

A
Ministry
of:
**CORNERSTONE
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

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HOW NAIVE CAN WE BE?

December 2004

Perhaps we should say, "How naive, how ignorant, how carnal, how foolish can we be?" I am talking about the popularity of yoga and similar aspects of Eastern religions. One sees this sort of thing advertised everywhere these days and we have read of any number of public school systems which have added it to their curriculums. I have even seen Fundamental Baptist churches which say that they have yoga or similar classes. According to TBC (8/31/04), "By last summer there were 15 million Americans practicing yoga, 28.5 percent more than the year before. In 1998 the figure was only 5.7 million. Wal-Mart and Target now carry hefty lines of instructional videos, books and paraphernalia. Wal-Mart's website boasts 990 yoga products and Target has a mind-numbing 4,235." According to the article 80% of health clubs in America now offer classes in yoga. Since 1998 *Yoga Journal's* circulation has more than tripled from 90,000 to 310,000. In the past year, the national magazine's advertising has increased 35% - including advertisers such as Target, Kellogg, Ford, Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer and General Mills.

That this is going on among the confused masses of our day does not surprise me. But God's people, especially Bible believing Pastors, ought to have more sense. The sad truth today is most anything goes in many Fundamental Baptist churches. There are many ways to justify this wickedness, one of which is to say that we do not use the mantras, etc. The plain truth is you cannot divorce the physical exercises from the religious aspect. The simple fact is yoga is a part of Hinduism and you cannot separate the religious and spiritual aspects from the physical. Steve Woodrow, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Aspen Colo. speaking to a group of teachers, parents and administrators from that city where yoga is taught in the public schools, quoted from the *Yoga Journal* which stated that the meditation, breathing, and stretching were "an altered state of consciousness" that promoted "a oneness with God." In his book *The Complete Illustrated Book of Yoga*, well known yoga authority Swami Vishnudevanda explains, "The aim of all yoga practice is to achieve truth wherein the individual soul identifies itself with the supreme soul of God." I believe that this sort of thing is an open door for demonic activity. I know many will laugh at that but fooling around with Eastern religions in any form is dangerous because much of it is demonic. Does God not call His people to "**Come out from among them and be separate?**" Are we not commanded to "**Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.**" This is nothing but confusion and also a certain form of ecumenism though it may not be recognized as such. I have read recently that many world religious leaders believe that the ultimate and final form of religion will be a combination of Hinduism and Christianity. These are the last days and we truly wonder how many professing Fundamental Baptists are really saved. I remember Dr. David Otis Fuller saying before he went to glory that he believed at least 50% of all the people in Fundamental Baptist churches were not saved. I am inclined to agree with him. What about you? Are you really a "**new creature in Christ Jesus**"?

CORNERSTONE NEWS

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

Friday, December 31

5:00 — 8:00 pm

A Great Family Night!

Invite a Friend!

5:00 — FILM:

"Life of D.L. Moody"

6:00 — Buffet Supper

7:00 — Testimonies

Prayer Time

Lord's Supper

*No better way to end the Old year
and start the New!*



WEEK OF PRAYER

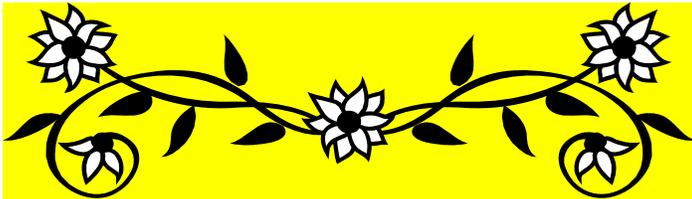
January 3 — 6, 2006

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday — 7:00 pm

Wednesday — 7:30 pm

"In Everything By Prayer"

Bring the Family!



FORTY-FIVE YEARS AT CORNERSTONE.

Lord willing, December 19th will mark 45 years since I became the Pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church. It hardly seems possible. I would not say that it has been an easy time, but it has been a blessed time. We have not accomplished all we had hoped to, but we are pressing on by His grace. I do praise the Lord for the souls who have been saved and the separated testimony which has been maintained in Roman Catholic and liberal Boston. I do praise the Lord for the faithful ones he has raised up, and continues to raise up, in this place. One thing I know is that the Lord definitely brought me here; a second thing is that He has kept me here for I could not keep myself. *My testimony: The Lord is good!* My prayer is that by His grace I might be faithful until He comes or calls. **"Brethren, pray for us!"**

YOUTH CORNER

KILLED BY A WORM! Keith L. Brooks, a Fundamental Bible teacher of 100 years ago told of a group of people that were being shown through a park. There was a large sycamore tree which only two years before had been as healthy as any tree in the park, but now it was decayed to the core. Two years earlier a naturalist had noted a woodworm about three inches long was forcing its way under the bark of the trunk. He cautioned, "Let that worm alone, and it will kill that beautiful tree." That hardly seemed likely and the worm was left alone. Sure enough, within two years the tree rotted and died. That reminds me of many Christians I have seen over the years. They were once vibrant and healthy believers, but they allowed some "worm," some sin, to get into their lives and spiritual death soon set in. They did not deal with some sin of self will, a root of bitterness, some worldliness, indulgence in some carnal appetite or pleasure. If you want to stay spiritually healthy and useful in the Lord's work, you must deal ruthlessly with sin. **"A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump."** The road to Heaven is strewn with the wreckage of professing believers. Do not allow a "worm" of sin to bring you down. If you know of some sin in your life confess it; forsake it now! **"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."**

SILLY NEWSPAPER HEADLINES:

Something went wrong in jet crash, experts say.
Police begin campaign to run down jaywalkers.
Miners refuse to work after death.
Juvenile Court to try shooting defendant.
If strike isn't settled quickly, it may last awhile.
Stolen painting found by tree.

Plane too close to ground crash probe told.
Two sisters reunited after 18 years in checkout counter

FORMULA FOR SUCCESS AS A CHRISTIAN! *"I am standing on the promises, walking in His footprints, leaning on His everlasting arms, and drinking from the fountain that never runs dry!"* - Bud Robinson. What we need is more Bible believers who believe the Bible! Some are not standing on the promises; they are just sitting on the premises. Others walk in their "own fire," not in His footsteps, lean on the arm of flesh and drink at the world's broken cisterns. Christian, let's get it right!

*What in the world are you doing
for Heaven's sake?*

NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

PRO-HOMOSEXUALS WON'T TELL THE WHOLE STORY!

The following is from *TBC Today* - 7/13/04. *It's Elementary: Talking about Gay Issues in Schools* is an award-winning video that is used by teachers to discuss "gay" issues in schools. One segment shows a homosexual young man answering questions from middle school students on what it's like to be "gay." But the young man is no longer "gay" and that is something the producers don't want anyone to know. Noe' Gutierrez, the young man, told how he came out at age 16. However, at age 24 he changed his sexual identity to "straight" and began telling others about it. Mr. Gutierrez wrote to one school district using the video, Montgomery County (MD), requesting that when "*It's Elementary...*" is shown students should be made aware that he is no longer homosexual. After all, that would only be right. However, the school committee refused to do so. Thus, teachers or students viewing the film have no idea that he has repudiated his old lifestyle. It seems elementary to me that a man ought not to be portrayed as something which he has turned his back upon. It only shows the deceitfulness of these people.

THE TRUTH ABOUT TERROR! Following the massacre by mostly Muslim terrorists in Beslan, Russia that killed at least 338 persons, including 156 children and wounded hundreds, a rare voice of reason was heard from an unlikely place. Abdulrahman al-Rashed, general manager of Al-Arabiya television said in a London Arabic newspaper: "Our terrorist sons are an end-product of our corrupted culture." Under the headline: "The Painful Truth: All the World Terrorists Are Muslims!" he wrote, "Most perpetrators of suicide operations in buses, schools, residential buildings around the world for the past 10 years have been Muslims." He wrote if Muslims want to change their image, they "must admit the scandalist facts." -*World* (9/18/04). Ed. Yet Our President and our government still promote the idea that Islam is a peaceful religion. The *World* article said the U.S. government is promoting mandatory sessions for government employees on "tolerance" and "diversity" led by Muslim organizations, some of which have questionable ties to groups that have either supported or condemned with disingenuous statements, killings by Muslim extremists.

DECEIVED AND DECEIVING. *The Berean Call* (7/1/04) reported an amazing prophecy by Benny Hinn which he made in 1999 concerning Paul Crouch's Trinity Broadcasting Network. He said, "Here is what I

see for TBN. You are going to have people raised from the dead watching this network... I see this in the Spirit. It's going to be awesome...people around the world who will lose loved ones will say to the undertakers, 'Not yet. I want to take my dead loved one and place him in front of that TV set for 24 hours.' I see rows of caskets lined up in front of this TV set...I see loved ones picking up the hands of the dead and letting them touch the screen and people are getting raised as their hands are touching the screen." Amazing! That was five years ago. Have you heard of anything like this happening? No, and you won't because Benny Hinn is a false prophet. He has made many predictions that have not come true. It's amazing the number of deluded followers that he and other false prophets produce. We shouldn't be surprised for false prophets abounded in Jeremiah's day and though their prophecies did not come to pass, the people believed them rather than the man of God.

MORE ON HEALTH & WEALTH GOSPELERS.

From the *Los Angeles Times*, via *Yahoo* 9/12/04. Paul Crouch, head of TBN is in a legal battle with a former employee who claims he had a sexual encounter with Crouch in 1996. Enoch Lonnie Ford, among other things chauffeured Crouch to appointments, etc. The two men met while Ford was in a TBN run drug treatment center. (If these people have the gift of healing, why do they need drug treatment centers?). While employed by TBN, Ford was jailed several times for drug abuse, having sex with a 17 year old boy, etc. Each time Crouch took him back after a prison term. TBN officials acknowledged that the ministry also paid some of Ford's debts. In 1998, Ford threatened to sue TBN for unlawful discharge, but Crouch reached a settlement of \$425,000. Last year (2003) Ford wrote a manuscript for a book about his encounter with Crouch. A TBN lawyer asked if "Ford might be willing to take \$1 million for the manuscript." Ford's lawyer suggested \$10 million. Rick Jones, a former body guard for Benny Hinn (he really trusts God) said he heard Crouch talk about his alleged homosexual relationship on a bus tour.

Religion Today 10/6/04 says, MinistryWatch, a group that monitors non-profits is calling for the TBN founders to step aside while Christian leaders examine their finances. It has called for a "Donor Alert" asking donors to TBN to consider withholding contributions. MinistryWatch says Paul and Jan Crouch's combined salaries are over \$750,000 per year. TBN holds more than \$230 million in U. S. Treasuries and more than \$30 million in cash reserves. TBN has short and long-term investments of about \$280 million. Please read II Peter 2:1-3 concerning these false prophets.

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT!

When the Civil War was raging, some commissioners from the Southern Confederacy sought an interview with President Lincoln to sue for peace. They met in a cabin of one of the river steamers, and stated their case. They reminded the President, who was known to be one of the most humane men, of the fearful sufferings which the war was entailing, and would continue to entail. Unrolling a map, they pointed first to this and then to that concession they would make, if the North would allow them to retain the remainder. The President waited in silence till their appeal was finished, and then, bringing his hand down upon the map, he replied, sadly but unhesitatingly: "*Gentlemen, this Government must have all!*" (I for one am glad that he did so). One of the great problems and saddest sights among God's people today is lack of total submission to the authority of God and His Word. Many professing Christians give lip service to it while doing their own thing. Jesus said, "**Why call ye me Lord, Lord and do not the things that I say?**" It is time that Christians woke up to the fact that 70% or 80% obedience is not obedience but disobedience. God demands and expects total surrender of the will and life to Him. Jesus said, "**He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.**" James. 4:7 says, "**Submit yourselves unto God.**" It goes without saying - 100%.

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NEW BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

There are ominous signs for Fundamentalists in a newly-formed association. Three Baptist groups held their first meeting a few months ago. It is called the International Baptist Network (IBN), and it includes the Baptist Bible Fellowship, Southwide Baptist Fellowship and World Baptist Fellowship. They all believe that things such as music, Bible versions, associations (separation), and dress should not divide. They contend that those who hold to such things are detrimental to the cause of Christ. They are declaring, like many who followed this path before them, that they have not changed anything. The truth is many of their churches have already changed and are pursuing the New Evangelical path by adopting the philosophies and practices of Bill Hybels and Rick Warren's Purpose-Driven methods in order to promote church growth. Many Fundamentalists are moving rapidly into the New Evangelical philosophy that says winning people is the most important thing, and therefore it doesn't matter how we do it. Winning souls is extremely important, but so is the way we do it – we must be Scriptural in our methods as well as our message. I remember when Billy Graham went this route in the 1950's. He said we are not changing the message, only the method. Do not forget it, the two are inseparably linked – look what happened to Graham and the New Evangelical crowd. (See our book "The (New) Evangelical Experiment" - \$3 pp.). Make no mistake; these people will end up the same way! Compromise is a one-way street, and it's all downhill!