask Chuck Colson, ask an ex-Catholic. They will tell you what Roman Catholicism is — the whore of Babylon in a Christian masquerade. Am I against Catholics? No! I'm for Catholics, that's why I want them to know the truth — the blood of Christ cleanses from all sin. Am I against homosexuals? No! I'm for homosexuals, that's why I'm against homosexuality.

Don't eat that stuff! There are some things you could eat even though they seem to have become unclean. Locusts. Why could you eat locusts? The book of Joel tells us. Joel 2:25 — when the people repent, the Lord will restore what the locust has eaten. Absurdity of absurdity. I remember the prophecies of the Kansas City prophets and Paul Cain who was an alcoholic and a homosexual, but they all believed him. They were teaching that the devouring locust is the triumphant church, the manifest sons, the man child, the latter-day rain. Those locusts are from Revelation 9. They are the demon cohorts of Babylon prefigured by the Babylonian invasions of ancient Judah. They're saying it's the triumphant church? The Lord will destroy what the locust has eaten. I hear them singing it, "They run on the city they run on the walls, great is the army..." They're singing about Nebucadnezzar's army, they're singing about the demon cohorts of Babylon, and they think they're singing about themselves!

Do you know what has happened to the church today? Mantra! "Do not heap up empty phrases as the heathens do." They sing the same choruses over and over and over, reiterating it. They are getting their doctrine from singing choruses. The fact that what the choruses are saying lyrically is not Biblical doesn't occur to them. They're getting their doctrine from a mantra. This is New Age. This is the third time Eastern religion has infiltrated the church. The first time was with the Post-Nicene fathers. The Patristic Age. Gnosticism. The second time was when the Crusades brought the influences of Islam and Hinduism back into Europe. The rosary and the praying to the dead, the votive candles and all this. The third time is now. Maharishi Mahesh Yogi gave the seminars in Whales attended by the Beatles and the Rolling

Stones in 1968. Two spiritual movements began in 1968: The Charismatic movement and the New Age movement. The Charismatic movement said it was going to transform the world for Christ. That was in 1968, nearly forty years ago. The New Age movement said it was going to spiritually transform the western world. Here we are, 37 years later, looking back to 1968 — which of these two movements has changed the western world? Is it more Christian, or is it more New Age? The Charismatic movement has categorically failed. The only thing that's failed more than the Charismatic movement is its leaders. New Age has won. Both of those movements began in the same year. Why? Because if people are hungry enough, they will eat anything. It doesn't matter; chameleon, fox, wolf, dog, pig, anything.

Let's understand this. Turn with me please to the gospel of Saint John chapter 6. (As a kid in New York I went to Catholic school and the Jewish community center. I was both sprinkled and clipped. You think you've got problems?!) We'll begin the 41st verse.

When John uses the word "Jew" we have a problem from the Greek word *Ioudaioi*. Often John is mistranslated and misunderstood to apply this to Jews in the sense of Jewish people. They were all Jews; Jesus was a Jew. What John means is the religious establishment, the Sanhedrin and the Judeans in and around Jerusalem which they controlled. Just like in modern Israel, Jerusalem is much more religiously controlled than is Haifa or Tel-Aviv.

*The Jews (that is the Judeans) therefore were grumbling about Him because He said, "I am the bread that came down out of heaven."*

He was saying He was the antitype — the fulfillment of the manna in the book of Numbers.

*And they were saying, "Is not this Yeshua the son of Joseph whose father and mother we know? How does He say 'I have come down from heaven'?" But Yeshua answered and said, "Do not grumble among yourselves, no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him and I will raise him up in the last day, it is written in the prophecy 'And they shall all be taught of God,' everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that any man has seen the Father except the one who is from God, He has seen the Father. Truly, Truly, I say to you ...*

That *truly, truly* tells you the original language He was speaking had to be Aramaic or Hebrew. It is a Hebraism, or an Aramism; it is not something you do in Greek. If my wife is speaking to me in Hebrew (we speak both Hebrew and English at home), if she wanted to know if it was cold out and it was very cold, instead of saying "very cold," I would say "*char, char.*" I would say it twice. In other

words when you see that "truly, truly" it's emphatic. Get this right. The whole context depends on the "truly, truly." You won't understand what's being said unless you understand the "truly, truly."

*I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life your fathers ate manna in the wilderness and died.*

Notice physical manna did nothing for them.

*This is the bread which comes down from heaven so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down out of heaven. If anyone eats of this bread he shall live forever. And the bread also which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh. The Jews therefore began to argue with one another saying, "How can this man give us His flesh to eat?" Jesus therefore said to them, "Truly, truly I say to you unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood you have no life in yourselves. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, I will raise him up on the last day. For My flesh is true food and My blood is true drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in Me and I in him. As the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father he who eats Me he shall also live because of Me. This is the bread which came down out of heaven. Not as the fathers ate and died. He who eats this bread shall live forever.*

Notice the physical bread could not save them; it had to be spiritual. Just a few verses later Jesus says the flesh profits nothing. In verse 63 He says that it is the spirit that profits. He cannot be talking about something physical in the context. In the middle ages Thomas Aquinas came along, having been influenced by the philosophy of Aristotle, and he had a debunked view of chemistry and physics. He said that something could be defined by its "accidents" or appearances. This can appear to be a musical instrument, but it's actually a big marshmallow. The fact that it looks like a piano is only its accidents. They did not understand sub-atomic physics; they didn't understand sub-atomic number, gram-atomic weight. They did not understand the nature of a *stoicheia*, an element. They thought something could appear to be one thing and actually be another, because to them chemistry was alchemy. This is of course debunked by modern science.

Thomas Aquinas comes along and says, "It looks like bread and wine, but it's actually protoplasm." It like — "This looks like a bottle of water, but it's actually a cigar, give me a light!" It's only its appearances. That is how they ultimately explain transubstantiation. It is debunked by modern science, but is a *de fede* doctrine of Rome; they can't change it.

They believe that this becomes Jesus incarnate, and you must eat it in a ritual called

the Mass. Repeatedly the Epistle to the Hebrews says the Messiah dies once for all; but the Mass says “No, this goes on, it is a perpetual sacrifice.” That is what Thyatira means. Look at the message of Jesus to the church of Thyatira. Revelation chapter 2:20

*You tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.*

Thyatira in Greek means continuing sacrifice. Calvary wasn't good enough. You've got to have the sacrifice and then eat the corporal remains of Jesus to have eternal life. This, of course, is the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. But it actually contradicts the Roman Catholic's own Catechism. Their catechism says that salvation comes by the sacraments of penance and baptism. So first of all there is an inconsistency in their own system. Well, there are many, but that is one of them. Unless you eat this, you don't have the real presence.

Let's understand what this means in its context. A text out of its context, in isolation from its co-text, is always a pretext. What does “eat” mean? The first thing we have to understand is Jesus is the logos (in Greek). In Aramaic *mamre*, in Hebrew *davar*, but in Greek the *Logos*. The *Logos* became *sarx*. The Word became flesh. He's the word of God incarnate. What does this mean? Let us look please at the chapter. John 6:29 —

*This is the work of God, that you believe in Him who He has sent.*

Look at verse 35:

*I am the bread of life. He who comes to me shall not hunger; he who believes in me shall not thirst.*

That bread your fathers ate, the physical bread ... they died. Let's look again, same chapter, look at verse 40:

*This is the will of my Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life.*

Verse 47:

*Truly, truly I say to you, he who believes ...*

What is eating? Believing the word of God. Believing the gospel. It's always that. Turn with me please to Revelation 10:10 —

*I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and in my mouth it was sweet as honey; and when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter.*

The word of God is always sweet in the mouth, but bitter in the gut. Mmm, mmm, mmm! Wasn't that an interesting Bible study? What an encouraging sermon! But then . . . “Ohhh, now I'm responsible to God for living it out in my life.” Turn to Ezekiel 3 please:

*Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll.*

“Eat it,” He says. Don't be a rebel. If you don't eat the Bible you have rebelled against God. Eat it. Metabolically what you eat you are; spiritually it is the same. The doctrine you believe will determine what you are spiritually. When you put on the armor of God in Ephesians, notice that the gird of truth came before the breastplate of righteousness. Truth even came before the breastplate of righteousness. Why? Because if you don't know the truth, you won't know what righteousness is. You'll have a Charismatic Catholic praying in tongues to Mary committing the sin of necromancy. Look at Jeremiah 15:16:

*Thy words were found and I ate them ...*

Revelation — eat the word; Ezekiel — eat the word; Jeremiah — eat the word. Eat equates to believe!

*And Thy words became for me a joy and the delight of my heart for I have been called by Thy name oh Lord of hosts; I did not sit in the circle of the merry makers.*

I'm sorry I couldn't go to Toronto, Canada or Pensacola, Florida. I couldn't roll on the floor and laugh when your judgment is coming. I had a joy, because your hand was on me. I sat alone. I know people being forced out of churches because they believe the word of God rather than the latest line of hype coming down the pike. All over the world I'm finding people meeting in homes because they can't find a Biblical church where they live. If you have a Biblical church, thank God for it; bless your pastor. A lot of people are not so fortunate.

To arrive at the doctrine of transubstantiation, to eat the food sacrificed to idols, you have to do four things: One, you have to reject the context of the chapter which says eternal life is from belief repeatedly ... the flesh profit nothing. Second, you have to reject the context of the gospel itself. The word becomes flesh. Third, you have to reject what eating the word means throughout the Bible. A text, out of its context, in isolation from its co-text, is always a pretext. Fourth, you have to forget about the Jewish cultural background. This was not the last supper. When the Lord's supper was instituted it was a pilgrim feast; it had to be in Jerusalem at Pesach. This was at Capernaum and it was not Pesach. Wrong time, wrong place. When we take the Lord's Supper in Hebrew the Messianic fellowships in Israel repeat the words of Jesus: *Do this in remembrance of Me*. It is a memorial. You have to divorce the Lord's Supper from its Jewish background which is a re-enactment of the Passover according to 1 Corinthians 5. That's why the matzah was striped and pierced; by His stripes we are healed, He was pierced for our transgression. “Forget about the Jewish background. Forget about the context of the chapter. Forget about the context of the gospel. Forget about what else it means in the Bible. Just believe us.” Why

should we believe you? Because if people are hungry enough they will eat anything.

Wolf, pig, snake, kingdom now theology, post-millennialism — God says these things shall be abhorrent to you. The ecumenical movement, the road to Babylon, transubstantiation, faith-prosperity? That is not the faith or prosperity of the Bible. It is mammon worship. It is not faith in Jesus; it is faith in faith! What does God say? Don't eat that stuff! But they **are** eating it. They will eat anything.

Notice it's always the same people, the same churches, the same leaders. There was a book written by a man, Tommy Tenny, whose own belief in the tri-unity of the Godhead is at best dubious. He wrote a book called **The God Chasers** in which he says the Bible is where God used to be; we have to go to where He is now. We shouldn't hold in the same way to these dusty old letters called the epistles. That's what he said.

Look at the agenda on the Internet of the National Pastor's Conference in San Diego for 2004. I read it ten times because I couldn't believe it. Early morning session — meditation in the labyrinth; mid-morning session — Yoga; after coffee — featured speaker Rick Warren; after lunch — prophetic imagination (something Jeremiah 23 calls clairvoyance). Evening — comedy night, followed by a pub with loud music. Now, I don't want to go to a pub with loud music. If you do, I can recommend one in Temple Bar in Dublin, but I don't want to go. That's not why I go to church, and it's not why I go to a pastor's conference. This is what pastors are going to ... Yoga! We took videos of the Toronto experience and I showed them to my friend who is an evangelist to Hindus in Hounslow, England where we have a huge amount of people from India. We showed them to pastors in the Indian community who are ex-Hindus themselves. They looked at Rodney Brown and Copeland; they looked at Toronto and John Arnott. Do you know what they said? “This is Cundilini Yoga; it's what we were saved out of!” The Royal Society of Stage Hypnotists sent their president to talk to Phillip Foster, director of Saint Matthew's Publishing. He looked at those videos. Do you know what he said? This is hypnotic induction. Only if any of our union members ever tried this they would never work again because they are doing three things we don't allow: they're doing it to children, they're doing it in the name of religion, and they're leaving people in a trance. We showed in to Gypsy pastors; they said it's “duckering.” I asked these Gypsy pastors, “What's duckering?” They said they use it in the occult to get money out of people; “it's what we used to do before we were born again.”

The fruit of the Spirit is self-control, *enkrateia* in Greek; not the lack of it. I have seen videos of them imitating animals on the floor. They say, “I know it's God! I know it's God!” He must be angry. Do you know why?

Because the mind of a beast was given to Nebuchadnezzar. The only time in the Bible it ever happened it was a judgment. Many of these same churches that did it a few years earlier were calling it a need for deliverance or exorcism; now they were saying it is a blessing. If people get hungry enough, they will eat anything. Did any revival come from that drunken stuff? No! Did any revival come from the Kansas City prophets who promised it was coming? No! Since they came to England with John Wimber, more Mosques have been built in England than churches, far more.

It's always the same people. They will eat anything; they will swallow anything. And when you say it's not Biblical they say we shouldn't criticize, we shouldn't judge. But God says you should distinguish between the clean and the unclean. Paul says you should discern! It is not an option. It is a command of God. That's what the Jews were eating in 70 AD. They listened to corrupt religious leaders. Look what happened to them. That's what happened to the Jews with Bar Kochba's rebellion. They listened to Rabbi Akiva, look what happened to them. That's what happened to the Jews in Samaria with the Assyrian invasion 720 BC. Look what happened to them. That's what happened in the fall of Jerusalem 485 BC. Look what happened to them.

What does it say in Romans 11? If God didn't spare the natural branches, He won't spare you either. If His own people Israel and the Jews could not eat that garbage and retain good health, do you think the church can? No, the church cannot. But what really bothers me is it says God will send the famine. It is a judgment. The Lord will send a delusion to believe what is false, because they don't love the knowledge of the truth. If you don't love the truth, you don't love Jesus Christ — He is the truth. In the days of Ahab God sent a lying spirit into the mouth of His prophets. He made them believe the lie; and He's making people believe false prophets today. Just turn on the idiot box TV channels. I would rather see no "Christian" TV than 95% of what we have today. At least the world wouldn't be laughing at us.

God sends a famine. God sent the famine on backslidden Israel. God sent the famine on backslidden Judah. And in the last days, God has sent the famine on a backslidden Christendom. But do you know what? In the last days of Samaria, the faithful people went south. In the last days of Judah, the faithful people went with Jeremiah. In 70 AD, the Messianic Jews escaped to Pella. When the famine came in the days of *Eliyahu ha-navi* (Elijah the prophet), no matter how hungry everybody else was, there was always grain in the dish, and oil in the jar. Those who love the Lord will always have food to eat. God knows how to take care of His own. The ravens fed Elijah. He might feed us in ways

we don't expect, in places we don't expect, but He will feed His people. But as for the others, they are eating anything.

I watch television in England. Now let me preface by saying I'm an evangelist to the Jews. On national prime-time TV in England came Morris Cerullo from California. This is national TV in England, and he said "Send ten pounds (eighteen dollars) and see two Jews saved. And as an added bonus, two members of your family will be born again." He did that on prime time TV in England! Do you know what that did to the testimony to the Jewish people? And people will still believe him. It doesn't matter how many prophecies they make that don't happen, people will still buy the next book. It doesn't

matter how many revivals they prophesy that never come. People will still follow the same person. It's not purpose driven, it is market driven. We shouldn't be teaching Alpha, we should be teaching Omega. Jesus is coming! In the meanwhile, there's a famine for the hearing of the word of God. And people are eating anything. Wolves, rats, snakes, they're eating everything except the one thing that's going to get them out of this place alive. But there's an even bigger tragedy. Do you know what the real and bigger tragedy is? People are going hungry! People are eating rats, and snakes, and vultures, and it is needless. Why should anybody eat that stuff when there is real grain in the silo?

## TESTIMONY

*By a dear lady who desires that all Praise go to our Savior & Lord.*

Recently I noticed I still had the old label on my car and immediately went to the file for "Vic Roads" found the new sticker but also noticed that I had overpaid. In my foolishness I had paid the full amount asked for (they had not taken into consideration my pension discount). I visited their offices and explained the situation and was advised they would send out a refund.

After a number of weeks had passed I rang and again they assured me a refund would be forthcoming.

Because my faith was not in Vic Roads but the Lord, I spoke to Him about it, explaining it wasn't the money but the correctness and to back it up said, "Whatever is refunded will go back into your Kingdom."

I truly thought the amount would be \$150.00. Last Friday so much to my surprise I received a cheque for \$500.00. I must have over paid more than once. My late husband used to do the books.

Do you know for a few moments the enemy tried to get me to compromise? It was such a good amount, what you could do with that!!

As a consequence I forward my cheque for AU\$500.00 for Moriel. I trust you to distribute it where it is most needed. I have a heart for every need but its best left to the experts.

*My prayers are with you all at Moriel.  
P.S. God is good!*

I wrote this dear sister for permission to print this testimony and she wrote — "you may use this testimony for the next issue of the Quarterly on one proviso, NO name or glory to me in any way, It's only His provision and goodness to us that makes us so grateful. I don't go along with all this sees faith business that's been around for years now, but I have never wanted in my life and believe that my parents were always generous, even during the depression by feeding other families. Dad always had employment as he worked at the brewery. Ironic isn't it? Only the Lord knows peoples hearts."

# Godless Godliness?

By Dusty Peterson

## INTRODUCTION

Shocked. I think I can safely say without fear of contradiction that, although the beginning of this article is unlikely to startle readers, many of them will be shocked by the time they reach the end.

One of the most crucial questions we can ask nowadays is this: What are the effects on a Christian of the true Holy Spirit? The Bible seems unequivocal. “[T]he fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, [and] temperance**” (Gal. 5:22-23a).<sup>1</sup> We’ve all heard or read that passage so many times that we can be tempted to rush through it somewhat. This is certainly true of me. For that reason I’d like to crave your indulgence and repeat these nine words. As I do so, please take a moment to consider each one. Love. Joy. Peace. Longsuffering. Gentleness. Goodness. Faith. Meekness. Temperance (or self-control).

*As an aside, note how this list does not include ‘zealousness for God’s kingdom’, or ‘eagerness to proselytize’ or even ‘desire to read the Bible’. These are not listed in this passage because they are not safe tests. After all, the Pharisees showed all three of these characteristics. The Pharisees fasted and prayed a lot too, but these are likewise omitted – for they are not reliable indicators.*

*It is also important to remember that the true Holy Spirit will produce **all** of the nine attributes listed, not just a few of them. They are different features of the **same** piece of fruit, just as an apple has taste, texture, size, density, shape, colour and so on. Hence the passage under discussion begins, “the fruit of the Spirit IS...”, not “the fruits of the spirit ARE...”. Unless we exhibit all nine of these facets of that single fruit then we have not **received** that fruit. We have not received the true Holy Spirit. This is a very significant point, for we can often be fooled by someone who shows a couple of these facets even if they miss out other elements from the list, yet it can simply be the case that this individual was raised in a household where meekness or longsuffering or whatever was valued and was instilled into them. It doesn’t mean they are actually manifesting the fruit of the Spirit.*

In recent decades there has been a growing openness within professing Christianity towards activities which claim to connect us with the Spirit of God. These include, for instance, the various types of ‘Contemplative Spirituality’ practiced within the ‘Emerging Church’. Although there are biblical tests which should be applied to all such activities before they are allowed into the Christian

Church,<sup>2</sup> knowledge of Scripture is not what it was in the past and so these tests often get inaccurately applied or even go unused altogether. However, there remains one vital indicator if all the other checks are missed, viz. this passage we have discussed regarding the fruit of the Spirit.

A great many people claim to be operating in the Holy Spirit, but the Bible urges us not to be gullible<sup>3</sup> and also commands us to test people’s spirits (1 John 4:1-3). How can we tell if these folks are indeed close to the Holy Spirit? According to the passage with which I began this article, we can simply look to see if they exhibit the nine attributes of His fruit.

## BUT SURELY...

“But surely”, some will say, “the only requirement is for the person in question to be willing to say the words ‘Jesus is the Lord’ – because Paul tells us: ‘no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost!’”. Paul does indeed say this (see 1 Cor. 12:3), but there are at least three reasons why it would be naïve to imagine that a believer was necessarily involved in a movement of the Holy Spirit just because he or she was prepared to speak these few words: (1) A saved person can confess that Jesus is the Lord and *still* get tangled up in activities which are not of God – even activities which involve a false spirit; (2) Paul was not requiring the person merely to utter the phrase ‘Jesus is the Lord’ but to confess the Lordship of the *true* Jesus – rather than “**another** Jesus” (2 Cor. 11:4); (3) The Lord Himself clarified things still further when He said, “by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 7:20b-21a).

“But surely”, some will respond, “if a person starts speaking in tongues for the first time at such a meeting it **must** mean they have experienced the true Spirit!”. I sympathize with this position, but we must be as wise as serpents and recognise that there exist fleshly (and even demonic) counterfeits of the gifts of the Spirit. However, Satan cannot simultaneously mimic all nine aspects of the *fruit* of the Spirit, so this is the test to use. Let us also recall that the Bible says, “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not **charity**, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal” (1 Cor. 13:1).

Likewise, some may assert, “Surely if the person in question develops an increased faith in God then that definitely comes from the true Holy Spirit”. Again, I can fully understand this view but, as already stated, *all* the elements must be present, not just one or two. And we ought also to remember: “though I have the

gift of prophecy, ... and though I have **all faith**, so that I could remove **mountains**, and have not **charity**, I am **nothing**” (1 Cor. 13:2).

Finally, some may exclaim “Surely if the person develops a real sacrificial love for others and gives their life to do wonderful good works...?” Again, the test God has given us is that all nine items must appear. The Bible says “though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not **charity**, it profiteth me **nothing**” (1 Cor. 13:3).

## WHAT IS ‘CHARITY’?

In order to pre-empt the change in understanding of the word ‘charity’ over the centuries, the Lord has graciously supplied a detailed definition of it in the next few verses of the above passage from 1 Corinthians. Again I’d urge readers to consider each clause with care:

“Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.”

The reader may well be thinking, “Hold on, you’ve switched the test from those nine characteristics listed at the start to this new passage about charity”. Note however that every aspect of charity is reflected in some combination of one or more of those nine facets! (I have given a brief illustration of this in the table below.) In other words, this second Bible passage actually serves to confirm my point that all nine characteristics are *indivisible* parts of one fruit – summed up in the single word, *charity*.

*Features of Charity (1 Cor. 13)*

**Facets of the Spirit’s Fruit**

<i>Charity suffereth long,</i>	<b>Longsuffering</b>
<i>and is kind;</i>	<b>Gentleness, Love</b>
<i>charity envieth not;</i>	<b>Joy, Temperance</b>
<i>charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,</i>	<b>Meekness, Peace</b>
<i>Doth not behave itself unseemly,</i>	<b>Goodness</b>
<i>seeketh not her own,</i>	<b>Peace, Joy, Meekness</b>
<i>is not easily provoked,</i>	<b>Temperance, Longsuffering</b>
<i>thinketh no evil;</i>	<b>Love, Goodness</b>
<i>Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;</i>	<b>Goodness, Faith</b>
<i>Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.</i>	<b>Faith, Longsuffering</b>

Charity, as defined here, is an inevitable result of being indwelt by the true Holy Spirit.<sup>4</sup> (According to 1 Peter 4:8 we are actually to have “**fervent** charity” toward each other, so *basic* charity is clearly mandatory.)

Before I close this section, please note that one of the features of biblical charity is that we ‘rejoice in the *truth*’ (v6). If the reader is tempted to reject the following material for any reason other than that they determine it to be untrue (i.e. unbiblical), they must ask themselves whether they possess charity – and therefore whether they possess the true Holy Spirit, for “the fruit of the [**authentic**] Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and **truth**” (Eph. 5:9). If the reader believes they have the Holy Spirit, I implore them to show His fruit as they read the rest of this article.

## PRACTICALITIES

Many people claim to ‘love Jesus’, but if a person *genuinely* loves the Jesus of the Bible then they will exhibit the fruit of the Spirit that Jesus Himself sends, i.e. “the Comforter ..., whom I will send unto you ... even the Spirit of truth” (John 15:26). Such a person may well not be sound in every area of Christian teaching, especially if they are young in the faith, but if they truly love Christ they will show the characteristics of someone who has the *Spirit* of Christ. (Naturally, the fruit will not be fully developed immediately after someone is saved! A babe in Christ is to *grow* in the fruit, just as they are to grow in knowledge and wisdom. As they walk daily with the Lord and He shows them areas in which they are weak, they will bring these weaker aspects to the cross to be pruned or otherwise dealt with. Thus a maturing believer should be able to look back periodically upon their walk and rejoice as they see how the fruit of the flesh is diminishing and the fruit of the Spirit is growing.)

Of course, we all stumble (although we should still be swift to apologise to those we have offended when we do so). As I hinted above, we all have our limits too and these will vary between believers due to our unique backgrounds and circumstances – e.g. the quality of the spiritual nurturing we received as new believers. If we feel provoked beyond our limits then we can sometimes snap (although again we should be quick to repent, and ready to explain any mitigating reasons to those souls in the firing line).

Both our propensity to stumble and the possibility of mitigating factors are the reasons why the Lord commands His children never to be *hasty* when attempting to discern whether someone’s spirit is right with God or not. But if a person claims to have been a sound follower of the Lord for a number of years, and if they say they are currently right with God, they must exhibit the fruit of His Spirit for the great bulk of the time. If they do not do so then they are a deceiver – or else they themselves are deceived and need to

humble themselves seriously before the Lord and seek Him as to the cause of the problem.

Those in ‘full-time ministry’ are not exempted from all this. Such folks can be tempted to believe they are too busy or too burdened and are therefore not required to exhibit the fruit of the Spirit. What they forget is that every Christian’s priority in this life should be to become ever more *Christlike*,<sup>5</sup> since it is only ever from *this* that the legitimate parts of one’s ministry will flow. Was Christ ever too busy or burdened to be kind and patient and gentle? If we are too busy to be these things then at least some of the activities with which we are occupied cannot be of the Lord. In fact, the greater a person’s ministry the greater their responsibilities and therefore the more Christlike they need to be.

A genuine and *really* mature servant of God will be able to say with Paul: “We then, as workers together with Him, ... [are] in **all** things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much **patience**, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, ... By pureness, by knowledge, by **longsuffering**, by **kindness**, by the Holy Ghost, by **love unfeigned**, ...” (2 Cor. 6:1-6).<sup>6</sup>

*If you, the reader, do not believe you have improved from how you were before your conversion in the nine characteristics I have listed, it is very possible that you have been presented with an inaccurate version of the gospel. I would humbly advise such folks to obtain a copy of a book I have co-authored which spells out the full, true gospel and which also provides a grounding in a number of other fundamental matters frequently mistaught today. If this seems a mercenary comment on my part, please be aware that no royalties are accepted from sales of that book. See this footnote:<sup>7</sup> for more details about the volume in question.*

I would urge readers to ask themselves whether the men and women they currently admire in the professing Church show the features we have been looking at. The reason I make a special point of saying this is that some sheep get this whole matter *upside down*. Paul had to tell one church, “ye suffer [*i.e. you put up with it*], if a man bring you into **bondage**, if a man **devour** you, if a man **take** of you, if a man **exalt himself**, ... [whereas] the more abundantly **I love** you, the **less** I be loved” (2 Cor. 11:20; 12:15b). This particular church seems to have had a very blinding spirit in operation, even though it was a church “**zealous** of spiritual gifts” (14:12). There are still Fellowships like this today. Churches exist which will happily accommodate a ‘super-apostle’ who abuses them in a variety of ways (as long as he or she is an entertaining speaker and is charming to be around<sup>8</sup>) but which will angrily reject a humble servant of God who gently tries to point out the truth of the situation. I beg readers to consider their own Fellowships in this regard.

## EXAMPLE

This principle I have been examining can be applied to *any* movement within the professing Church. As it happens, I have felt led to give an illustration based on the ‘Toronto Experience’ (TE) of the 1990s. (I was involved in this movement myself.) Did the TE produce the fruit listed earlier? If ‘Toronto’ was from the Holy Spirit then its recipients will have demonstrated an improvement in our nine tell-tale characteristics.

Given what we have so far discussed, I was struck by a series of warnings I read in articles written by high-profile *supporters* of the Toronto movement. I came across a number of such documents advising churches on the most effective ways to dispense the TE among the congregation. One urgent warning found in these materials was that “Any attempt at **hype** or **showmanship** must be **resisted at once**”.<sup>9</sup> The writer in question, a well-known individual who very much endorsed the TE, was suggesting that hype and showmanship would prove temptations within those churches that moved in the TE. This seemed a bit odd to me, because the fruit of the Holy Spirit includes meekness, gentleness and faith – all of which are strongly *opposed* to hype and showmanship. Thus it was a little strange that a TE promoter felt the need to warn about this. It just seemed superfluous. But there is no need for me to make a big deal out of this single warning.

Similarly, I read cautions against allowing *pride* to follow receipt of ‘the Blessing’. Obviously pride can be a danger when being *used* of God, but it is the very antithesis of what should happen when we’ve simply *received* the true Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit convicts us, which is one reason why the fruit of the Spirit includes meekness. But again I don’t need to dwell on this point.

Within these ‘ministry recommendation’ articles by TE leaders, I also noticed several references to self-control. This would normally have been a good sign, since self-control is part of the fruit of the Spirit, but the documents in question were encouraging us to *reduce* our self-control<sup>10</sup> and were heavily indicating that reduction in self-control was one of the actual *products* of the TE.<sup>11</sup>

Next, I saw within these advisory materials an apparent promotion of a somewhat *highminded* attitude. Specifically, we were encouraged to *automatically* disagree with, and even look down on, those who questioned the ‘move’.<sup>12</sup> At this point I took stock of what I had read. From the pens of the TE’s own proponents it seemed that ‘Toronto’ was attended by the dangers of: Showmanship (hinting at love of self); Hype (i.e. boasting); Pride; Lack of self-control (a.k.a. incontinence); and Highmindedness. It was then that I recalled a biblical prophecy in 2 Timothy 3 which refers to all five of these characteristics (among others) and which I will quote later.

After noticing these five points of correlation, I started to wonder if the remaining cautions from TE leaders *also* matched this list from 2 Timothy. I have presented the warnings from just TWO such papers (comprising less than eight pages of text between them) below. I have endeavoured to do so in a way which will allow readers to decide the level of agreement for themselves – i.e. I have converted the list in 2 Timothy into headings and have followed each of these headings with pertinent quotations from the two pro-Toronto documents. (This will all make sense shortly!)

**Admin. notes for the following section:**

- ‘GC’ stands for Gerald Coates and refers to the *Guidelines for Leaders* document prepared by Coates with help from other well-known TE promoters.<sup>13</sup> A copy of that paper can be found on pages 111-115 of the book *The Impact of Toronto* (Monarch, 1995). ‘MB’ stands for Mike Bickle and refers to pages 236-238 of Bickle’s book *Growing in the Prophetic*, (Kingsway, 1995).
- Where I felt it would be helpful to include an explanation for the KJV terms I have used, or where it seemed sensible to bring out more of the meaning of the underlying Greek, I have done so. Both types of annotation have largely been based on Strong’s data for the relevant word or phrase.
- Several of the warnings given by these TE supporters could legitimately have been repeated under more than one of the headings below. For the sake of space I have spared readers this – but it should be kept in mind.

## ‘FOR MEN SHALL BE...’

### **lovers of their own selves**

(i.e. *selfish; too intent on one’s own interests – after all, we are supposed to die to self*)

According to its supporters, one of the explicit dangers of the TE was us “becoming distracted from focusing on **God**...” [MB, p237], and there was a risk of becoming too “**individually-minded**” [MB, p238]. There was even the threat of “self-righteousness” among recipients [MB, p237]. Furthermore, we were warned that, unless it was specifically opposed, “self indulgence will take root” [GC, p112].

### **covetous**

(i.e. *avaricious; loving money and other temporal things; seeking reward*)

The TE obliged its promoters to warn us, “do **not** seek personal gain ... or benefit” [GC, p112]. We also had to be advised not to “neglect ... paying tithes, bills and taxes” [MB, p237]. A person can be covetous for position as well, and indeed we were told “Do **not** seek ... prominence” [GC, p112] and “be wary of competitiveness” between churches [Ibid].

### **boasters**

(also: *empty pretenders*)

We were cautioned, “Do **not** hype meetings” [GC, p112], and we were instructed to avoid “saying things which amount to triumphalism” [GC, p113]. We were even informed that the dangers surrounding the TE included us coming out with “arrogant **boastings**” [MB, p237]. (Just to make crystal clear what we are looking at here; all these quotes are from leading *supporters* of ‘Toronto’ who recognised that the TE had unfortunate side-effects but, for reasons I will discuss later, still chose to promote this movement to which they had already attached their reputations.)

### **proud**

(also: *imagining one’s self to be pre-eminent; overweening estimate of one’s merits*)

We had to be told to eschew “superiority and elitism” [GC, p111], and that “We must seek to avoid the ‘haves’ and ‘have nots’ mentality at all costs” [MB, p236]. As I intimated earlier, we were also explicitly alerted to the fact that one of the perils of simply being “**blessed** by the Spirit” was that of “Falling into ... **pride**” [MB, p237].

### **blasphemers**

(also: *disrespecting or misrepresenting God*)

The TE led to the distinct possibility of us misrepresenting God, for we were warned “do **not** transfer people’s faith [i.e. *their faith in God*] either to a person, a place or a method” [GC, p112]. Likewise there was a danger of “Exalting the ... **human** instruments that God is especially using ... We must avoid any kind of ‘**hero worship**’ within our hearts” [MB, p238]. We were also cautioned that TE recipients could end up “embracing **strange** ... ideas. This problem **must** be addressed as it arises” [MB, p236]. Combine this with the TE-induced hazard of “casting off **all** ... discipline” [MB, p237] and we obviously have a problem.

### **disobedient to parents**

(also: *impersuasive by, and not compliant to, parents*)

‘Toronto’ could cause “neglect of ... honouring parents” [MB, p237] and could lead to “**fanaticism** ... [P]eople can get carried away into ... **unbiblical** ideas” [MB, pp236-7]. On multiple occasions we had to be told to “**Seek** to submit to those in authority” [MB, p238].

### **unthankful**

(also: *ungracious*)

TE leaders felt obliged to warn us against forgetting to “express ... **gratitude** for the ... grace of God” [MB, p238]. Part of the difficulty was that recipients of the TE might not “Maintain a focus on ... **Christ**” [GC, p112]. This was so serious that we actually had to be openly told not to “neglect ... daily devotions [and] secret prayer” [MB, pp236-7].

### **unholy**

(also: *impious*)

Space had to be taken up in these documents to remind us that “we need ... ‘clean hands and a pure heart’ ... Don’t **invite** criticisms and opposition” [GC, p113]. Additionally, we had to be specifically advised to “Be careful about prolonged times of men praying for women or women men” [GC, p113], and we had to be exhorted to “**ensure** that our behaviour is in line with the biblical mandate, with as little physical contact as possible” [GC, p113]. Beyond this, the TE was attended by a propensity to *lie* – i.e. to say “things which amount to ... pure **fantasy**” [GC, p113] – and we even had to be told “Do not in any way **manipulate** the activity of the Holy Spirit” [GC, p114].

### **without natural affection**

(also: *unpleasant; unsociable*)

TE recipients apparently had to “**Learn** to disagree without being disagreeable” [GC, p113]. We also needed to be warned not to “neglect ... showing **mercy** ..., **resolving** relational conflicts, and being faithful friends” [MB, p236-7].

### **trucebreakers**

(i.e. *implacable; refusing to lay aside enmity or even to listen to terms of godly reconciliation; agreement-breakers – even among themselves*)

To some extent this fruit was actually encouraged. In particular, fans of Toronto were automatically supposed to “**disagree**” with detractors [GC, p113]. However, the leaders admitted that there needed to be limits and that one of the specific dangers was of “**divisions**” even among TE recipients [MB, p236]. Furthermore, there was the risk that “in their enthusiasm, people can get carried away into **excesses** ...” [MB, pp236-7].

### **false accusers**

(also: *opposing the true cause of God like a devil; slandering others, especially those who do not follow*)

We had to be explicitly warned not to “**marginalize** those who do not understand” [GC, p115], and we were told that another pitfall associated with receiving the TE was that of “**spreading** rumours and misinformation” [MB, p237].

### **incontinent**

(i.e. *without self-control; intemperate*)

As noted earlier, lack of self-control was one of the products that were not only acknowledged but actually *promoted* in these documents. However, TE supporters had to admit that some boundaries were required, for there was a distinct risk of us losing “**all** restraints” [MB, p237]. However, even here Mike Bickle still instructed leaders to “be prepared to ‘swallow some gnats’” in this regard [Ibid].

## **fierce**

(also: not tame; angry without cause)

Regarding critics, we had to beware of “the ‘**What do they know?**’ attitude” [GC, p113]. TE leaders also felt the need to warn us to “Be **prepared** for criticism ... This is a time for sensitive action not **emotional reaction**” [GC, p112]. We also had to take care to “remain calm, reasonable **and rational**” [GC, p113]. These leaders even acknowledged that, “when there is a reactionary **note** to what is going on, we can ... get **angry**” [GC, p115]. (Incidentally, if the TE was of God then recipients would have been right to be **grieved in their spirit** by criticism – but surely not **angry**. This is particularly the case with the TE, where there was so much legitimate reason to doubt it. After all, the TE: was rooted in people with unbiblical beliefs and lifestyles; relied on unbiblical practices; and produced unbiblical manifestations. See this footnote:<sup>14</sup> for more.)

## **despisers of those that are good**

(also: looking down on those that are in line with God’s good Word)

We were warned that “opposition will come from the **religious** as well as the godless ... When we [come across such] ... it is **easy** to be reactionary, **cynical, dismissive** or superior” [GC, p113]. We also had to be specifically instructed to be “gracious, kind and patient with differences in perspectives within the community of believers” [MB, p238]. Having said that, we were effectively encouraged to disrespect God’s Word when we were told: “Endeavour to read Scripture **into** what is going on” [GC, p113] whereas it should have been the other way around (i.e. we should have interpreted our experiences in the light of the Bible, not vice versa).

## **traitors**

(also: betrayers for personal gain)

We had to be warned not to “neglect ... loving enemies” [MB, p237] but, more worrying still, we were alerted to the fact that one of the perils of the TE was that even our “love for ... **one another**” might be compromised [MB, p236]. We also had to be advised to “Take no **delight** in ... bad reports” [MB, p237].

## **heady**

(i.e. precipitate; rash; reckless)

One of the infamous ways in which people were reckless regarding the TE was by rashly “exalting **outward manifestations** above the inward and hidden work” [MB, pp236-8]. This inclination to be reckless extended to personal dealings, thus we had to be warned not to “neglect ... suffering **patiently**” [MB, p237] but to “Be **patient** in ministry times” [MB, p238] and to “Wait on God. Things cannot be **rushed**” [GC, p114].

## **highminded**

(i.e. blind to the truth through haughtiness; self-reliant)

As noted earlier, this is one effect of the TE that was openly *encouraged* – at least insofar as it led people to be blind to the cautions of detractors. Apart from this, the leaders of the movement acknowledged that the TE spirit could lead people to become “**deluded**” [MB, p237]. We were also warned that the TE might cause us to “become ... **religious**” in the bad (i.e. self-reliant) sense of the word [GC, p112].

## **lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God**

(this heading needs no expansion)

A product of the TE was apparently that people would become carnal, and would thus be prompted to overlook godly spiritual activities – i.e. to “**neglect** ... humble service, helping the poor, ... retraining appetites, training children, working hard, doing chores and errands...” [MB, p237]. There was also a definite chance of recipients “simply running around to ‘get blessed’” [GC, p113] and a risk that the leaders wouldn’t “Take responsibility for what is happening” [GC, p111]. TE proponents were even forced to admit that one of the many hazards was that “love for God ... [will not] remain the pre-eminent value” [MB, p236].

## **OBSERVATIONS**

The first thing to note about the above material is that ‘Toronto’ not only failed to generate the nine facets of the fruit of the Holy Spirit, it actually produced the very *opposite*. Indeed, such was the spirit behind the TE that folks had to be specifically told to *conceal* its true effects. (If any reader wonders why TE leaders warned us to curb the behaviour promoted by the “Blessing”, a key reason was that these leaders had already personally backed this movement to the hilt. If we followers hadn’t been told to restrain our behaviour after receiving the TE, it would have been extremely obvious to many others that this move wasn’t of God – and thus that its proponents did not enjoy anything like the wisdom or ‘anointing’ they claimed to possess.<sup>16</sup>)

*For additional articles I have worked on which demonstrate the real nature of the TE, please see the ‘Rubies’ section of the bayith.org website. Readers are especially encouraged to take stock of the Open Letter I co-wrote on the subject, not least because the reply received back gives a vivid illustration of the spirit behind ‘Toronto’.*

The second point worth noting is that the TE spirit didn’t cause people to *stop* loving God. That would have been far too conspicuous. Hence the final heading above reads “lovers of pleasure **more** than [not **rather than**] lovers of God”. It is clearly possible to maintain a type of love for God while devel-

oping all these other dreadful traits. However, it should be remembered that *true* biblical love is not just a ‘sloppy emotional feeling’. After all, “**this** is the love of **God**, that we **keep His commandments**” (1 John 5:3a).

The next thing to say is that a close correlation plainly exists between the ‘2 Timothy’ headings above and the warnings, by its own supporters, about the effects of the TE spirit. I only employed *two* such documents in creating the preceding section, both of which were very short, so the correlation isn’t *absolutely* perfect, but the match would have been even closer had I included further such papers<sup>17</sup> and, if we are honest with ourselves, the degree of similarity is already far too high for there to be any other explanation.

It is now time to quote the context from which my headings were derived. They came from 2 Timothy 3:1-5a which reads: “This know also, that in the last days **perilous** times shall come. **For** men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof...” This leads to further observations, two of which follow:

Note that the passage does not say such people won’t claim to be ‘in love with Jesus’. Indeed, it explicitly confirms that they will have a “form of **godliness**” – and a ‘love’ for the Lord undoubtedly comprises part of this “form of godliness”. However, note too that these people will “deny the power” of genuine, biblical godliness. They will seek power in foolish places (e.g. in Eastern practices and visits to ‘super-apostles’) but will refuse to accept the fact that godly power only comes through purity of lifestyle and love of the truth.<sup>18</sup>

## **CONCLUSION**

I encourage the reader to apply this test to the folks, especially the elders, in their own Fellowship: Do these people remind us of Christ or of men like John the Baptist, or do they not? The Spirit of God is eternally the same, so His fruit will be of the same type throughout history. (I’d dearly love someone to make a film which compared the manner of the “meek and lowly” Christ (Matt. 11:29) with the demeanour of some of the exalted individuals in the professing Church today. The contrast would be so striking that few sincere believers could remain under any illusions about the nature of the latter.)

**Important:** Just as someone can grow in the fruit of the *true* Spirit, so they can grow in the ungodly fruit of the *2 Timothy* spirit. A recipient of the TE does not become an ogre after just one or two sessions! If they continue

to associate with this false spirit then the nine godly characteristics will steadily fade and these eighteen ungodly ones will steadily increase, but in the meantime the person can potentially look very godly indeed. The 2 Timothy passage we have discussed ends with: “from such [people] **turn away**”. The greater the presence of the 2 Timothy attributes in a person, the more we need to turn away from that person, no matter how charming or sincere or servant-hearted or friendly they are, nor how many of the impressive but ambiguous qualities they possess which I mentioned in the ‘But Surely’ section of this article. Ultimately such people will cause “**perilous**” times for us (see verse 1) if we have not completely separated from them long before they reach the state described in Romans 1:28-32 where they are utterly beyond help. (It goes without saying that we must *immediately* turn away fully from the *practices* which produce this ungodly fruit.)

*If the reader thinks they may inadvertently have associated with the 2 Timothy spirit, they need to renounce this spirit and thoroughly repent of their involvement in the practices which led to it. I would also advise them to obtain a copy of the item cited in this footnote:<sup>19</sup>*

In closing, the next time a person claims their practices bring them into contact with the true Holy Spirit, ask yourself if that person exhibits the fruit of the true Holy Spirit. It never ceases to amaze me that people try to convince me of their closeness to the Spirit while simultaneously demonstrating the *opposite* of His fruit – even though this is plainly one of the occasions when such individuals should be on their *best* behaviour. If people exhibit ungodly fruit to us, we need to be on *our* best behaviour – i.e. ensuring we are demonstrating the fruit of the Holy Spirit – if we are to rescue them from the false spirit they have taken on board. Either way, let us seek to be an example to all in this pivotal matter.

#### FOOTNOTES:

1: All emphases in quotes in this article are my own.

2: Specifically, we ought to check that the doctrines and lifestyles of the people seeking to bring these ‘new’ things into our congregations line up with Scripture. (Further, we must ensure that any

practices associated with these ‘new’ things are biblical. We cannot approach God in any old way.)

3: E.g. see Eph. 4:14; 6:11; 2 Cor. 11:14; and Gal. 3:1.

4: Confirmatory passages include Jas. 3:17; Col. 3:12-17; 2 Tim. 2:20-25; and 2 Pet. 1:5-9.

5: This is a point I plan to develop in a future article, but for the time being please see passages like Eccl. 1:2-3,14; 12:13; Eph. 4:13,15; 1 Thess. 5:23; 1 Cor. 3:12-15; Psalms 127:1a; John 8:28b; 15:4; Mic. 6:8; Eph. 5:25-27; 1 Thess. 4:3a; and Isa. 30:1a.

6: A crucial test of a true disciple is that they have (biblical) love for the brethren (John 13:35).

7: The book is *Alpha – the Unofficial Guide: World* and can be obtained from Moriel. Further details about the book, including other outlets, are available from the ‘Rubies’ section of the bayith.org website.

8: And especially if he or she can produce a few ‘signs and wonders’ (albeit of the lying variety – just as God prophesies will occur during these last days in Matt. 24:23-27; 2 Thess. 2:8-12 and elsewhere).

9: Michael Green, Foreword to Wallace Boulton, Ed., *The Impact of Toronto*, (Monarch, 1995), p16.

10: For instance, “We are still a very controlled people” [Gerald Coates, in an article contained in Boulton, *op. cit.*, p114].

11: Green [Boulton, *op. cit.*, p14].

12: E.g. see Green, *Ibid*, p16.

13: Coates’ helpers were Bryn Jones, Sandy Millar, David Pytches and Vineyard USA.

14: Fulsome proof of these claims can be found in the brand new ‘Church’ volume of a book I have co-authored entitled *Alpha – the Unofficial Guide*. See the ‘Rubies’ section of [www.bayith.org](http://www.bayith.org) for outlets.

15: As we have now seen, if the true Spirit was involved then His “work” wouldn’t have been “hidden” for long!

16: Among those ‘leaders’ who were *false* brothers, there was an even more sinister motivation for urging recipients to downplay the effects of the TE. These ‘leaders’ naturally wanted to help the false TE spirit to spread with as little hindrance as possible. If recipients had made it apparent that the TE caused increasing *ungodliness* then many potential ‘takers’ would have turned away and might even have actively opposed ‘the Blessing’. Hence the frequent use of the deliberately ambiguous term ‘renewal’ to describe such movements. (The TE couldn’t be called a *revival* because it simply didn’t cause the repentance that a revival would.) Any activity involving a false spirit can safely be termed a ‘renewal’ since, if something changes in a person, they can be said to have been ‘renewed’ even if their new state is worse than before.

17: E.g. chapter 7 of Rob Warner’s disgraceful book *Prepare for Revival*, (Hodder and Stoughton, 1995). Note the way in which chapter 9 of that volume is devoted to ‘Vital Signs of an Outpouring of the Holy Spirit’, yet our Galatians 5:22-3 passage is only referred to once in the entire 20 pages – and even here the nine facets of the fruit are not actually listed.

18: Given that foolish *manifestations* were a prominent feature of the TE, it is moderately interesting to consider that the 2 Timothy chapter we have studied continues “[T]heir **folly** shall be **manifest** unto all men”.

19: Such readers should find the new book I have co-authored, entitled *Alpha – the Unofficial Guide: Church*, of real value. It can be obtained from SMP Ltd, Tel: +44 1223 504871. See the website [bayith.org](http://bayith.org) for more details.

## Never doubt God

If you look to your circumstances to find joy, you’ll live on an emotional roller coaster.

But if you look to the Lord of your circumstances and rejoice in His unfailing goodness, you’ll move from weakness to strength every time.

Doubt your doubts, but never doubt God.

Why? Because he’s not subject to your circumstances!

One word from Him can change everything.

Why am I going through all this?

The answer is, you’re in the hand of the potter.

Knowing that helps – especially when you’re on the wheel and everything in your life

seems to be spinning out of control. It’s not...

Look under the table and see whose foot is on the wheel....

Notice though the vessel was marred, it was still in the potter’s hand. God never throws us away, nor is His plan for us thwarted because we have a flaw’ or struggle in certain areas. At all times you are in His Hand And you always will be!

*Sent to us by a Moriel reader in New Zealand*



# The Death of Discernment

By Mike Gendron,  
Proclaiming the Gospel Ministry

Have you considered the spiritual health of your church in these days of tolerance and compromise? Is the leadership encouraging the congregation to earnestly contend for the faith against the current wave of ecumenism and doctrinal compromise? A.W. Tozer used the illustration of circulating blood to describe the health of a church. “The red corpuscles are like faith—they carry the life giving oxygen to every part of the body. The white cells are like discernment – they pounce upon dead and toxic matter and carry it out to the drain. In a healthy heart there must be provision for keeping dead and poisonous matter out of the life stream.”

Using Tozer’s analogy, churches that are dead or dying are the churches that no longer have the ability or the desire to discern truth from error. If they cannot identify toxic doctrinal error, the poison can never be removed from the body. And if it is not removed it will continue to circulate, bringing confusion to believers and false hope to “seekers.”

## The Emerging Church

Based on the reports we hear from our subscribers all over the world, there are many churches on the edge of apostasy. Many are subscribing to the latest post-modern fad called “the emerging church” which attempts to reach the emerging generation with a new way of “doing church.” If you key “emerging church” in your favorite search engine, you will see numerous entries declaring that worship should now be a mystical and holistic experience using images, candles, stained glass windows and even darkness to enhance spirituality. One of the leaders of the movement is Brian McLaren, pastor and author of the controversial and award winning book, *A New Kind of Christian*. The book expressly argues that the Bible should not be regarded as infallible or authoritative. McLaren seeks unity between Catholics and Evangelicals and applauds Chuck Colson for leading this unbiblical movement.

The emerging church places more importance on mystical and sensual worship experiences that unite rather than essential biblical doctrines that divide.

Churches that move from a Word-driven message to an image-driven message only contribute to the “dumbing down” of professing Christians. Few will be able to discern the difference between the true Gospel and a counterfeit gospel. The end result will be un-

sanctified churches which tolerate, embrace and encourage unbelievers instead of edifying and equipping a new generation of believers.

## Emerging But Not Discerning

Irving Bible Church, located between Dallas and Ft. Worth has emerged into a church without discernment. The pastor, Andy McQuitty, has publicly stated that both John Paul II and Mother Teresa are most assuredly in heaven. In the May issue of the church’s monthly magazine *Chatter*, he featured a 11” by 14” picture of these two influential Catholics who deceived the world with another gospel. McQuitty called the differences between Catholics and Protestants “theological pettiness.” He said, “it is just plain silly to write each other off as far as true Christianity is concerned. We’ll have plenty of time in Heaven to figure out who was right about Purgatory and Mary.” McQuitty can’t see why both faiths can’t cooperate “in building the Kingdom of our common Lord Jesus Christ.” He described John Paul as “a Man of God, not a man of this world, who became popular by testifying to the unpopular truths of Jesus Christ.” According to McQuitty, the pope was “a great man whom all Christians should admire, thank and emulate.” Finally he wrote, “I confess as a protestant pastor that my spiritual life and faith has been enriched by this Catholic pope who taught me that being a hero isn’t about success or power.”

Evidently Irving Bible Church (IBC) has a few discerning souls who prompted McQuitty to send out this public e-mail. “A few of you have raised concerns, most of which can be boiled down to this question: ‘Is IBC becoming Roman Catholic?’ To which the answer is, ‘No way, Jose.’” He wrote: “I understand where the question comes from, though. The introduction at IBC of certain elements such as candles and liturgies and communion wafers and the reference to communion as the ‘Eucharist’, combined with the recent death of Pope John Paul II and the attendant recognition that his life received here, has caused some (particularly those who were raised Catholic and had a less than happy experience) to bristle.”

McQuitty sounds like many Catholics who think we left the Roman Catholic Church because we “had a less than happy experience.” No, we left when our Sovereign Lord opened our eyes to see the true Gospel as He revealed it in His supremely authoritative Word. As with other born-again former Catholics, we all left because we could no longer stay in a false religion that deceives its people on life’s most critical issue – “What must I do to be saved?” We all left in obedience to God’s word, to worship Him in Spirit and Truth (John 4:24). If we were a

member of Irving Bible Church, we would have to leave that church as well because the pastor has demonstrated no discernment and an unwillingness to be corrected by Scripture. A pastor without spiritual discernment cannot protect his congregation from Satan’s continuous attacks on the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Some will say that I am being judgmental and that I have no right to do so. But how can Christians contend earnestly for the faith unless they make judgments on what “the faith” is? How can Christians defend and proclaim the Gospel without discerning what “the Gospel” is? We see a biblical example of one brother judging another when Paul publicly corrected Peter who was not being straightforward about the truth of the Gospel” (Gal. 2:11-14). A.W. Tozer said: “Among the gifts of the Spirit, scarcely is one of greater practical usefulness than the gift of discernment. This gift should be highly valued and frankly sought as being almost indispensable in these critical times. This gift will enable us to distinguish the chaff from the wheat and to divide the manifestations of the flesh from the operations of the Spirit.”

## Christians Are Exhorted To Judge

Many Christians are unaware of their responsibility to judge and test all things. Paul exhorted: “I pray that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ” (Phil. 1:9-10). Christians need to take discernment and judgment seriously in this life because of the great responsibility that awaits us in the future. Paul reminds us: “Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, matters of this life?” (1 Cor. 6:2-3). Paul even commended the Bereans for rightfully judging his teaching. “They received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily, to see whether these things were so” (Acts 17:11). The apostle John warned and exhorted Christians: “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world” (1 John 4:1). Clearly, all Christians are called to judge righteously by using the Word of God as the plumb line for discerning truth from error.

## Discernment Is A Discipline

New babes in Christ must discipline themselves to go beyond the “milk” of the Gospel and begin chewing on “solid food” by studying the whole counsel of God. “For everyone who partakes only of milk is un-

skilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." (Heb. 5:13-14). Spiritual discernment is a discipline and a privilege that only Christians can exercise. Paul wrote: "But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things." (1 Cor. 2:14-16).

### How Are We To Judge?

John wrote: "Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment" (John 7:24). Jesus said: "For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you" (Mat. 7:1-5). The instruction Jesus gives for judging others is to make sure you are not guilty of the same error or sin! Paul echoed these words when he wrote: "Do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment upon those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God?" (Rom. 2:3). When we judge, we must judge righteously and with pure hearts!

### The Goal of Discernment

As we practice the gift of discernment let us question our motives. Is our objective to be obedient to God's word for the purpose of helping, healing, correcting, warning and sharing in the spirit of love? Does our discernment lead people towards truth and righteous living? Are we concerned for the purity of the body of Christ? Have we come to acknowledge that when the gift of discernment is not exercised, the church cannot be purged of error and sin and the name of Jesus Christ cannot be fully glorified and honored as the Holy Head of His Body, the Church? Let us remember the words Paul exhorted us with: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth." (2 Tim. 2:15)

The critical issue in the Church today is the purity of the Gospel. That alone is the rudder that must guide the Church through stormy waters that have been stirred up by every wind of doctrine. Take away the ability to discern objective truth and churches turn into cafeterias serving whatever junk food people want instead of the disciplined diet they need for spiritual life and health. Without a steady diet of the whole counsel of God, churches become entertainment centers for goats instead of sanctuaries for the Shepherd's sheep (Mat. 25:32). Unregenerate people, who are never exhorted to examine their faith, will continue attending church to enjoy the music, entertainment and "feel good" messages. Unless these people are confronted with their sin, their need for a Savior and the eternal consequences of a spurious faith, they

are destined to hear these terrifying words from Jesus: "I never knew you; depart from Me" (Mat. 7:23). May God help us all to be part of the solution and not part of the problem.

### Exhortations for Discernment

- Pray for Christians and church leaders to be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so they may walk worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work (Col. 1:9).
- Keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience (1Tim. 3:9).

# It's great to hear from you!

### Greetings Brothers & Sisters

Thank you for speaking the Truth and putting it up on the web. Your website has been a great resource for me.

I am interested in obtaining a copy of the "Upon this Rock" Conference on DVD.

I have just received my first newsletter and I know it will bring more truth and encouragement.

Keep pressing on – I will keep you in prayer.

**Ms S of Kodiak, Alaska**

### Dear Sister

*Thank you for your kind words and prayers, which are most important to this ministry. With Moriel willing to stand for Truth, there are many that would stand against us, so your prayers are needed, please continue.*

*Also thank you for your gift which helps us to put out our free newsletter and also donate to the various orphanages we help sponsor and support full time missionaries.*

**In Peace**

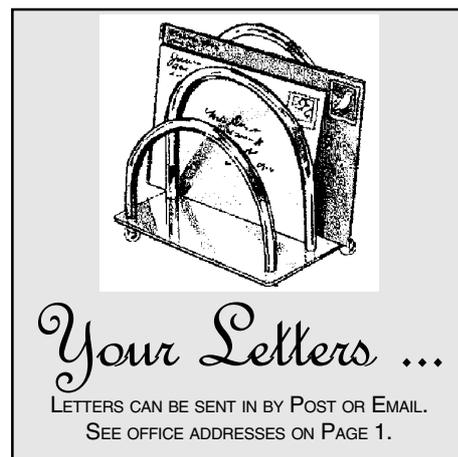
**David Lister, Moriel USA**

I look forward so much to each issue of the Moriel Magazine – especially Jacob's articles. The last one on Obadiah was very eye opening. We certainly live in perilous times and we know it is going to get worse & men's hearts will fail them for fear.

We see things unfolding in the world today, all prophesied in the Bible.

We wonder how man can be so foolish as to neglect such a great salvation.

- Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things (1 Tim. 4:16).
- Fight the good fight of faith (1 Tim. 6:12).
- Guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter ... which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith (1Tim.6:20-21).
- Preach the word; be ready to reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. For some will not endure sound doctrine; but will listen to teachers in accordance to their own desires; and will turn away from the truth, and will turn aside to myths (2 Tim. 4:2-4).



We can only say "Come soon Lord Jesus".

**Mrs S of Queensland**

*Very sadly, how so very true.*

Jacob's Conference at Pakenham was great and I really appreciated all the team's hard work – looking forward to the next one.

**Mrs J of Victoria**

The Moriel Quarterly is very enlightening & worth reflection

**Mr of the UK**

I thank God for Jacob & the Moriel Quarterly. My life has been changed and my eyes opened.

**Mrs H of Queensland**

www.moriel.org  
=  
**moriel  
online**

# Jesus in the Talmud

By Jacob Prasch

One thing that distresses me, along with every other Jewish mission or evangelist to the Jews, is this: there are so many Christians who love Israel and who have a heart for the Jewish people (which is from the Lord) who confuse loving the people of Israel with loving the government of Israel. More seriously, they confuse loving the Jews with loving the religion of the Rabbis that is now called Judaism. Let us look at what Jesus said about this religion, bearing in mind that the modern-day Judaism of the synagogues is not in any sense the Jewish religion of Moses and the Torah.

One way to understand modern Judaism is to compare it to Roman Catholicism or Eastern Orthodoxy. Those churches claim to be Christian, but if one reads the New Testament it is quickly obvious that they are not at all Christian; rather they are built from largely pagan traditions which have little or nothing to do with the original teachings of Jesus and the Apostles. These are religions that come in the guise of Christianity, bearing the title “Christian Church,” but are in no way true to what Jesus taught. Similarly, in no sense is the Judaism of today the same religion that was taught by Moses.

## The Spirit of Antichrist...

We will talk about that as we go on, but for now let us look at Revelation 2:9: “I know your tribulation and your poverty, but you are rich; and the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.” The message here hearkens back to Romans 2 and to the book of Jeremiah: “He is not a Jew who is one outwardly, but he is a Jew who is circumcised of heart.” Even the Talmud admits that people who are anthropologically or genetically Jews would know their Messiah if they were true Jews, or Jews in heart. Jesus calls this Judaism that rejects its own Messiah a “synagogue of Satan.” When you pass a Jehovah’s Witness Kingdom Hall, it is a place of Satan; when you pass a mosque, that too is a place of Satan; when you go by a Roman Catholic Church, it is a place of Satan; when you pass a Hindu Temple, that is a place of Satan. A synagogue is also no less a place of Satan.

There is something in Orthodox synagogues called *ha bierkat ha minim*; they call it a blessing, but in reality it is a curse. There is also something known in the synagogue liturgy called the *shmona asrey*: Jesus is called Yeshu instead of Yeshua; they shorten His name to an acronym to mean “May His

name be blotted out.” They pray that the *minim*, a collective term for theological dissidents within the Jewish community that included Messianic Jewish believers in Jesus, will be blotted out of the Book of Life. To Jewish Christians, therefore, it is very confusing to see fellow believers who are in philo-Semitic organizations and the like, lifting up Judaism and shaking hands with Rabbis. They watch other Christians stand on platforms and give speeches that make it seem as if Judaism is good and Islam is bad. How would you feel if your brethren in Christ stood up on platforms at the Feast of Tabernacles or some such thing, shaking hands with and making speeches on behalf of people who pray that your name and the names of your children would be blotted out of the Book of Life?

I John 2:22-23: “Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the Antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also.” In Scripture we see prophecy of the Antichrist; John says that there are many antichrists, and that apart from both the Father and the Son we see what can be called “the spirit of antichrist.”

What is antichrist? – That which denies that Jesus is the Messiah. The Judaism of the Rabbis is a false Judaism that denies Jesus as the Messiah. In addition, John says that whatever denies the Father-Son relationship is also antichrist. On the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount there is a quote from a Surah in the Quran which declares, “God has no son.” Islam denies the Father-Son relationship; it is an antichrist religion. The Judaism of the Rabbis today – not to be confused with the Judaism of Moses and the prophets – is also an antichrist religion.

There is a terrible history of “Christian” anti-Semitism. This is sadly true; nonetheless, man is fallen. In Israel today Orthodox Jews are perfectly capable of doing to non-Jews what anti-Semites did and still do today. They do even worse to Jewish Christians, whom they are trying to deport back to Russia. It is true that terrible crimes were perpetrated against the Jews in the name of Jesus Christ, but false religion is false religion no matter what guise it comes in: Islam, Roman Catholicism, Hinduism, Rabbinic Judaism – they are all antichrist.

Maimonides, known as the Rambam (1135-1204), the greatest Rabbi taught, “Gentiles with whom we are not at war: One must not directly cause their death, but it is forbidden to save them if they are about to die. For example, if one sees a Gentile falling into the sea, it is forbidden to pull him out, for in

Leviticus 19:16 it says, ‘You shall not stand by the blood of your neighbor,’ and that Gentile is not considered your neighbor.” — *Yad ha-chazaka*, the Laws of Murder and Protection of Life. Incidentally, Maimonides, the man who wrote this, was a medical doctor. The same word for “neighbor” is used in Leviticus 19:18 in the famous phrase which says, “Love your neighbor as yourself;” but what this is telling Jews is that since a Gentile is not really a neighbor, they must be left to die.

Let us continue. Maimonides also said, “One is not permitted to heal Gentiles, even for payment. But if the Jewish doctor is afraid of them, or if there is concern about arousing hostility, then he may heal for payment, but not free of charge.” *Yad ha-chazaka*, Laws of Idolatry, chapter 10 verse 2. Joseph Caro, who compiled the *Shulchan Aruch*, which is the basic “set table” or codification of *chalakik* Jewish law, said this: “A woman in birth is considered like a sick person whose life is in danger, for whom the Sabbath may be violated for any of her needs in giving birth to her child, such as lighting a candle; but one must not assist a non-Jewish woman in giving birth on the Sabbath.” *Shulchan Aruch, Or Hayim*, Law of the Sabbath 330:1, 2.

Hafetz Hayim, (also known as Israel Meir Ha Cohen) 1838-1933, founder of the Avodah Israel, and a 20th-century *chalakik* authority on *chalahah* (Jewish law) elaborates on the preceding item in his commentary *Mishnah Berurah*, which means “the clarification of the Mishnah.” He said, “One must not assist a Gentile woman in birth, not even for payment; for in the week-days one assists them in birth only to avoid hostility, and the Magen Abraham (the Shield of Abraham, which is a commentary on the *Shulchan Aruch*) has written that even where there is concern for hostility, one is only permitted to do activities that do not entail a violation of the Sabbath; and I want you to know that the more acceptable (literally, more kosher) Jewish doctors do not observe this at all, for every Sabbath they travel many miles to heal Gentiles and they write a prescription personally or prepare medication; but they have no *chalakik* Jewish law, upon which to base such actions as treating or writing a prescription for a sick Gentile. For even if one is permitted to violate a Rabbinic prohibition in order to prevent Gentile hostility, one is certainly not permitted to violate a Rabbinic prohibition, and they are considered intentional violators of the Sabbath – God spare them.” In a parallel column entitled *ha or chalaka*, the author of the *Mishnah Berurah* adds, “The same law also applies to Moslems (literally Ishmaelites) and even to Karites (Jews who do not accept *torah b’al pei* — the oral law.) Everyone

agrees that one may not violate a Rabbinic prohibition of the Sabbath in order to save their life.”

Fortunately most Jews and even many moderate orthodox Jews do not actually believe such hate-mongering dogma. But in its ultra-orthodox form that literally believes such dogma, this is a bigoted, racist religion from the pit of Hell. It not only denies the Messiah, it even curses Him. It prays that those faithful Jews who do accept Him as Messiah, and are the true faithful remnant of Israel, would be blotted out of the Book of Life. God called Rabbinic Judaism an anti-christ religion, and Jesus called it a “synagogue of Satan.” Their own literature shows that it is as equally bigoted, racist, and vile as Luther, the Roman Catholic Church, or anyone else who has claimed to be Christian and committed crimes against the Jews. They are no better and no different than the apostate forms of Christianity whose anti-Semitic adherers for centuries persecuted and killed countless innocent Jews. But even in its more moderate expressions, rabbinic Judaism points God’s covenant people away from their Messianic redeemer whose Messiahship is the reason for the covenant.

All have sinned and all fall short of the glory of God. I do not care what the International Christian Embassy says, what Christian Friends of Israel says, or what J. Rawlings says; they are wrong. The people who publish literature in favor of modern Judaism do not know what they are talking about; they have no idea what Talmudic Judaism really is. The only valid Judaism today is the Messianic Judaism which fulfills the Torah, and its Jewish believers in Yeshua who are the righteous Jews because they have the imputed righteousness of Messiah. Once again, Yeshua told us exactly what this counterfeit Talmudic Judaism of the rabbis is: it is a “Synagogue of Satan,” misleading precious Jewish souls away from the true salvation of their Messiah and into the eternal damnation of Satan.

We must make a distinction between the religion and the people who are trapped in it. I love Roman Catholics, and because I love them, I hate Roman Catholicism. I love Moslems, and because I love them, I hate Islam. I love Jews, and because I love Jews I hate rabbinic Judaism, which is not the Judaism of Moses; and as we shall see, they know it is not the Judaism of Moses.

## Two Schools of Thought...

What I am going to do now is give you just an overview of what the Rabbis said about Jesus. If you witness to Jewish people, what the Rabbis have taught them is this: “The Gentiles have taken our Scriptures and twisted them to make it seem like they are speaking of Jesus, but if you read the original context of the Jewish Scriptures you see that it is not talking about Jesus, and they have gotten it

all wrong.” They can also give you some pretty convincing arguments in that regard. What I am going to give you here is ammunition, but this ammunition can only serve one purpose: to undermine that argument. You can show them only this: it is not a Gentile or Christian distortion of the Scriptures. For these are not totally alien ideas from Jewish thought that no Rabbi would believe. In fact, the Rabbis confirm the Christian interpretation of these Scriptures. That is all you can do; it will not mean that they will believe, because they can always show you some other *chalaka* or some other Midrash, or some other Talmud, or some other Rabbinic commentary saying that it does not have to mean what you say. This is known as *pilpul*, which is the way that the Rabbis devised to argue the *chalaka*, which comes from the Hebrew word *la lechet* meaning “to walk,” or the way you live your life.

The Bible says at the end of the Sermon on the Mount the people were astounded because Jesus taught “as one with authority, and not as the scribes and Pharisees.” What that meant was that Jesus would not engage in what is called “*pilpul*.” He simply said, “This is what God says,” and would not engage in legalistic nit-picking and searching for loopholes, because it was an endless road to nowhere. He referred to this kind of teaching as “leaven” and warned people to “beware of the leaven of the Pharisees.” Jesus did use Midrash, the Jewish way of interpreting the Scriptures, but in moral legislation and the like He would not engage in *pilpul* – with one exception. Paul also refused to engage in *pilpul*, with the same exception: they used it to provoke the Pharisees and Sadducees into fighting with one another. Jesus knew, for example, that the Pharisees believed in the Resurrection while the Sadducees did not; therefore He would quote, “I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob” and ask “is He the God of the living or of the dead?” knowing that this would start them arguing. It is almost as if He was poking fun at them, to show them how ridiculous it all was. In any case, this was the only instance where Jesus would engage in *pilpul*, with the object of turning the Sadducees and Pharisees against each other.

Again, they will always be able to find some rabbinic commentary that says a text does not necessarily have to mean what you say it does; the only thing you will be able to do is show that they cannot sweep our views out the window. The New Testament was written by Jews. Jesus was a Jew, the apostles were Jews, the first Christians were Jews, and the last Christians will be Jews. The only reason that non-Jews believe in Jesus, in His Gospel, and in the New Testament, is that Jews wrote the New Testament and taught them that Jesus is the Messiah. No one can deny that historical fact, although some Jews will try to claim that Christianity is a Gentile fabrication.

## What The Rabbinic Literature States Regarding Yeshua...

There is a place in the Rabbinic writings called Yoma 39 b, where the rabbis taught that in the forty years prior to the destruction of the Temple, the following happened: on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, they would hang a scarlet cord (probably associated in some way with Isaiah 1:18) before the Holy of Holies, when the High Priest entered to make the sacrifice. They believed that this scarlet cord would turn white if the sin of the people was forgiven; if they were not forgiven, the cord would remain red. Daniel chapter 9, as we will see, says that the Messiah had to come and die before the second Temple was destroyed; Jesus echoed this in the Olivet Discourse (Matt. 24, Luke 21). The Rabbis taught, “During the last forty years before the destruction of the Temple – which happened circa 70 A.D., the scarlet thread did not become white, nor did the Western lamp in the Temple shine; and the doors of the Holy of Holies would fling themselves open of their own accord. For the forty years before the destruction of the Temple, the scarlet thread never turned white, but remained red.” The second Temple was destroyed in 70 A.D. Forty years before 70 A.D. would have been circa 30 A.D./ C.E. In other words, from the time of Jesus until the destruction of the Temple, according to Judaism, the people’s sin was never forgiven. They are trying to justify themselves by works, but Isaiah 64:6 tells us that our righteous deeds are as filthy rags. The literal Hebrew term for “filthy rags” in this passage is actually a comparison to a blood-soiled menstrual cloth. Scripture uses very coarse language to describe human righteousness and religion. Messiah’s righteousness is not human; it is a divine righteousness imputed through faith in the Jewish Messiah Yeshua.

“During the last forty years before the destruction of the Temple, the lot for the Lord did not come up in the right hand, nor did the crimson-colored strap become white; nor did the Western-most light shine, and the doors to the Hekal, the Temple, would open by themselves, until Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai rebuked them, saying, ‘Hekal, Hekal, why wilt thou be the alarmer thyself? I know about thee, that thou wilt be destroyed, for Zachariah Ben Ido has already prophesied concerning thee, “Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour the cedars.”’ What this is saying is that Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai is supposed to have asked the doors why they were predicting their own destruction.

In the Menahot it says: “By the morning, the oil in the lamps had burnt out. The priests came in and cleaned out the lamps, removing the old wicks and putting in new wicks, and pouring oil into them, ready for the kindling in the evening. The Western lamp, however, although it had no more oil than the other lamps, miraculously continued to burn the

entire day long, so that when the lamps were to be kindled in the evening, they were kindled from this one. The western lamp itself was then extinguished, cleaned out, a fresh wick put in, oil poured in, and then relit. Thus the lamp provided the fire for lighting the other lamps, and yet was the last to be cleaned out. This miracle has testified to the Divine Presence in Israel.”

According to these entries, during the forty years prior to the destruction of the second Temple in 70 A.D., the Western lamp which was the lamp that lit the other lamps – in other words, Jesus, the true Light of the world – went out, which is an indication that the shekinah cloud had left. Also, the doors to the Holy of Holies would fling themselves open. Furthermore, the scarlet thread that was tied to the door of the Temple never became white, indicating that the sins of Israel were not forgiven. This took place from the time of the crucifixion of Jesus to the time of the destruction of the Temple; Yoma 39b.

In order to help facilitate understanding of what happened in the Jewish religion, I'm going to tell you a "Tale of Two Rabbis." Once upon a time, there was a very famous rabbi whose name was Rabbi Hillel. There were two main kinds of Pharisees: one was from the School of Hillel (aforementioned rabbi), and the other was from the School of Shammai, the academies where rabbis were educated. They had certain differences in their emphasis, but they were the two main schools of Pharisaic thought. The School of Hillel had a number of very famous graduates. Hillel was the grandfather of another very famous rabbi who was his successor, Rabbi Gamaliel. Rabbi Gamaliel is mentioned in the Talmud, which says of him that when he died righteousness perished from the earth.

The New Testament tells us in Acts 5 that Gamaliel said that if Jesus was not the Messiah, Christianity would disappear; and if it did not disappear, the Jews who opposed it would be working against God. Rabbi Gamaliel from the School of Hillel was associated with something called the "Midot of Hillel," which St. Paul used in his teaching methods. Gamaliel had a number of famous students, one of whom was Onkleos, who did a famous translation of the Targum into Aramaic. He also had two other very famous students, one or the other of whom every Jew who came after them would follow, causing the Jewish religion to have a schism. The first of these students was Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai, whom I quoted earlier. When the Temple was destroyed, Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai said (in paraphrase), "We have a big problem: we cannot practice the Jewish faith that Moses gave any more." To this day, on every Orthodox Jewish synagogue you will find the term *Ichabod* — "the glory has departed, the Shekinah has gone." They know very well that without a Temple they cannot practice the faith of their fathers. On the

Passover, the Pesach, instead of taking the Passover seder with lamb, they take it with chicken because they have no priesthood and no Temple.

Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai had a council at Yavne, near modern Tel Aviv, at which the rabbis decided the following: instead of the Levites and priests, the rabbis would be the new spiritual authorities, ergo the new leaders of Israel. Also, instead of the Temple being central, the synagogues would become central (synagogues having begun developing after the Babylonian Captivity). Thus another religion began to evolve from that point, based in tradition.

There was a classmate of Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai whose name was Rabbi Shaul of Tarsus, better known to some as St. Paul the Apostle. He was likewise a disciple of Gamaliel, but he said that the Law was fulfilled by the Messiah. Jesus paid the price for our sins, and thus the curse of the Law and the consequences for breaking it were laid on Him. Every Jew is under one law or another. Think of an unsaved Jewish person as a kind of backslider; he is in a covenant relationship with God. He may not keep that covenant, he may be an atheist, but he is still under the curse of the Law. If you want to know what happened to the Jews, read Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 – their entire history is therein foretold. The Jews are under a national curse because they reject Jesus; they are under the curse of the Law.

By the time the Temple was destroyed, Daniel's prediction that the Messiah would come and die beforehand was fulfilled. Every Jew then had one of two choices: he either accepted Jesus as Messiah, or he began to practice a Judaism that was not Scriptural. The entire future of the Jewish faith to this day is based on these two classmates: Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai and Rabbi Shaul of Tarsus.

At the end of his life, the Talmud tells us, Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai was weeping. His disciples came to him and said, "O Mighty Hammer, why are you weeping? Why is your soul in distress?" And Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai said, "I am about to meet Ha Shem – God – blessed be His name, and before me are two roads: one leading to Paradise (Heaven) and the other leading to Gehenna (Hell); and I do not know to which road He will sentence me." The founder of Rabbinic Judaism admitted that he had absolutely no assurance of salvation. He said that he did not know whether God would sentence him to Hell for what he did; at the end of his life he was terrified to die. It is the same for all the Jews who follow him.

Then there is Rabbi Shaul of Tarsus, who said at the end of his life, "Trouble me no further, for on my body I bear the marks of Christ, and I know there is laid up for me a crown of glory and of righteousness." He had the assurance of his salvation, and so does every Jew who follows him.

## Your King Comes to You, Righteous and Having Salvation

That is what happened in the Jewish faith, and what is going on to this very day.

As early as the Talmudic era, the sages knew that the Messiah should have already come. They cried, "All the predestined dates for the Redemption have passed, and the matter now depends only on repentance and good deeds." – Sanhedrin 97 beht. They were faced with major prophecies that were well past their dates for fulfillment; Jesus was the only person who claimed to be the Messiah who could actually in His time prove Davidic descent. This is not only recorded in the New Testament, but also in Sanhedrin 43 aleph: "With Yeshu (Jesus), it was different: He was connected with the government. This is an ambiguous phrase, which has actually misled some people to believe that it actually refers to royal lineage." God spent 1000 years promising Abraham and David that the Messiah would descend from them; therefore, when He allowed all of the genealogies to be destroyed with the second Temple, it was obvious that the Messiah had to have come. So we read, "And the Sanhedrin wept: 'Oy vevoy, woe to us! For the Temple is destroyed, and the Messiah has not come.'" We will come back to this one.

Genesis 49:10: "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people." Shiloh is one of the places in which the Ark of the Covenant dwelt, but it became an appellative for the Messiah in Judaism. Every tribe of Israel had its own tribal staff, a scepter, with the tribe's name inscribed upon it. This represented judicial power. The removal of the scepter, therefore, occurred when Herod the Great – a non-Jew – became king, and the Sanhedrin had its power limited. These things both happened during Jesus' lifetime. The name "Shiloh" is the name of the Messiah, according to the Talmud, Sanhedrin 98 b.

According to the prophecy of Genesis 49:10, the Messiah had to have come prior to the removal of the scepter from Judah. Therefore, either the Messiah has already been and gone or God lied. God cannot lie; so whoever the Messiah was, according to the Talmud, He had to have already come at that point. Again, the Talmud mentions how 40 years before the destruction of the Temple the Sanhedrin was moved from the Hall of the hewn stones to a place outside; you may read this in 41a and in the Avodat Zerah 8b. Whoever the Messiah is, He had to come and die prior to 70AD/CE.

After five centuries of accumulated oral teaching was passed down, Rabbi Yehudah ha Nassi (meaning "Judah the President") and his disciples wrote down selected material from the oral law, calling it "Mishnah." This was not done until 230 A.D. The Talmud, in other words, was not even written down at all

until 230 A.D. What the rabbis teach is this: the Talmud – what they call the *Torah b'pei* — was given to Moses on Mount Sinai, although he did not write it down. However, in Joshua 8:35, among other places, we read this: “There was not a word of all that the Lord had commanded Moses which Joshua did not read before the people of Israel.” So the Torah says that Moses wrote it all down, but the rabbis deny this and claim that the oral law was given without being written down until a later date. They go so far as to say that the opinion of one rabbi is more important than the opinions of a thousand prophets, because the prophets were only messengers and secretaries, while the rabbis had to interpret the messages and divulge their meaning.

Each generation continued to raise new questions, so there were experts, one of whom was Rabbi Yohochanan, of the same college as Tiberias. He compiled these new rabbinic decisions in about 330 A.D. When this was done, he called it the Gimmorah, taken from the Hebrew word that means “to finish,” or “completion.”

The Mishnah and the Gimmorah were put together and named the “Jerusalem Talmud;” this was the first Talmud. Through the centuries, however, there has been much tampering with the Talmud, and there are all kinds of critical arguments as to what the original actually said in some cases.

### Teaching as Doctrines the Precepts of Men...

During the Dark Ages – from about 900 to 1500 A.D. – other things began to develop. Few Jews could understand the Hebrew or Aramaic text, so commentaries and codifications were written on the Talmud. These codifications were condensed into systematic codes of law, and from here we have things called the *Torim*, the *Riff*, the *Schulhan Aruch*, *Ha kitzor Ha Schulhan Aruch*, the *Mishnah Torah*, etc. Rambam was the main rabbi at this time; preceding him was Rashi in France. They got continually further away from the Word of God, and began developing along the same lines as Roman Catholicism.

Around 1000 A.D. there was a rebirth of Aristotelianism in the Moslem world. Thomas Aquinas totally redefined Roman Catholicism in Aristotelian terms when he wrote *Summa Theologia*, in which he said that the opinion of the “church” was more important than the opinion of the Bible, just as the Rabbis declared the opinion of a rabbi more important than that of all the prophets. Reacting against Aquinas, who was a terrible heretic, were people like the Reformers, who came from the Humanists.

What Aquinas did for Roman Catholicism, Rambam did for Judaism. He wrote a book called **A Guide for the Perplexed**, followed by something called *Mishnah Torah*,

in which he Aristotelianized Judaism with totally Hellenistic ideas that were alien to anything originally believed by Jews.

Some other Talmudic writers were the following: Rabbi Shlomo Itzachi, Rabbi Saida Gaon (“the Genius”), Rambam, Rabbi Moshe de Nachman – (also known as Nachmanides), Rabbi David Kimchi, Ibn Ezra, Rabbi Levi Ben Gershom, etc.

At this point, the Kaballah began to come on the scene. Kaballah is mystical Judaism, the chief work of Zohar. It began in Poland.

To these they added other sacred books: such as the *Pirque Rabbati*, and the *Yalkuth*, and various haggadic 13th-century writings. There is also the Yohar on Moses which is held by Hasidic Jews today because it uses Gnosticism and spiritualization, which is their approach to Judaism.

### All things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled...

What does God say about all this? Let us look: “Because this people draws near to Me with their words and honors Me with lip service, but they remove their hearts far from Me, and their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned by rote...” – Isaiah 29:13. All of the prophets prophesied only about the Messiah; the entire Old Testament is about the Messiah, according to the Talmud in Sanhedrin 99a, d. “The world was not created but only for the Messiah” – Sanhedrin 98b. In John chapter one, it says that the world was created through Jesus and by Him. Rabbi Yosef said that the Messiah would come when this gate (Rome) shall fall and be built again, and the land Israel would be overrun by enemies, in Sanhedrin 96-99. The stone cut without hands in Daniel 2:44-45 is the Messiah, according to the *Pirque Eliezar* chapter 11.

There was a famous rabbi named Rabbi Leopold Cohen, who was greatly troubled by Daniel 9, which said that the Messiah had to come and die before the destruction of the second Temple. He wanted to find out what this meant; so he read in the Talmud that the world would last for 6,000 years, “for a thousand years is like yesterday in Your sight when it passes by.” According to Rabbi Katina, they link this with Psalm 90:4. From this they derive that the world would be 2000 years in a state of chaos, 2000 years under the Law of Moses, and 2000 years under the Messiah, when the Shabbat – the Millennium – will be 1000 years of peace. Then will come the war of Gog and Magog, and the Messiah will renew the world after 7000 years, according to Sanhedrin 96b and 99a, and Yalkut volume II p. 129d. This is exactly what the book of Revelation teaches. The Messiah will arrive to destroy the nations and to rule the earth for a thousand years of peace when people are conducting themselves in the following manner: Those who fear sin will

be abhorred, truth shall fail, children will rebel against their parents, general lawlessness will abound, Sadducaicism would universally prevail. (The Sadducees denied the Resurrection, like the Bishop of Durham.) In other words, when people who claim to be believers in God deny the Resurrection on a popular level. When Anglican Arch Bishop of York David Jenkins denied the Resurrection of Jesus, two thirds of the Anglican bishops defended him. Long before David Jenkins, the ancient Rabbis said that Sadducaicism would prevail universally – the study of God’s Law would decrease, there would be a general increase in universal poverty and despair, apostasy would increase, and there would be a growing disregard for Scripture. This comes from Sanhedrin 96b, 99a – or, if you wish, read Paul’s epistle to Timothy.

Rabbi Cohen had a big problem when he went to the Talmud and saw this. He realized that the Messiah had to have come around 32 or 33 A.D. The Talmud said two things in this regard: one was as stated above, and the other was that there is a curse on anybody who reads Daniel 9. He asked his instructors why, and looked into the Talmud, and found that it said the reason for the curse was that the time of the Messiah’s coming was foretold in Daniel 9. He could not believe that God would put something in His Word and not want people to understand what it meant. Eventually Rabbi Leopold Cohen became a Baptist minister.

I mention this in passing, though it is a subject that could be treated in much greater depth: in the Talmud it is noted that the word *dor* in Hebrew, meaning “generations,” is spelled correctly before Adam fell in Genesis 2:4, but afterward the Hebrew letter vov – which is also a “6” since in Hebrew the letters also stand for numbers – is missing, because Adam lost six things. The letter vov is then replaced in Ruth 4:18, because she was the grandmother of King David, whose son would be the Messiah. The Messiah would restore the six things lost by Adam. Bresheit Rabbah 12, p. 24b (of the Warsaw Edition).

To this day, the Rabbis read the Book of Ruth at Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. Ruth is the story of a Jewish man who takes a Gentile bride, and from their union the lineage of David begins – from which the Messiah would ultimately come. Do you see how they knew? They knew that somehow the Messiah would, through this Gentile woman, restore what Adam had lost.

Jews will go to all kinds of lengths to tell you that Zechariah 12:10-12 does not necessarily refer to the Messiah. Zechariah 12:10-12 says “And they will look upon Him whom they have pierced, and mourn for Him as one mourns for an only son.” They will try to deny that this must mean they will look on the Messiah whom they had pierced. However, in Sukkah 52a it says directly: “They will look upon Me — the Messiah — whom they have

pierced.” The Talmud confirms rather than denies that this is speaking about the **Messiah** whom they had pierced.

The Messiah will arrive with the clouds of Heaven, according to Daniel 7:13, but humble and mounted on a donkey according to Zechariah 9:9. One Talmudist proposes that if Israel deserves it, the Messiah will come with the clouds of Heaven, but if Israel is not deserving, He will come poor and riding on an ass. (Sanhedrin 96b – 99a.) To this day, this is how the Rabbis will get around it: they will claim that the Messiah did come in the days of Jesus, but Israel was not worthy and therefore he did not reveal himself. Thus this becomes the big catch-all by which they are able to explain anything away.

**If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken...**

In Deuteronomy 18 Scripture says that if you predict something that fails to happen in the name of the Lord, you are a false prophet. I show that to the Jehovah’s Witnesses right before showing them false prophecies made in their own literature. The same with the Vineyard people and John Wimber’s false prophecies; it cannot be denied, so they find they cannot handle it. Rabbi Menahem Schnerson, the last Lubavitch rebbe, said that Messiah was going to come at Rosh ha Shanah (September) of 1991. The day after this deadline, I called up the Chabad Center in London and asked to speak to someone who spoke Hebrew. When he came on the line, I asked in Hebrew, “Well?” – he knew what I meant. Then I went down to Stamford Hill with some of my friends from CMJ who have a Messianic testimony, bringing our tracts. We confronted the Jews there with the fact that Moshe Rabbenu says that if people predict things in the name of Ha Shem that don’t happen, they are false prophets who must be taken out and stoned. We then asked them if they keep the Torah. The point of this was to show them that if they remain under the Law, they must take their Rabbi Schnerson out and stone him as a false prophet; their only other choice is to accept Yeshua as their Messiah who fulfilled the Law. They didn’t like that much.

I love the Talmud – it illustrates so clearly the old joke, “If you have two Jews, you have three opinions.” Forget three opinions – if you have two Jews, you have thirty-three opinions! Israel would have no more Messiah because he had come in the days of King Hezekiah, according to Rabbi Hillel – not the original Hillel, but another one. (Sanhedrin 96b, 99a.) In the same passage, Sanhedrin 96b – 99a, his grandson, Rabbi Yosef, said “May God forgive my grandfather, Rabbi Hillel.”

Some Talmudists, however, thought that the Messiah would come on two separate

occasions, which would account for the two conflicting descriptions of his arrival – again, Moshiach ben Yosef and Moshiach ben David. It is stated that the two dates given in Daniel 12:11-12 were to date the two arrivals at 45-year intervals. (The Midrash on Ruth 2:14, p. 43b of the Warsaw Edition; also The Lost Talmud on Daniel 9, 24-27.) The ancient Talmudists knew a lot of things.

One thing that will inevitably happen to you when you talk to Jewish people is that they will tell you Zechariah 12:10-12 is not about the Messiah. An answer to give them is that Sukkah 52a says it is. They will also try to tell you that Isaiah 52 and 53 are not about the Messiah. I showed those very passages to a Jewish girl on a kibbutz in Israel once, and she immediately said, “This is about Jesus.” No one had to tell her anything or manipulate her thinking – she simply used common sense. Her name was Sally Brown, and I hope she gets saved. Anyway, the Talmudists knew that Isaiah was predicting the Messiah’s appearance in Isaiah 52:14: “His – the Messiah’s – appearance was marred more than that of any man, and His form more than the sons of men” Sanhedrin 97b, Yalkut volume II p. 53c and also Shemoth R, 15-19. The Talmud repeatedly quotes Isaiah 53 as a prediction of the Messiah’s appearance on earth.

There are two main Targums in Judaism: the Targum Onkleos which I mentioned earlier, and Targum Jonathon. After the Babylonian Captivity, most Jews knew Aramaic rather than Hebrew, so they translated the Scriptures into Aramaic. However, these were not simply translations, but also interpretations. It says: “Who has believed our report, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For He grew up before Him like a tender root out of dry ground; He had no stately form or majesty that we should look on Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. The Messiah was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows acquainted with grief” – it goes on and on and on, directly pointing to the Messiah in these passages. “Each of us has turned to his own way, but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall upon the Messiah.” “Although He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth, the LORD was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief if He would render Himself as a corban – a guilt offering – He would see His offspring, He would prolong His days, and the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand, and as a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied. By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify many and will bear their iniquities.” and so on. “He Himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors” – Sanhedrin 98b, also the Midrash on Samuel, the Lemburg Edition, p. 45a, and the Targum of the Kingdom of the Messiah. They knew very well that this was about the Messiah; the Targum Jonathon says so specifically.

**So I will make them jealous with those who are not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation...**

Jewish people will often accuse Christians of twisting Scriptures to make them about Jesus when they actually are not about Him. What most Rabbis will say is that these passages are about Israel and the vicarious suffering of Israel. There are a number of problems with that. One is that the same Isaiah repeatedly castigates Israel for its sin, whereas he describes this Suffering Servant as having no sin. Therefore their idea is simply incompatible with the context. There are four Servant Songs in Isaiah, and the fourth one, found in Isaiah 52-53, is different from the others. In one sense, the rabbis are right: much the same as the Church is the Body of Christ, Jesus is the embodiment of Israel. For example, when you see verses that say things like “Israel My glory, Israel My Firstborn,” they are Midrashically alluding to Jesus. But only in a very abstract sense are these passages about Israel; their primary meaning, according to the Rabbinic literature, is pointing to the Messiah. When they tell you this is not about the Messiah, ask them to explain the Targum Jonathan, or the Midrash on Samuel, which say it is.

Jewish people will also accuse Christians of inventing a New Covenant that does not exist, claiming that the only covenant is the Torah. Jeremiah 31:31 says that God will make a new covenant, but when you tell them this they will try to tell you that you have misunderstood the text. At this point, you can point to the Midrash on Psalm 7, p. 5a of the Warsaw Edition: “God will speak through the Messiah to make a new covenant.”

Psalm 2 says, “Thou art My Son; do homage to the Son, lest He become angry and you perish in the way.” The Rabbis say that God has no Son; but they have a big problem. Here is where I tell you how to drive an Orthodox Rabbi into early retirement in Florida: Psalm 2 is put together with Psalm 110 and II Samuel 16:1, and then connected with the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53. These things can be read in the Midrash on II Samuel 16:1, paragraph 19 of the Lemburg Edition, p. 45; also the Midrash on Psalm 7, p. 5a of the Warsaw Edition; and Yalkut (SP?) Volume II p. 90a. (These things can be obtained at a Yeshiva or a religious Jewish library.)

It goes on to say when it has connected Psalm 110 with II Samuel 16:1 and Isaiah 53, “Against God and His Messiah: If I find the Son of the King, I shall lay hold of Him and crucify Him with a cruel death.” The Talmud actually says that the Messiah would be crucified — “*Litzlov oto*” is exactly what it says — “crucify.” This is one thing they cannot answer; it shocks them.

Once again, in Genesis 49:10 Jacob predicted that the scepter would not depart

from Judah nor the ruler's staff from between his feet until Shiloh comes; the Babylonian Talmud states that when this occurred, the sages said "Woe to us, for the scepter has been taken from Judah, and the Messiah has not appeared!" Rabbi Ruchman adds that the members of the Sanhedrin covered their heads with ashes, their bodies with sackcloth, and wept when they heard these words. The Jerusalem Talmud dates this occasion at a little more than forty years before the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D.; so they are saying that from around 30 A.D. the Messiah was pierced. – The Jerusalem Talmud, Sanhedrin Volume 24, and the Babylonian Talmud, Sanhedrin chapter 4 Volume 37.

"The sins of those who are hidden with thee will cause thee to be put under an iron yoke, and they will do with thee as with the calf. I take it upon me that no Israeli should perish; am I not flesh and blood?" – the Midrash on Jeremiah 31:8, the same as Isaiah 53. "All limits of time as regards the arrival of the Messiah are past." – Sanhedrin 96-99. The Talmud states clearly that the Messiah had to have come already.

In the Talmud it is noted that God has made various numbers significant in His plan: they noted that there were ten names for idols and prophets, ten trials of Abraham, ten generations from Adam to Noah, and ten generations from Noah to Abraham – the Avotah chapter 36. They developed from this a dating system. This Mosaic dating system of Israel is given in Leviticus 26:13-16, and they Messiahnically applied it in the Talmud. Moses dated the Messiah's exit in A.D. 33 – Midrash Bresheit, Rabbah on Genesis, p. 24b of the Warsaw Edition. Their own dating system says that the Messiah had to exit in 33 A.D.

**God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes so that they could not see and ears so that they could not hear, to this very day...**

The Talmud states that the Temple's destruction in 70 A.D. was predicted by Daniel 9:24-27. When you get into arguing with rabbis about the weeks of Daniel and what they mean – I have not the space to explain it now – the easiest thing to say is that Daniel 9 says that the Messiah had to come and die before the second Temple was destroyed. "No, it doesn't," they will tell you, but Yalkut Volume II p. 79d says it does, and so does Nazir 32b. The Talmud states that the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D. was predicted by Daniel 9:24-27, when the coming of the Messiah to be cut off was predicted to precede this destruction. So the Messiah was predicted to arrive and to be killed before 70 A.D., according to the Talmud – and the Rabbis knew this.

The Talmud confirms that the stone cut without hands in Daniel 2:44, 45 is again the

Messiah. "A stone to strike and a rock to stumble over, and a snare and a trap for Jerusalem." In Isaiah 8:14 God also predicted that the leaders of Israel would reject the Messiah: "Thou hast become my Yeshua; the stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone." — Psalm 118:21, 22, which is the Hillel Rabbah that they sang to Jesus on Palm Sunday.

Moses Maimonides, Rambam, the greatest rabbi, confirmed that Yeshua the Messiah's appearance in A.D. 30 was Israel's greatest stumbling block. In Kings and Wars chapter 11, the uncensored edition, (the rabbis have for obvious reasons put out a censored edition) it says "There has never been a greater stumbling block than this problem of Yeshua (Jesus) in 30 A.D. For three and one-half years, the Shekinah – God's dwelling, His presence – dwelt on the Mount of Olives, waiting to see whether Israel would repent, and calling on them to "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found – call on Him while He is near," but all was in vain. After three and a half years, the Shekinah returned from the Mount of Olives. – Rabbis' Lamentation.

There is something called the *Avodat Zerah*; it is one thing when Christians say they believe that Jesus did miracles, rose from the dead, and ascended from the Mount of Olives, but what about when people who were not only non-Christians but actually anti-Christian believe all these things? You can read Roman historians such as Suetonius and Tacitus, and it is fascinating to read of how Jesus was understood by pagan Rome. Even they did not deny the things that He did; it was said to be common knowledge throughout the Roman Empire that Jesus rose from the dead. The *Avodat Zerah*, however, says that Jesus did miracles as no other rabbi, that his disciples not only healed the sick but even raised the dead in His name, that after He was crucified He rose from the dead, and that He ascended into heaven from the Mount of Olives. All of that is actually in the Talmud – even His enemies acknowledged the truth of what He did. This was written by rabbis who were trying to prevent other Jews from believing in Him; but they had to deal with the historicity of His miracles, of His disciples doing miracles, and not only of His crucifixion but also of His resurrection and ascension into heaven – the Talmud admits He did it! When you confront an Orthodox rabbi with these things, he will not want to deal with it. However, if you press him, he will tell you that Jesus knew Kabbalah – this was invented centuries later, but they say it anyway – Jesus knew Kabbalistic, mystical secrets and had the ineffable name of Ha Shem (the Tetragrammaton) under His tongue and under His foot and so on, and this is how He performed these miracles. That is what they will tell you if pressed.

The rabbis will try to tell you that Psalm 22 does not really say "They have pierced My

hands and My feet." All of Psalm 22 was fulfilled in Matthew 27, but in Hebrew there is a difference in the letter *aleph*, and they shorten a *vov* to make it a *yud*; in this way they will try to change "They have pierced My hands and My feet" into "I am like a lion's paw." This might be legitimately true, except that someone must have changed something at some point because the Talmud states the following: "At the time of the Messiah's creation, the Holy One – blessed be He – will tell him in detail what will befall him ... 'There are souls that have been put away with thee under My throne, and it is their sins which will bend thee down under a yoke of iron and make thee like a calf whose eyes grow dim with suffering.'" In other words, according to the Talmud, the Messiah would know before He was born that He was coming to die for His people. "And during the seven-year period preceding the coming of the Son of David, iron beams will be brought and loaded upon his neck until the Messiah's body is bent low. It was of the ordeal of the Son of David, who wept, saying 'My strength is dried up like a potsherd,' Ps. 22:16." In Yalkuth Shimoni, they connect "many dogs have encompassed me" (using a Midrashic principle called "*binyan ab m'shna ketubim*") with the Book of Esther, commenting on which, Rabbi Nehemiah said "They pierced my hands and feet." Hence, the Pispah Rabbatai 36:1,2 states directly that Psalm 22 is about the Messiah coming to die.

There are technical linguistic explanations for the translation of "like a lion" such as a textual reading adjustment called "*im crea*." In the Yalkut Shimone we find this: "Many dogs have encompassed me" – they connected this somehow with the book of Esther and the king Ahasuerus – "but the assembly of the wicked have enclosed me; *ka a'ri*." In English "they have pierced my hands and my feet." Rabbi Nehemiah quotes it this way, and the reading of "pierced" was accepted by ancient rabbis. In addition, the Peshitah Abitai says directly that Psalm 22 is talking about the Messiah suffering and dying.

Again, Isaiah 52 and 53 from the Targum Jonathon: "Behold, My servant the Messiah shall prosper; He shall be exalted, and great and very powerful." – it states directly and repeatedly that this is about the Messiah.

Daniel 9, Megillah 3 aleph of the Targum of the Prophets, was composed by Jonathon ben Uzziel under the guidance of Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi, according to tradition: "And a voice from heaven came forth and said, 'Who is this who has revealed My secrets?' and he further sought to reveal by Targum the inner meaning of the Hagiographa (the portion of Scripture which includes Daniel), but a *bat kol* went forth from Heaven and said, 'Enough!' 'Why, why should we not read Daniel 9?' 'Because the date of the Messiah is foretold in it.'" And again, Sukkah

52 a regarding the Messiah being pierced: "What is the cause of the mourning in Zechariah 12:12? It is well according to him who explains that the cause is the slaying of the Messiah, the Son of Joseph, since that well agrees with the Scriptures: 'And they look upon Him, because they have thrust Him through, and shall mourn for Him as one mourns for an only son.'"

We could continue almost indefinitely like this; there is not a single Messianic prophecy that I would use in witnessing to Jewish people that I could **not** prove not to be a Christian invention applying it to Jesus. The Talmud agrees, for instance, that Micah 5:2 is about the Messiah, who in some way had to be pre-existent: "O you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, are by no means least in the clans of Judah, for from you going forth from eternity will be one whose existence is from eternity." From the Targum of Micah 5:1 from Targum Jonathon says this: "And you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, you who are too small to be numbered among the thousands of the house of Judah, from you shall come forth from Me the Messiah to exercise dominion over Israel – He whose name was mentioned from before the days of creation." In this way when one meets with the protest that Christians have read something into Micah 5:2 that it does not really say, one may respond that Christians have not read anything into it that Jews did not read into it long before Christianity was established.

From Genesis 3:1-15: "And it shall be that when the sons of the woman study the Torah diligently and obey its injunctions, they will direct themselves to smite you on the head and slay you." – right from the beginning, they believed that the Messiah had to be slain. Comments on Genesis 23:5 from the Midrash Rabbah show that Rabbi Tanhumah said, "In the name of Rabbi Shmuel Kozit, she hinted that the seed would arise from another source – the Messiah." The Midrash deals with Eve's naming of Seth, which is connected with the idea of the Messiah being bruised upon the heel and then bruising the head of the serpent.

**No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day...**

You will only ever do one thing with all of this information: that is, undermine arguments that these things are Gentile fabrications resulting from Gentile Christians twisting the Jewish Scriptures. One can show very clearly that these things were understood by ancient rabbis in the same way in which they are understood by Christians. But there is something called "eccentrics" or convictions. "No one comes unless the Father draws him." – if you bring a Jehovah's Witness to my door, I can win every argument, but it does not mean they will get saved. The same can be said of a Mormon or of a rabbi.

These things are very important. Paul said that we should be "instant in season and out of season, to refute every argument." I certainly do not deny the importance of this kind of teaching; but without prayer and without holy lives that will provoke the Jews to jealousy, it is useless. We have a long way to go, but God is doing something. We will see God work among the Jewish people in

the Last Days in the same way in which He worked in the time of the early church – with not only thousands being saved, but even tens of thousands. We will see whole synagogues split over the issue of Yeshua being the Messiah – but do you know what? We will also see whole churches split over the same kind of issue.

## Your Letters ...

### Dear Jacob

I feel compelled to email you a word of encouragement this evening. I have your website in my favorites and go there often. I have read with great interest the last few postings about Hurricane Katrina being a direct response from God over the Gaza situation and President Bush forcing Sharon's hand. I don't always know what to think of what is going on with our government in Iraq and Afghanistan ... it is a little personal with me, as my husband of 19 years is serving overseas on a very long tour of 15 months. He has already been miraculously saved by the Lord Jesus once when his caravan of vehicles was ambushed and a bullet that should have hit him "somehow" didn't.

I try to think of the good reasons he is over there, and sometimes hearing President Bush and his possible underhanded reasons hurts too much to think about. That maybe the next time the bullet will hit it's intended target and leave our four children fatherless. That being said, I want to thank you for the courage to question the motives of President Bush in the respectful manner that you have shown.

I believe the Bible and have always been proud that my country, the USA, stood with Israel against the rest of the world. I believe that is why my country has always been blessed. I was sickened when I read Condoleeza Rice state that the Gaza evacuations "were just the beginning." The church is asleep ... or worse, thinks somehow that the church is now Israel. I also feel compelled to pray for your ministry. Those who are speaking the truth as you are will become more unpopular, and relegated to the "right wing



fringe." Other Christians, I am sure, say hurtful things. Thank you for your courage.

May the Lord God richly bless you and strengthen you. Sincerely a faithful reader

**Via e-mail – USA**

### Greetings in Jesus

*I regard our President as an unprincipled man, and I detest his administration. I regard him as a traitor to both his proclaimed faith & his country. This is my private view. Yet as a believer, I pray for Mr Bush daily and urge others to do so.*

*I detest what our president is doing and I believe he is in bed with the enemy – Saudi Arabia that funds terror and persecutes Israel.*

*Sadam should have been dealt with by Bush Snr in 1991 but he left him in power to please the Saudis.*

*What will be in Sadam's place will be no better unless our corrupt government stops placating Islam, stops turning it's back on the persecuted church, and stops cursing Israel.*

*I pray to God the Moslems kill no more Americans because of Mr Bush refusal to protect our borders & deport Islamic immigrants. He is bringing God's judgment on our country by bullying Israel to appease Islam that cannot be appeased.*

*My real prayer is for the protection on your husband and for your children and yourself. The Hand of Jesus be upon your husband.*

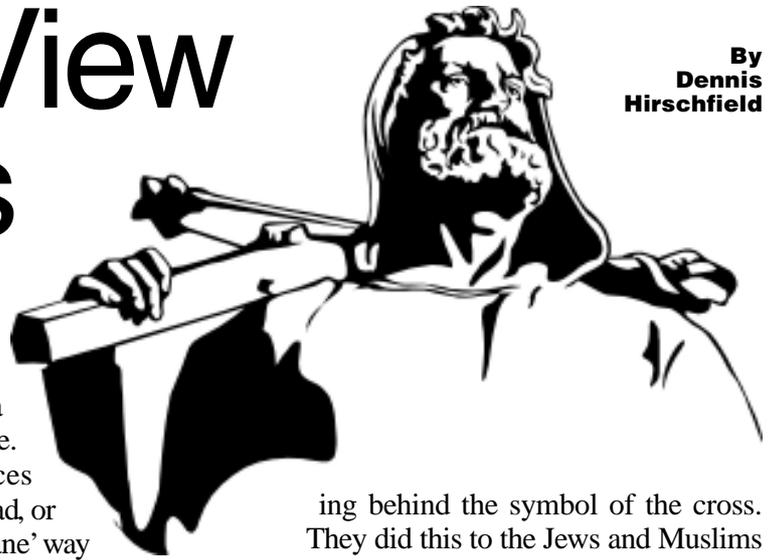
**We must pray for Mr Bush.** *If he does not relent, may God raise His hand against him.*

**Sincerely, J.J. Prasch**



# A Different View of the Cross

By  
Dennis  
Hirschfield



**From the outset I have no intention to attack or denigrate the universally recognised symbol of Christianity, the cross.**

Some people from the Roman Catholic Church and some from Orthodox Churches wear chains around their necks with Jesus still hanging on the cross.

Some Protestants wear chains around their necks with just a plain cross. When asked why, they will tell you that Jesus was resurrected from the dead and therefore, He should not be left on the cross.

This is a subject sacred to many people. Some make the sign of the cross, others kiss the cross, some bow down and actually worship the symbol, those who behave in that manner usually fall outside the Protestant persuasion of belief. Others who don't go to that extreme, just wear a cross to identify themselves as a Christian, something they have an 'affinity' with.

The following comments may give you some additional 'food for thought' on the subject.

## What is the cross?

It is an execution stake from the ancient world, the most cruel punishment known, to extract the most pain and suffering and to prolong the torture for the longest amount of time. To it's victims, death was a welcome relief, that couldn't come fast enough. The agony, the pain, the brutality was unbearable.

Many years ago a Christian band in America had a picture on their album cover of Jesus strapped into an electric chair. There was such an outcry of protest, as soon as it was released, that they had to quickly remove it from the shelves and repackage their collection of songs with a different cover.

In reality what they were trying to say was, that if Jesus was sentenced to death in our day, He may have been strapped in an electric chair, which is a form of capital punishment practiced in some states in America. In other states,

He could have had His life ended in a gas chamber, or by a hangman's noose. Still other places use a firing squad, or in a more 'humane' way of killing people, they give a lethal injection, to put one 'to sleep', you know the same thing that you would do to a dog, in order to put it out of it's misery. In earlier times France would use the guillotine to decapitate it's victims. Fundamental Muslims still use the sword to do the same thing.

If circumstances were different, and the Father chose Jesus to be born in a different time period, would people then wear chains around their necks with a little electric chair dangling off it? Or a hangman's knot? Or a syringe?

Sounds absurd, outrageous, irreverent?

**Did Jesus ever command His disciples to follow the cross, wear the cross, or worship the cross?**

Or did He say "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me". (Mark 8 : 34)

"And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple", (Luke 14 : 27) and "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it". (Matthew 16 : 24 & 25)

The Lord is saying to all of us to **die to self, and live for Him.**

We are called to live **Christ centred lived, not cross centred lives.**

Because **He died, we now can live.**

For some people groups, the cross is a symbol of persecution and death. Through the ages, misguided people who called themselves 'Christians', plundered and committed wholesale slaughter in the name of Christ, march-

ing behind the symbol of the cross. They did this to the Jews and Muslims during the Crusades. They did this in the Inquisition, to supposedly suppress heresy. They did this in the American south, to black skinned people as they burned crosses, and lynched their victims from a tree.

These people totally misrepresented Jesus, and the meaning of the cross. Jesus taught us to "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you". (Luke 6 : 27 & 28)

I'm not against the cross. The cross did its job. The prophesy of Caiaphas the High Priest came to fruition, "that it was expedient that one man should die for the people and not the whole nation should perish" (John 11:50). After all this was God's plan for our redemption.

Concerning His own life, Jesus said "No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down, and I have the power to take it again". (John 10 : 18) Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, and finally, He was cut off from the land of the living, in order to justify many.

He did this because of His great love for us, knowing that it was the only thing that could satisfy the Father's Holiness, the Father's Righteousness, the Father's Justice. He did this because we could not do it for ourselves.

Our magnificent wonderful Saviour, who endured the cross and despised it's shame.

I don't cherish 'the old rugged cross', I cherish, adore and worship, the Son of God, who hung there in my place.

# The Truths They Are A Changin'

Recently I was given the opportunity to preach at a friend's new church. For about 25 years he has mainly pastored in large AoG churches. On completion of the message which focused on the coming premillennial return of Jesus, I was stunned when my friend stood up and remarked something to the tune of, "Well, we've heard some pretty amazing prophecies here tonight, BUT remember it's only a theory."

On returning to his home I immediately challenged him over his remark. He related to me that the other pastor there was into 'Kingdom Now', the local oversight guy for the area believed that we were already in the millennium and that he personally had consequentially no certainty on this issue anymore.

This is all quite amazing when one considers that historically premillennialism was a condition of being credentialed with the AoG. However, the pragmatists in charge who are not averse to trading a bit of Biblical truth for more political clout, created a loophole when they failed some years back to have this requirement overturned, by allowing existing congregations to forgo it if they sought to come under the AoG banner.

Moving away from arguing over personalities, I made my friend sit down and look at what the scriptures had to say on the issue. We looked first at what Jesus told the disciples of John concerning whether or not He was the Expected One. Jesus' answer was to look to what was prophesied concerning the period of the Messiah i.e. the blind receive sight, the lame walk etc, etc. If we apply the same principle to the Messianic Age, then we should expect to see "no longer be heard in her the voice of weeping and the sound of crying ... for as the lifetime of a tree, so will be the days of My people ... the wolf and the lamb will graze together etc, etc."

Thank God it fell on good ground and my friend's eyes were opened to truth in this area. Something which people find extremely rare amongst those who are involved in modern error. Here was a man so long in the ministry

yet prepared to humble himself and have a simple Bible study to find truth. It usually results in them getting upset, like one other AoG pastor and long time friend, who on hearing a tape by Copeland describe Adam as, "just like Jesus, Adam was God manifested in the flesh", saw no heresy in it. Later when I wanted to play a tape where Copeland basically said he could have died on the cross, my friend rose up from my lounge, placed his hands over his ears, said, "I don't want to hear anymore" and walked out.

Again, earlier this year while speaking to an AoG youth leader I caused rolling laughter, when I declared that T.D. Jakes was a heretic. He had seen him and regarded him as one of the best preachers ever. When I said he denied the Trinity he looked at me as if I was making it up. How could that be true, even Ashley Evans brought big T.D. out? So, off we went to the computer to check out his website and sure enough his self-confession was found in his statement of faith. My young brother in Christ was speechless, as he had been brought up in 3 generations of AoG.

This too is also amazing when one considers that in 1916 the fledgling AoG lost nearly 200 pastors to this heresy. Now could history be on the verge of repeating itself because of the lack of discernment of these CEO's who market their churches with whoever has made a name for himself? The World

Pentecostal Association rejects such Oneness teachings, as did the early church fathers in the late second and third century when Noetus was expelled from the church and established his own heretical sect for preaching such nonsense.

So was it any wonder when Brian Houston wanted his denomination to pray for the present pope to continue the tradition of his predecessors in proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ? Proclaim the gospel! Rome has to understand it and believe it first. The early church leaders were set apart for prayer and the ministry of the word. No one would believe that Brian was elected because of his theological prowess. Those who protect him show the obvious fact of that, in that they all echo "I don't agree with Brian on a lot of things" as if that excuses them for the responsibility of the direction their denomination is going. He was elected on the basis that he is a perceived achiever.

When I became a believer my mother caused havoc because I had left "The Faith". God's word and my own experience testified against the difference between being saved and being a Catholic. This was the consensus of all. Now the only denomination I've ever belonged to in the swoop of a pen makes me out to be extreme for rejecting the gospel of Rome. As one brave AoG pastor who challenged his state's oversight over their failure to challenge Brian's statements on the papacy, summed it up when he told them to their faces that they were 2nd and 3rd generation pastors who were totally unequipped theologically and experientially to deal with the Roman issue.

As with all denominations that lose their zeal for truth, they will slowly disintegrate, as they no longer build on the Rock. Are there any Elijahs in the AoG who will stand up to the priests of Baal who control this organization? If there are, your silence has been deafening.

***The author of this article lives in Queensland and is an avid reader of Moriel.***



# Rambling Rose

*Greetings dear Family, well it is time to wrap up 2005 & to fill you in on the latest happenings & mishaps of this motley crew (I am the motley bit).*

**STOP:** Have you read the main features yet? **If not back to page ONE – ok!**

That is the “meat” and is what will help you in your walk – the Truth of the Word of God. Not the ramblings of the “Scribe – in Training”.

Seriously dear family – always go for the Word, before all else. This little section is just the Moriel family catch up news – you may get a giggle or a headache reading this lot but at the front section of this Quarterly is the Word that the Lord has laid upon the hearts of men who have earnestly sought His leading in what He would have them share.

## Dave Royle's Visit to Oz

September saw the return of Dave to our shores, starting off in Sydney with Sam & Nancy Mule at Abbotsford. We had decided to drive to Sydney and support Dave whilst there – so Pam & I loaded up the car (leaving Ross & Vic to batch) and headed off up towards the Hume Hwy. First stop was at Murrindindi (near Yea in Victoria) to catch up with my nephew Cameron. He has recently finished his university degree in Marine Biology & Aquaculture & is working on a Trout Farm there. As he is a long way from his home in Brisbane & the property is quite isolated I wanted to do the Aunty thing and check that he was ok. Whilst there we had a look around the property – we looked at the breeding tanks, the fingerlings and of course the mature fish. Very interesting (at 57 opps 58 by the time you read this) I know where little fishies come from hee! hee! Anyway after being assured that he was eating well – getting fresh fruit & veggies – had warm clothes etc (you know what I mean dear sisters) we left promising that him that I would not report to his Mum (my sister) about his housekeeping. Also making plans to call in on the way back to pick up smoked trout & trout pate (that is just magnificent).

We were off to the next stop overnight at Tarcutta – had a pleasant meal and off to bed bright & early. Friday saw us up and away laden down with maps and Sydney refedex. Pam was the navigator, me the driver – well despite Vic telling me not to let Pam loose with a directory we got ourselves all the way across Sydney without one mishap – Pammie having done a great job. Not to detract from her mammoth effort I must tell you that the Lord had the most to do with our navigational skills as we had greatly sought His help on the outskirts of Sydney.

We caught up with all the folk at Abbotsford for the Friday evening meeting, then off to their outreach at Narraweena on the Saturday evening. Dave's teaching was so Holy Spirit inspired – Praise the Lord and of course each meeting saw the update from Ebyown. We could see how each of the children had grown and improved with the love bestowed by Dave, Lyn and the boys and of course the great cooking goes without saying.

It was especially noticeable with Dave (the good food I mean) just a tad of a “wee” tummy there!!!

We were introduced to the “new” farmyard at Ebyown and to say that Farmer Dave is a proud producer would be putting it mildly. And of course the kiddies just love it.

The chooks & geese being the most loved creatures in Southern Africa.

Dave with his somewhat offbeat Pommie sense of humour had decided to give the animals names after all the Moriel staff – so first there was Ross the Goose (now it appears poor old Ross got a bit down & lonely) so along comes Aunty Marg to cheer him up. Well true to the male way of doing things all too soon I am left sitting on a batch of eggs whilst he happily flits around the farmyard. Nothing much changes eh!

Anyway we have Aunty Allison, Aunty Carol, and Uncle David and so on it goes.

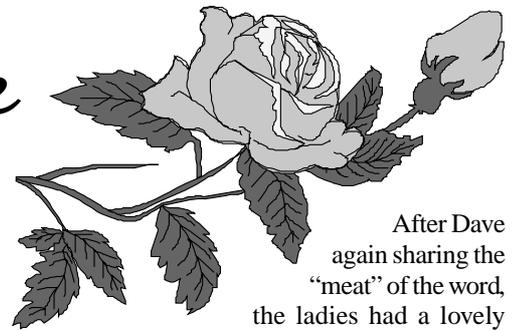
I remember ever so clearly being brought up in the country the delights of getting the eggs. My cousins lived in the city and when we knew they were coming for a visit my Mum would write their names and little faces on the eggs and put them back under the hens – my cousins were amazed & so happy that the chooks knew their names. I used to think city kids were pretty thick – as if! But we were sworn to silence. Any way enough of this.

It was so wonderful to catch up with so many of the Moriel family (some only known by letter or phone previously) and to make new contacts.

All too soon we were to leave the Mule family and off to Sutherland C/F and Allan & Gaye Hodge. After beautiful weather the heavens opened up and the rain fell. We got a little lost (well a big bit really) and as a consequence were quite late but again received a loving greeting.

I was so thrilled to be able to meet Allan after all these years (we have been in contact since 1999) and whilst I had a different image of him in my mind as soon as I heard his voice I knew who he was – it was just like catching up with a long lost rellie. Also caught up with Phil Cavanagh (another loving & supporting brother).

Praise the Lord.



After Dave again sharing the “meat” of the word, the ladies had a lovely morning tea and all too soon everyone had to be off as it was Father's Day and many families were off to celebrate.

Pam & I loaded up the “X-Trail” and headed south to Stanwell Park – what a glorious part of the country (well as much as it can be outside Victoria that is – just jokin!) after stopping off to sightsee a little and to partake of “home-made apple pies & cream” we found our way to the home of Paul & Esther Hankison & their three delightful boys (actually I fell in love with Angus aged 4 or 5 – those big brown eyes would melt hearts). Next we (the Hankison family, Pam & myself) were all off to the home of the Mackays (Brad, Tracey & children) for a sumptuous meal before the evenings meeting.

Thank you **all** for your hard work in organizing the meeting and for your loving hospitality.

I have to tell you Brad that my two nephews (now in their early 20s & having been born in New South Wales) were pea green when I said I had met you as they remember you so well from your Club days and representing Australia in Rugby & of course the State of Origin.

Dave shared again that evening on the work of Moriel Missions & Ebyown to a lovely group of people – some of whom had traveled long distances to hear him.



I must mention our dear **Merle Moate** (pictured above) who travelled all the way up from Orient Point (at 75 years of age) to hear Dave preach. You will remember Merle from the beautiful hanging (quilt) she made for Jacob & Pavia, which we featured in our magazine in 2003. Well again she has excelled herself and has made another incredible quilt

for the Royle kiddies at Ebyown (of course a photo hardly does it justice) and this coming week see it lovingly packed up and sent to South Africa – to its new home.

We then sent Dave off for a few days of R&R on the Sunshine Coast as the guest of Peter & Jeanette Danzey. After his well earned rest he & Dave hopped into the hire care and were off on the North Queensland run, first stop Gladstone where Pete has started a small outreach. Our dear Rita Scarcia and her friends had done all the organizing there and again it was a great evening of fellowship. Next morning was the long hike to Bowen and Pastor Patrick Russell and his family. This was a first for Moriel that far north but praise the Lord it won't be the last – we look forward to sharing so much more with our brothers and sisters at the Bowen Christian Family Centre.

Next stop to Tasmania and Pst Chris Pollard and his lovely wife Liz and all the wonderful people at “The Church in the Valley” isn't that the most wonderful name for a fellowship? There were two evening meetings held at Lenah Valley which whilst well attended had to compete with “The Prophets” who had meetings in Hobart on those evenings.

Thank you Chris and all those who helped to make it such a special visit.

The last stop-off was to Melbourne and to our dear friends at West Brunswick and Pastor John Maisano and his wife Mariuccia and their daughters Aghi & Mila.

We tried something new this time; instead of Aghi having to interpret we hired equipment that allowed those not understanding English to hear the message through a lightweight headset. This was a great success and we will certainly be doing it that way again in the future.

The last series of meetings was held at Pilgrim C/F at Pakenham with Elder's John Kidd & Michael Shafton as our hosts.

What a wonderful day of fellowship that was with many traveling great distances to attend.

Just when we thought that was the end our dear brother **Adrian Trutoiu** (from our beloved brothers & sisters at The Romanian Baptist Church at Endeavour Hills) invited him to speak there that evening so he was off – in Adrian's prime mover (you will remember from the last issue I told you how Adrian had taken Jacob to the International Airport in his truck) well check out the number plate in the photo (Moriel).

Well that saw Dave safely on his way home to his beloved family.

For the latest Mission Report & updates on the Royle's check out the Australian report.

## Marg gets “hot-waxed”

To back up a little our dear old Merc (1979 Mercedes Benz) got a huge pain in her tummy and to get her fixed was going to cost huge \$s so very much against my feelings “The Lady Maxine” was hauled up most unladylike onto a tip tray and taken away by some young fellow who is “gunna put a chevi engine in her”.

What a way for a gracious old lady to end her days – oh well it was time for Ross and I to get on our knees asking the Lord to help us find a replacement vehicle with our limited budget. He never fails us and led us to a young Christian couple quite near us for a Ford (sorry to the Holden enthusiasts) in excellent condition and very low mileage. Praise Him. My reason for telling you this is to give the background for what was to come.

The next Sunday it was off to church and whilst parked outside a bird with (a loose bowel) left a huge deposit on the hood so I decided on the way to my son's (after church) that we would call into one of those automatic carwashes. In we go (opps we had forgotten to put the aerial down) so as the washing operatus was at the back of the car I would put the electric window down and push the aerial down – which I did – BUT the window would not go back up – Ross is yelling “put the window up” me screaming “It won't go ssshhhhh” yep a mouthful of water and cleaning cloth – trying to hold it back with my hands (to no avail) AND the machine is rapidly heading back again (window still open). My hero reached into the back of the car and grabs his windcheater – which I try and hold up to the window. By this stage I was absolutely sopping wet, but we had survived – OR HAD WE? I put the windcheater down and said to Ross (who I might

add was in fits of laughter) “oh well at least that's the end!” no it was not – we were yet to be hot waxed! Have you ever been hot waxed? It is far from pleasant I can tell you!

I was so angry with Ross and was telling him so – so much in fact I did not see the wretched machine coming back.

Well I am sure you have the picture by now – finally we were able to drive out – I hopped out of the car just as a deluge of water escaped from my slacks and top and there I was standing in the middle of the pool. More indignity was to come, as I mopped out the car with paper towel my clothes started to dry out in the warm sun but with all the wax they were as stiff as a board. Of course Ross insisted that we continue on to my offsprings home and would you believe he laughed even harder and longer than Ross.

Of course “big-mouth Ross” had to tell equally as a bigmouth Pam all about it, within days I was getting emails from all over.

(Not that I am about to tell them) but with due consideration it was quite funny.

## Shirley is moving South

After a great deal of prayerful consideration & consultation with all her doctors I have decided to bring “our Shirl the Girl” Anning to a nursing home here in our little town of Trafalgar. She is not happy on the Sunshine Coast and with very little family able to travel to see her & very little fellowship we feel we can give her more here. Added to that she cannot tolerate the heat of the north any longer. So please keep this huge move in your prayers.

Well dears it about time I finished my rambling and drew this to a close.

*God Bless you all dear family,  
MARG*



# Australian News

## *Greetings dear family in the Name of Jesus*

I had mentally written this report in my mind over the past couple of weeks as one does at 3am in the morning and at that time it balances perfectly, it is all written, I feel good, that's out of the way when "boom" I wake up and half of it has vanished and something else comes along and sets my canoe on another course. Such as it has been this past week or so.

I would dare not presume to preach to anyone lest of those far more wiser and versed in the Word & world than I, but I have something on my heart which has been brought about by things that have happened in and around Moriel in recent times and as 2005 draws rapidly towards a close I believe it timely to share it. Before commencing I pray that the Lord consume and rid anything that is not of He.

One of my main areas of concern is Computers, Internet & e-mails, which I believe, are a very good servant but a terrible master. It is far too easy for things to be written in anger, ignorance, haste and to be sent – once things are out there on the net they cannot be retrieved and it does not matter how one tries to right a wrong or explain things they cannot be taken back and the enemy uses things like these to an incredible advantage.

In years gone by if you had problems or a query with another party you would write a letter, (a) this would take time to get to you (b) you would take time to write back – sometimes your answer would be in anger or haste but as you read your rough copy – you took time to reflect – sense would prevail and the letter re-written in such a way as to not cause offense and often in a tone to help alleviate any further conflict. And of course these matters remained privy to the two parties.

Now in 2005 – within seconds information is scattered all over the world – things that in the past have been private are now public.

We are all human – we are by our sinful nature prey to the enemy – BUT by the grace of Our Precious Lord, we have Him to go to before we do or say something that we may/will forever regret and which at times by our actions does not reflect the "Christ" within each of us.

I, more than all of you have to constantly repent for something I have said or thought in haste or anger – I surely (and I say this in shame) must give the Lord the biggest headache. But my brothers and sisters in

Christ I beg you – please take a moment to seek the Lord when challenged, wrongly accused or hurt by another brother/sister – take the time in Him before responding.

I was seeking the Lord for a scripture to round this off and as always it is perfect.

### **Mark 9:33-35**

*And He came to Capernaum: and being in the house He asked them, "What was it that ye disputed among yourselves by the way?"*

*But they held their peace; for by the way they had disputed among themselves, who should be the greatest.*

*And He sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, "If any man desire to be first, **the same shall be last of all, and servant of all.**"*

## 2005 Wrap

Well my dears here we are with almost another year galloping off into the mountain of memories. No matter how I discipline/organize myself time continues to elude me but as the world tells us "every cloud has a silver lining" for those who have embraced Jesus it is that much closer to the time of His return. Praise Him!

In the Moriel camp we have had another huge year. We have seen & heard wonderful teaching through the ministry of Jacob & Dave Royle and for some who were fortunate enough to travel, Bill Randles (courtesy of CWM).

(Check this issue for the resource material on all topics preached.)

## Bumper Issue

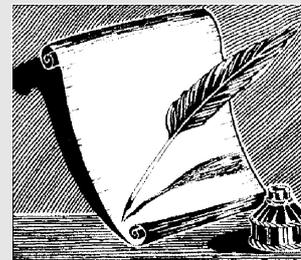
By the Grace of God and His bounty we have another bumper issue with some thought provoking material by Jacob, Mike Gendron, Dusty Petersen to name but a few.

The article "Godless Godliness? By Dusty Petersen, in this brilliantly written and extraordinarily insightful piece he compares the genuine fruit of the Holy Spirit with the effects resulting from certain movements today. Also "The Death of Discernment" by Mike Gendron is a must read for us all and especially for those with Roman Catholic family members.

Make sure you check your next edition of C.E.T.F. for a full schedule of Mike's meetings in Australia in January.

## Ebyown & Missions Southern Africa

We have seen our dear little family at Ebyown grow with the arrival in the last few days of Luke (15 months old) HIV+. Luke was one of a set of twins – he little sister passed away



## *From The Editor's Desk*

a couple of weeks ago. Then we have Baden (just 15 days old as I write this) HIV+. Baden's 17 year old Mum tried to take care of him but is suffering with septicemia (probably passed away by the time you read this) as I am writing this we are all praying that she will come to the Lord before her death.

Dave will write a full report later on about all the developments at Ebyown. He has had such a hectic couple of months with ministering here in Australia, home and then off to Ireland (with Jacob) and then the UK. Se we will let him off for this issue.

Please keep Lyn in your prayers as she is the nucleolus of this family – she is a constant inspiration to me – she shows me constantly by her deeds how the Lord will use us and sustain us if we seek His will for us.

## Marg & Pam are off to Ebyown

Pam & I are off to Ebyown in March 2006 to let Dave & Lyn have a wee break and allow them to go to their son's wedding in Wales. (Quite a number of you will remember Anthony from his testimony that he wrote a couple of years ago about being a missionaries kid).

So we are taking a huge leap of faith and are madly saving for our fares, praying that we are doing what the Lord would have us do. In December we start all our shots etc necessary for traveling in South Africa.

We are so looking forward to seeing all our little loves there at Ebyown, but for me I know I will leave half or more of my heart there when I return to Australia.

I am to be the nurse & Pam the cook or was it the other way round but never-the less we will muddle through.

My grandson (who is now 15) told me recently that when he was a little boy he thought Grandmas were magical as they could do everything. I enlightened him and said that Grandmas **look as though they can do everything.**

So off will set these two grandmas but with the knowledge that it is our Lord who can do everything/anything.



## Prayer & Fast Around the Clock

I recently received this email from a dear sister and I would very much welcome your feedback.

*Dear Margaret*

*Recently I visited a house meeting where I fellowshipped and witnessed with some lovely families who are coming out of a religious cult. Amongst them is a family, they have a beautiful young daughter, her name is Kayla, and she is 11 years old and has leukemia.*

*We prayed for this girl and her family, who are also having a difficult time. And as I was praying the Lord put it upon my heart that this kind needs prayer and fasting.*

*As I pondered this I thought wouldn't it be wonderful if we could advertise a date in Moriel and have a Pray & Fast Around the Clock. So as the sun comes up people around the world would continue to pray and fast so it would continue for a 24-hour period of time.*

*We could extend this where people could email the names and their prayer request and have the Body of Christ pray for them all over the world on the advertised date.*

*I also know we should be doing this more and more and perhaps we could have a Pray and Fast Around the clock say once every 6 months or even 3 months. Because the peoples needs are so great.*

*So if we could get all the Moriel readers to participate in this event I'm sure we will see great miracles happen.*

***Yours in Christ  
Fran (Melbourne Australia)***

## Moriel – The Family – Is the term biblical?

I read recently where a senior gentleman in ministry here in Australia has said that my calling us all the Moriel family is unbiblical – as I don't want to be any part of anything that is unbiblical I have searched to scriptures to confirm his claim but all I can come up with is; Ps 68 V5-6 which encourages us to be a family and I quote:

*“A Father for the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in His holy habitation. God setteth the solitary in families: He bringeth out those bound with chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry land.”*

As I have repeatedly said since 1999 that I had prayed that the Lord meld us into a loving family as the greater majority of us have come from broken churches, churches lacking in discernment, unyoked relationships, have lost a love one and so forth. I am however willing to be corrected if I am wrong and if my reference to Moriel being a family has offended anyone.

## Moriel Family Album

Here I was thinking that I would inundated with photos from all over the world – BUT not a one so you will have to have some more of my selections for this issue, however; I am expecting a mailbag full for the March issue.

## Moriel's New Home

As you may remember from the last issue we had decided to move the office to our home by building a large garage – well you know what they say about the best laid plans etc – after getting a copy of the plans from the council we found that the sewerage line was in fact 3 metres in from the fence line and would go right through the garage so we would have had to put an inspection pit right in the middle of our offices (which I did not fancy at all) so ... by the grace of the Lord through a loan & a gift from a dear brother we will extend onto the house. So hopefully we will be in by Christmas. (Lord willing). Ross and I would very much appreciate your prayers that all goes smoothly and that we can keep costs to a minimum.

## New Resource Material

For the Australian readers you will read on the outer pages all about the new teachings by Jacob & others that are now available. For our overseas readers please check our website for all of this information.

## A Huge Thank you

Before I bring this to a close I would like to thank you all for your loving & prayerful support through out the past year. I thank too all those wonderful helpers along the way, if I begin to list them I would not have enough room and also given my rapidly advancing years tend to leave some one out. I know the blessings from the Lord will way outdo any verbal thanks on my part but I do from the bottom of my heart thank each and everyone of you.

Oh there is one group I must name and thank and that is the unsighted and un-named people in our Intercessory Prayer Group. These wonderful men and women constantly pray & uphold those I have listed for prayer on their prayer-sheets. May the Lord bless them mightily for their faithfulness.

I pray that you all have a blessed holiday season and that he Lord keeps you safe in the Palm of His hand. Please don't forget those alone or in hospital/nursing homes as you sit down to the festive meals.

***My love to each and  
every one of you  
In Christ  
MARG***

# American News

## Quarterly Renewal Time!

Moriel offers our Quarterly free of charge to those that want it. In order to do this we only ask that once a year that you renew your subscription by mail. This allows us not only to be good stewards of God's money, but to update your address or correct any mistakes in spelling that have arisen from the transcription of your names from the sign-up lists at the conferences. So, it is important to send in your renewal now as the next Quarterly will be coming out in February. With the holidays coming, the New Year will be here before you know it. Remember there is no cost to renew, but there is an effort on your part to keep them coming.

## The Day Of The Lord

This is the theme of the next prophecy conference scheduled for January 26 through January 29, 2006 at Calvary Chapel TriCities in Tempe AZ. This is a jam packed conference and the speakers are: David Hocking, Dave Hunt, T.A. McMahan, Bill Koenig, Bradley Antolovich of course Jacob. This is going to be one great conference, don't miss it!

Jacob will be speaking the following weekend at Calvary Chapel Santa Barbara on February 4, 2006 located 1 N. Calle Cesar Chavez Suite 21 Santa Barbara Ca. 93103. This is a new conference for us and we are looking for many of the Moriel friends to be there and support this conference in this great area of California. We will see you there.

## Tax Receipts for Donations

Moriel will be mailing out you donation receipts during the later part of January. If you feel that your total is not right please contact me at 412-321-6154 and we will seek a solution to the problem. Moriel is a 501 3 c non-profit corporation.

## Thank You

Moriel and all of its workers would like to offer a big thank you for all of your generous gifts, offerings and tithes. These offerings do allow us to continue on in the work that the Lord has called us into. Again, we are most appreciating of what you give. On a personal note I want to thank you as we could not do what we do without you. Please continue to pray for this ministry and for the ever expanding work we are all called to perform.

We look forward to seeing you in the New Year. Happy Holidays and God Bless.

***In Peace,  
David Lister***

# Intelligent Design contra Darwinism — THE RENEWED DEBATE

By Jacob Prasch

Once again the American Civil Liberties Union is at war with proponents of those who believe intelligent design is a scientifically plausible rival to Darwinism, and that both should be taught in schools.

The central issue from a scientific perspective is not faith (as belief in Darwinism requires faith, because it is theory not a fact), but quantitative scientific reality.

Any theory is subject to scientific scrutiny. The fact that recombinant DNA does not trans-mutate across the genus barrier in the natural environment mitigates strongly against Darwinist presupposition.

The fact that getting the exact right combination of left and right handed amino acids together right down to the level of atomic co-valence to form a single peptide and then getting the precise combination of peptides together under the precise circumstances biochemically to form a poly-peptide, and then getting the precise combination of poly-peptides together under the precise circumstances to synthesize a single protein for which in turn their must be as equally complex co-enzyme, and that will interact chemically with other proteins and enzymes is too complicated a process to be attributed to chance.

Protein metabolism is foundational to the biosphere. No probability theorem known to man can account for a random inter-systemic formation of such complexity.

Information science tells us that codes require a pre-existing body of information and a pre-existing intelligence to write the codes (as with an algorithm or a software program). The triplet code by which DNA is replicated by RNA, and if proven correct, the histone code are mathematically more complicated than anything human cryptologists are at present capable of devising. The issue is not religion versus science or faith contra fact. The issue is good science versus shabby science and fact versus an unproven hypothesis with a lot of holes in it.

The fact is that the ACLU and the proponents of Darwinism are demanding not that faith be kept out the classroom, but that science be kept out of the classroom.

Moreover, it is not simply in the area of quantitative sciences that the Darwinists and ACLU demand the scientific facts be ignored. Their bias has ramifications for the social sciences.

The last 60 years has seen the ugliest genocide in human history perpetrated in the name of ethnic cleansing. From the dehumanisation of Hutu and Tutsi in Rwanda and Burundi to Imperial Japan's dehumanising of their fellow Asians, to the Nazis dehumanising Jews & Gypsies, to the former Yugoslavia, to Sadam Hussein's attempted extermination of the Kurds, to Turkey's attempts to exterminate the Armenians, to Pol Pot's Cambodia, to the Islamic slaughter of Christians in Darfur and East Timor, each of these and more dehumanised others as inferior.

When applied anthropologically as Hitler applied it, Darwinism creates a pseudo-scientific basis for racism and the relegation of Blacks to the status of genetic inferiority on the criteria of species survival. The reduced longevity, higher instances of AIDS deaths in Africa, lower level on average academic performance by Blacks, and the failure of post colonial African countries to economically develop as the Asian post colonial countries (who won their independence at the same time) did, when viewed from the perspective of a Darwinist worldview all support the genetic inferiority of Black Africans. As one who directs an organization operating orphanages for HIV children in Africa, as a white man, I find this offensive; not because it is racist, but because it is not true scientifically. Only observing the plight of Black people through the prism of Darwinist presupposition leaves us with a mal-defined body of evidence supporting the genetic inferiority of Blacks and other minorities, that have already been postulated by academics such as Jansen and Shockley. In effect, Blacks become phylo-genetically closer to apes than other humans are in a worldview shaped by Darwinist presupposition.

The essential situation is that with the advances in biogenetic engineering Darwinism is falling to pieces. Tragically, it will be replaced by something worse – not creationism, but the view that man can control evolution and deity himself.

The fact is that from Watson & Crick onward, the earlier views of evolution were debunked, and evolutionary theory has been consistently inconsistent with itself, and the earliest 'ontogeny is the recapitulation of phylogeny' propositions of Le Marc were debunked prior to that. After generations of Darwinism, ontogenetic development cannot be explained by Darwinism in any provable way, and now life science itself is moving on leaving Darwinism consigned to the same ash heap of history to which superstition is confined.

Even many scientists who are not Judeo-Christian in matters of personal faith is beginning to chuckle at Darwin the way other Darwinians chuckle at Le Marc.

Marxist Dialectics was based on Darwinism. Karl Marx thought that as capitalism evolved from feudalism so communism would evolve along Hegelian lines from capitalism. Only Marx was debunked by history. Communism did not begin in England, the first capitalist country as Marx predicted based on a Darwinist worldview, but in Russia, Europe's last feudal country where it never should have been viable according to the Darwinist worldview.

Higher critical theology developed out of Darwinist worldview. Liberal scholars argued that the biblical texts evolved through a series of redactions. Yet, the Dead Sea scrolls undermines their Darwinist presupposition. Higher criticism is dying a death with no market for its worthless product because liberal churches and denominations are justly declining in number and in attendance, so they are turning to biased left wing political causes to try and remain socially relevant in their thinking.

As the Soviet Empire collapsed, the silly old men in the Kremlin continued to propound the same old failed Marxist Hegelian Dialectic rooted in social Darwinism. As liberal churches continue to decline, the Jesus Seminar and other such silly people continue to try and prop up their discredited presuppositions. When a silly old 'has been' is faced with the hard irrefutable fact that they foolishly based their lives on a fallacy, they continue to insist that a loyalty to their discredited presuppositions be maintained because the alternative is obvious, despite the hard evidence to the contrary.

The actual reason for the demise of Social Darwinism and Theological Darwinism

however is the scientific demise of the Darwinism that underlies it. So now, the old Darwinist scientists and self appointed social engineers of the ACLU and the failing educational establishment are engaging in the same hopeless game as the old kingpins of Sovietism and of higher criticism. They are trying to sustain a status quo that is scientifically unsustainable. The fact is that there is no proof for genotypic macroevolution, only for a microevolution affecting phenotypic mutation. The DNA of lobster cannot become the DNA of a zebra after a billion generations of interim stages. There are simply too many gaps in the fossil record and DNA cannot in the natural environment be shown to trans-mutate between species.

The other factor in the evolution debate is that the state school and Roman Catholic school systems are falling apart (since John Paul II, the Roman Catholic church accepts Darwinism). Widespread paedophilia and protection of sex criminal clergy has damaged the reputation of The Roman Catholic Church and bought into question the safety of its schools. More fundamentally however, both the state funded and Roman Catholic schools were designed to produce automatons of the old technocracy; conditioning people to work in the disappearing factory culture once the bell rang. Generations of Pavlov's dogs were churned out for the manufacturing economy that no longer exists.

This is the basic reason for the white-washed drop out rate and breakdown of the school system. Such schools can no longer be a workable way to prepare people for the new economy. More work is for instance done at home via computer and is outsourced to cottage industries. Hence, there must be a growth in home schooling to accommodate the future direction of the economy.

This will not change for the sake of the National Educators Association or The National Union of Teachers, who have a vested interest in impeding progress for the sake of preserving their tenure and clout.

In the more progressive Home schooling curriculum students are already taught both intelligent design and evolution, hence opposition from the teachers unions is to be expected. Teachers unions are not fighting simply for Darwinism, they are fighting as an increasingly obsolete institution for a future place in the education industry.

It is time to get real. The actual issues are not purely scientific, because if they were decided on the basis of scientific fact and merit, designed, creation would be taught along side of evolution because information science demands it, and Darwinism would be challenged because genetic science demands it.

The actual issues are rather political, where those interests with a biased, self-aggrandizing agenda cannot allow the pure facts of science to dictate what and how

science should be taught. If these biased self serving agenda promoters of the ACLU, the teachers unions, and their friends in the biased left wing media cannot win on the basis of academic and scientific merit, they will in the tradition of the Scope's case, resort as usual to Judicial-fascism, where the facts can be re-defined juridically rather than scientifically, and where public opinion and legislative authority can be usurped by anti democratic judicio-facist judges who legislate from the bench. This is already the case where contrary to the proof afforded by biological science; The California State Supreme Court

ruled that a child can have two mothers even though embryonic, genetic, and obstetric reality proves otherwise.

As with evolution, science says one thing, the biased agenda of the left says another despite it being wholly unscientific.

Again, the real issue is not science but corrupt politics, corrupt courts, and a corrupt agenda by 'has been' interest groups out to preserve their own interests at the expense of progress, at the expense of our children, and even at the expense of the very scientific reality they fraudulently claim to represent.

## Your Letters ...

This is an excellent magazine – I have learnt so much.

**Miss of Western Australia**

Please find included my registration renewal for the Moriel Quarterly, the September issue was great!

However I am pouting because neither Jacob nor David Royle had Brisbane on their itineraries. Perhaps next time eh!?

God bless you and your valuable work.

**Mrs M of Queensland**

*Now young lady you just stop that sooking and just maybe Jacob will be there in 2006 and even Dave too – but no more pouting – ok?*

**Hi David**

The Lord richly blessed our trip to Romania. We ministered in three cities and shared the gospel with hundreds of folks, many whom came to Christ.

Please thank Jacob for me for speaking at our fellowship again. Everyone receives edification and exhortation from his messages. It would be great if he could come again next year.

God Bless.

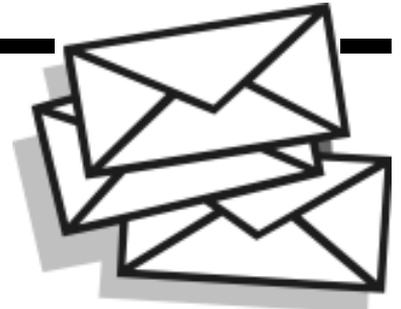
**Bryan Richardson, Senior Pastor,  
Calvary Chapel of the White  
Mountains USA**

What a wonderful blessing the Quarterly is to us all who receive it. As usual God goes way ahead of us and supplies so many answers to questions one ponders between printings. Are you sure you aren't twins? How do you manage to fit so much activity into so few hours a day? Don't tell me! It's only by and through Him

**Mrs A of Australia**

*You said it all – It is only through the Grace of God – Praise Him.*

*On a lighter note, when my husband Ross read your comment about twins he*



*nearly fainted and remarked "Oh no one is more than enough to contend with!" Frankly I was mystified as to what he meant!!!!*

Thank you so much for all you do for Moriel & for seeing that Jacob's visits to Australia are such a great blessing to us. I don't know how you keep up all that is required of you.

May the Lord continue to bless and encourage you & impart His strength & anointing.

**Mrs M of Australia**

*Thank you my dear for your encouragement & prayers. All praise to Our Precious Lord who see to all our needs, big & small.*

Please continue to send me your informative magazine, I enjoy reading it and will pass it on to others.

I will be praying for little Devon & the whole Royle clan – what an example of God's love & sacrifice.

God Bless.

**Mrs B of Tasmania**

**Dear Margaret**

Enclosed find my subscription renewal and cheque for same.

I really appreciate receiving Moriel and look forward to it coming. I benefit greatly from reading the articles it contains.

May the Lord bless you in the work you do for him.

**Mr M of Victoria**

*Bless you my dear brother for your encouragement.*



# A Man's heart plans his way but the Lord directs his steps.

By **SALVADOR**

God is faithful. He is so unlike us. He is patient and so slow to anger that people take advantage of his grace and yet He does so without compromise or being slack concerning judgment. That is pretty hard to grasp. That is something that we find difficult to portray.

Often we are either too quick to judge and take issue with suspected error and sin, or we are reluctant to make a stand for the truth. Sometimes the same happens with the sharing of the gospel. Coming back to the UK has been a diverse experience. There are times when I have shared the gospel boldly and there are other times I wish I had spoken out against a particular error, or to voice out the gospel and not conform to the fear of man. I am sure that there are others who feel the same as I.

All we have to say about any good report made about our evangelism is that the glory must go to the Lord. God, the living God, is not limited by our limitations or failures of imperfections. Still we desire, not to excuse our idleness with talk of His supernatural ability but we desire to press on to become more like Him. It is funny the way God leads us.

Last time I wrote for the Moriel Quarterly, I shared that I was leaving South Africa to go back to the UK to pay off my student loan and sometime return to the mission field. My short term plan was to do teacher training, to get international teacher status, to pay off my student loan within 2-3 years while saving a small fortune and then to return to the mission field with some finance behind me, teacher status (which could be a big help on the mission field) and skills of classroom management and organisational skills (I lack when it comes to organisational skills). I was quite fortunate in South Africa to join and to work alongside Caleb and Sophie Massey at the mission statement. I doubt I would ever have been able to have worked at such a mission by myself.

So when I got to the UK, I moved into my parents home near Manchester and on the second day I went around all the cafes that day and got a job in a Caffe Nero (it's like Starbucks). I lived there for 3-4 months while trying to apply for teacher training courses. As my degree was in Acting Studies, which I did at drama school, I thought that it would be best if I applied for secondary school teaching in Drama. I had four choices.

My first 2 choices rejected my application, and the fourth had filled up its places

before getting round to consider my application. I was quite sure my third choice would fall through as they were a college from London called Goldsmiths and I had been told that it would be difficult to get a place. Also Goldsmiths were looking for theatre practitioners, and I am not so it didn't make much sense in me applying for them in the first place. But while they were considering my application I went to visit some friends down the south of England, I was challenged on why I wanted to do secondary teaching. I stated the reasons I wrote above and said that I wanted to go back to the mission field eventually. It was recommended that primary school teaching would be more beneficial.

What made me really listen to this was that earlier that week a couple had given me the bible verses Proverbs 3: 5-8. 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not upon your own understanding...' Therefore I felt that I should drop the idea of secondary school teaching and go for primary, and I had the ability to change my last choice for a primary school course.

However when I got back to Manchester I checked my progress and I had been offered an interview with Goldsmiths while I had been away and had missed it. I phoned them up and they said that I could arrange another interview with them but instead I cancelled my application.

Now at this time I was feeling the urge to move out of the busy hustle and bustle of Manchester and to find a job that paid better and gave more hours. My friend, Anthony Royle, was living in North Wales and had asked if I wanted to apply to work with the same company he worked at and share a flat with him. I got the job and straight after visiting my friends down south I moved into his flat and went to work as a relief support worker for people with autism and Down's syndrome. I am still in that job to this day. The application for the primary school teaching fell through soon after starting the new job but during that week, or the week after Anthony's dad, Dave Royle, was itinerating in the UK and when we met up his question was, 'how soon can you come back to South Africa'. I had already been realising that I had been trusting in my own wisdom to solve my problems and to make more stable my return to South Africa.

God had shown me in Australia, through the speakers that I heard that I would be returning to the mission field. My answer to Dave was that I could return at any time but I

want to pay off my student loan first. Well since Dave went back to South Africa, thank God, I have been given a gift from Moriel Supporters that has already paid off over half my student loan! My job is helping me to make ends meet and things have been starting to stabilise in my life.

It has been such a short time in the UK and yet so much has happened; new friends have been made so that at times South Africa seems a distant memory. But I still pray and still remember my family back there. At times I find it difficult to reconcile the everyday little details of work, church and life to the generalised big picture of God's will concerning the mission field, but God is faithful. There are things that I would have hoped would have happened but they didn't, there are things I wish I would have done differently, there are things I wish I could relive but this world is not our home and we cannot hold onto or change those past things.

We are just passing through. Sometimes people are so caught up in the details they forget that and sometimes they are so caught up with the general picture that they neglect all the little details that make up that big picture and make it something so magnificently intricate and detailed. Thank God that He can do both! Sometimes we don't understand why things have happened the way they have and sometimes we lack outward stability in our lives. Things are constantly changing and sometimes it is difficult to keep up.

But God knows what He is doing and His will is coming to pass. We must remember that there is a home forever that will not be shaken, removed or will fade away. Because God is in the midst of it, there we will remain and no one will take it away! But I am looking forward to going back to South Africa, God willing, at the end of March or the beginning of April of 2006.

My house mate Anthony is engaged to the Pastor's daughter of our church called Liz James and I have been given the privilege of being best man at the wedding on the 25th March. Straight after I plan to move to South Africa to work under Pastor Dave Royle and Pastor Bernard Mathe, to be involved in tent evangelism, children's work and discipleship and to grow in grace and knowledge, to become a stronger witness and to become more and more like my Saviour and my Lord.

## **Ps 46**

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear,

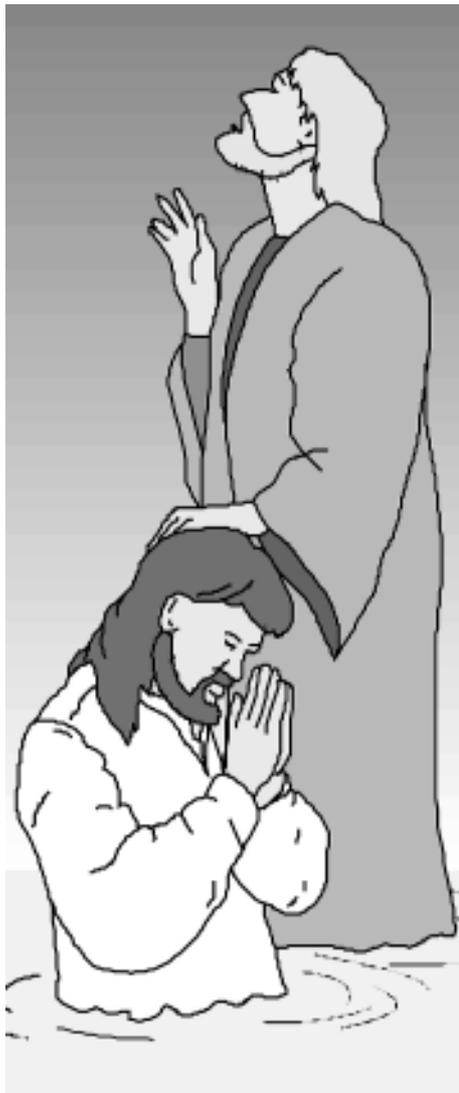
though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.

There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early. The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth. He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.

Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

**P.S.** *We have just had word that Salvador has by the grace of God and hard work managed to clear his university debts and is now saving up his airfare to return to Ebyown in April 2006 after fulfilling his role as Best man at Anthony Royle's wedding.*



## Your Letters ...

As per my letter I have deposited \$ in your account today and ask that you direct it to Ebyown Children's Village.

I love the Moriel newsletter and the web site. I have recommended it to other discerning alert Christians. I had previously asked the Lord for someone He would have me send my tithes. He brought some dear friends to me along with a Moriel newsletter.

We live nowhere near churches so it is so good to study with other like-minded Christians.

I will continue to keep you all before the Lord in prayer.

**Ms H of Western Australia**

*Bless you my dear for your precious gift to the Missions and above all your prayerful support.*

— • —

Thank you for sending me the account details for the Missions in South Africa.

As promised I have deposited \$ for the children at Neema Orphanage in Kenya. I hope this will prove a blessing to the children.

I pray the Lord will provide all the needs of these precious little ones, according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Love in Christ, our precious Bridegroom.

**Ms S of Australia**

*Bless you my dear, Dave will be going to Kenya shortly and will take the funds in directly to them.*

— • —

**To all at Moriel Ministries**

Thank you for giving me lots to keep me awake in these times of deceit & decay. Always a thought provoking and prayer motivating read.

**Mrs W of Australia**

— • —

**Greetings in the Name of Jesus**

Thank you so much for having sent me the Moriel Quarterly regularly. Your publication has really opened my eyes more widely to God's Truth – His Word. I would therefore like to re-new my subscription.

I have included a poem I wrote two years ago. I would like to contribute it to the Quarterly. If you find incorrect words or expressions in it, please feel free to correct them.

Again, thank you very much for your faithful labour of sharing God's word with me, in particular, and preaching it to the world.

**Yante Maruanaya of Indonesia**



*Thank you dear brother and I am thrilled to include your poem:*

## The Hand of the Lord

*The Hand of the Lord touched the blind – they saw*

*The Hand of the Lord touched the deaf – they heard*

*The Hand of the Lord touched the lame – they walked*

*The Hand of the Lord touched the lepers – they were cured*

*The Hand of the Lord fed the hungry – they became full*

*The Hand of the Lord was nailed to the cross – His blood dripped*

*The Hand of the Lord knocks at the door –*

*Will anyone open it?*

# Moriel Family Album



**Top left:** Pam in Sydney during Dave Royle's visit.

**Above:** Dave Royle with Michael Shafton & John Kidd – Moriel Aust Board.



**Left:** Elise Long & daughter Becky of ..... Ministries with Pam Wasilenko & Wendy Husher of Victoria.

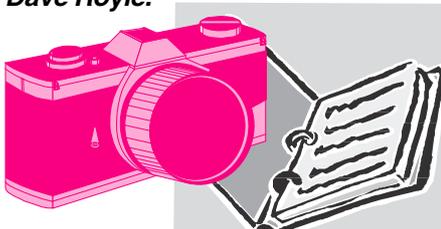
**Below:** Jacob with Jemma Mottram of Victoria.



**Above:** Little Rebekkah Klinko with her Mummy Mariana at Jacob's meetings in July.

**Above right:** Dave Royle with the Mule family in Sydney.

**Right:** Sonia Foley of Sydney with Dave Royle.



Moriel Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational Christian organisation which provides biblical teaching materials with a special focus on problems and significant events of the last days. The newsletter is provided free of charge to those who request it.



**מוריהל**

MORIEL MINISTRIES

## AUSTRALIA & SINGAPORE

P.O. Box 112

Trafalgar Vic 3824

Phone: +61 3 5633 2300

Fax: +61 3 5633 1578

Email: moriel@vic.australis.com.au

## SOUTH AFRICA

P.O. Box 1229

Fourways, 2055

Phone: +27 11463 1771

Fax: +27 11463 6854

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

P.O. Box 100223

Pittsburgh PA 15233-0223

Phone: +1 412 321 6154

Email: morieldavid@yahoo.com

## UNITED KINGDOM

P.O. Box 201

Maidenhead Berks SL6 9FB

England

## WEBSITE:

[www.moriel.org](http://www.moriel.org)

© Copyright 2004 Jacob Prasch