



A
Ministry
of:

**CORNERSTONE
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

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THE PURPOSE-DRIVEN GOSPEL.

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The source of information in this paragraph is by T.A. McMahon of *Berean Call* who attended Celebrate Recovery Summit 2005 at Rick Warren's Saddleback Church. Warren says CR is "the center of the purpose-driven life." He also says it is a "balanced and biblical program to help people overcome their hurts, habits and hang-ups." The truth is, it is mostly psychobabble for it all based upon the 12 step program of Alcoholics Anonymous. Every speaker introduced himself or herself as being in the "recovery mode of AA with this Christianized difference: 'Hi I'm so-and-so and I am a believer in Jesus Christ who struggles with issues of (alcohol, drugs, codependency, sex, or whatever) addiction.'" Those in attendance were encouraged to attend AA meetings (or Narcotics Anonymous, etc.) if there were no CR meetings near them. On a video Rick Warren said CR was no man-made thing but was based upon the words of Jesus Christ. He said his "higher power" (AA term) was Jesus Christ. (Ed. This is utter nonsense for this stuff is man-made; it is psychology pure and simple and to identify Jesus Christ with it is blasphemy. I have known men who were in AA and they said that one higher power you were not allowed to name was Jesus Christ! God says, "**Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly...**" Scriptures also warn: "**Lean not unto thine own understanding.**" The truth is the whole thing is a false religion). McMahon rightly says that CR tries "to wed God's Word to Wilson's (AA founder) erroneous and demonically inspired methodology." As for CR not being psychological, the two key speakers were both clinical psychologists. Incidentally, no leader is allowed to instruct or correct those giving testimony; they can only affirm the "transparency" of the person. The CR's Codependency and Christian living group made this amazing statement: "Jesus taught...a love of self forms the basis for loving others." Each two-hour session opened with the Serenity Prayer (Roman Catholic) and a recitation of the 12 Steps.

We are not surprised that this goes on at Saddleback, Willow Creek, and many evangelical churches, but we are amazed that many Fundamentalists are getting on board. The truth is they are not real Fundamentalists. The original 12-step program was invented in 1935 by Bill Wilson, an alcoholic. He was a helpless drunk. He had two life changing experiences. The first, a doctor told him alcoholism was an incurable disease; it wasn't his fault. He liked that. Then, he had a *spiritual experience* in which he was given the 12 steps to recovery. But AA teaches there is no cure, one is always in the recovery mode. Wilson was not religious and invented the term "higher power," which simply meant that alcoholics need someone (thing) greater than themselves. According to McMahon, Rick Warren said in a sermon: "In 1935 a couple of guys formulated, based on Scripture, what are known as the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous..." Based on Scripture? It is not of God but of the devil! *This emphasis upon man centered programs to help alleviate people's problems is naturally appealing to the flesh and therefore, is very popular. But it is not of God for it does not deal with sin at all, the real problem. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man but the end thereof are the ways of death."* Prov.14:12.

NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

JOHN MACARTHUR'S HERESIES. Many years ago MacArthur said it is not the blood of Christ that takes away our sin, but the death of Christ. (That, in spite of **Lev.17:11; Heb.9:22; Col.1:14; I Pet. 1:18,19; Eph.1:7;** etc.) Now, an article in FBIS (12/16/05) says: "In his commentary on 2 Peter and Jude... he denies that God loves every person and that Jesus died to make it possible for every person to be saved. He denies the 'popular notion that God loves everyone...' He denies that Christ died to pay the full penalty of everyone's sins." Sounds like dyed-in-the wool Calvinism to me! Apparently, John 3:16, I Tim.2:3-5, II Pet.3:9, Rom. 10:13, etc. are not in his bible. Once a man compromises or imbibes heresy, it is repent or total apostasy.

RICK WARREN'S INCLUSIVISM. Two recent items reveal Warren's repudiation of separation of any kind. In one, he said, "I see absolutely zero reason in separating my fellowship from anybody." Then in a statement to the Pew Forum he stated: "Last week I spoke to 4,000 pastors at my church who came from over 100 denominations in over 50 countries. Now, that's widespread. WE HAD CATHOLIC PRIESTS, we had Pentecostal ministers, we had Lutheran bishops, we had Anglican bishops, we had Baptist preachers..." This is not surprising; what surprises me is that many who claim to be Fundamental Baptists are following Rick Warren and practicing his psychological gospel.

BLASPHEMOUS BIBLES. Thomas Nelson produces the Revolve Teen girls Bible-zine. The father of a teenage girl said, "I was intrigued to look at the Revolve Tour website and see what they are offering the girls spiritually. I searched the website but couldn't find one mention of Jesus. I did see 'beautiful' women all over; flawless skin, airbrushed celebrities and music stars writhing in tight clothes on the music videos. Our moral standards have gotten so low in the church that women in low rider jeans and tight T-shirts are considered wonderful role models." -TBC Today 11/18/05.

HAVE WE PASSED SODOM AND GOMORRAH?

The following is from *Psychoheresy Awareness Newsletter* (Nov.-Dec.2005). **American Psychological Ass'n Policy Statement:** "Sexual Orientation and Marriage. Therefore be it resolved that the APA believes that it is unfair and discriminatory to deny same sex couples legal access to civil marriage and to all its attendant benefits, rights and privileges...Be it further resolved that APA shall take a leadership role in opposing all discrimination in legal benefits, rights, and privileges against same sex couples... the APA encourages psychologists to act to eliminate all discrimination against same sex couples..."

National Association of Social Workers Same sex position statement: "NASW encourages the adoption of laws that recognize inheritance, insurance, same-sex marriage, child custody, property and other rights in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender relationships. The Association firmly believes that all federal protections and responsibilities available to legally married people in the U. S. should be available to same sex unions..."

American Anthropological Association Statement on Marriage and the family: "...anthropological research supports the conclusion that a vast array of family types, including families built upon same sex partner-ships, can contribute to stable and humane societies. The Executive Board of the American Anthropological Ass'n strongly opposes a constitutional amendment limiting marriage to heterosexual couples." Ed. Their research is no doubt as flawed as the infamous Kinsey reports. It's been shown that there is almost nothing as unstable as homosexual relationships. A marriage ceremony and a piece of paper are not going to change that. God's Word says, "**Woe unto them that call evil good and good evil...**"

TV TWICE AS SENSUAL! TV programs in the U.S. contain double the number of sex scenes when compared to seven years ago. This was the finding of the Kaiser Family Foundation survey of programs on ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox, WB, PBS, Lifeline, TNT, USA and HBO. They found that 70% of all shows included some sensual content, averaging about five scenes per hour. That's up three scenes per hour since 1998. -FBIS 11/18/05. Ed. We have said it many times; we do not see how serious Christians can watch TV today. Can a spiritual person have an appetite for this? God says, "**Love not the world neither the things that are in the world...**"

NEW EVANGELICAL EVANGELISTIC COUNT.

According to *Baptist Press*, the Los Angeles (Hollywood) area has the greatest number of evangelical adults. A Barna poll reported that the city has more than one million faithful Christians out of a total population of ten million. It said that L.A. (the home of Hollywood) has more evangelical Christians than New York City, Chicago and Boston put together. The last statement is not hard to believe, but what I find unbelievable is that ten percent of any major city in the U.S. (or elsewhere for that matter) are "born again" Bible believers. I don't know the criterion for their numbers, but often people are just asked if they considered themselves "born again." That used to mean something (fifty years ago) but now many Roman Catholics and others consider themselves "born again." I think it would be wonderful if 10% of the Boston area were truly saved. Probably many of the new evangelicals think they are.

SUNRISE SERVICE.

April 16th – 6:30 am.

“HE IS RISEN!”

SPECIAL MUSIC

FREE BREAKFAST

A great way to remember
the resurrection of our
Lord! Bring the family!

Full course breakfast afterward (free).

Sunday School - 9:30 & Church - 10:45.



NEW BOOK BY PASTOR STARR.

“*The Revelation of Jesus Christ*” is a guide to help understand the Book of Revelation. It is not a verse by verse commentary. It gives some keys and guidelines so that you can understand it for yourself. \$2.00 plus \$1.00 postage. 3 for \$6.00 postpaid.

WE DO APPRECIATE YOUR LETTERS

From Arkansas: Please keep sending the Cornerstone Challenge. We greatly appreciate your stand for the “Old Time Religion.” Keep the extra for your work.

From Ohio: Thank you for sending the Cornerstone Challenge... How great it is to find someone with the same Bible values. It seems “our breed” is dying out, but God is still in control. (a retired Pastor).

From North Carolina: (family who lived here a while then moved to NC). We miss you! We are behind in our finances but here is our gift for the support of the Church magazine. We appreciate your good stand for the truth about the Word of God. We’ll keep you in our prayers.

From Iowa: Sending funds to cover three subscriptions. Keep the amount left over. I love this paper!

From Illinois: Your September issue of your newsletter is excellent and certainly apropos to the times. Keep up the good work and God will bless the seeds you have planted. (Edgar Bundy Ministries).

From North Carolina: I enjoy reading your newsletter. Please keep sending them my way. I find myself in agreement with what you write...Keep up your preaching and stand for Christ. God bless you and your Church.

From Florida: We love your paper. Please change our address...

STAND UP FOR CHRIST! Shortly after the noted infidel (atheist) Robert Ingersoll was defeated in his race for Gov. of Illinois, he was proclaiming his atheism on a train. Being very loud and arrogant, he turned to a man and said, “Tell me one great result that Christianity ever accomplished.” The man hesitated, not wanting to enter into an argument. The train stopped at a station and all was quiet. Just then, a little old lady who sat right behind Mr. Ingersoll, touched his arm and said, “Sir, I do not know who you are, but I think I can tell you one great thing Christianity has done.” Ingersoll said, “What is that?” She replied, “It has kept Robert Ingersoll from being governor of the State of Illinois.” A streak of lightning would have not been more startling. Ingersoll turned pale with rage and remained silent.

NATION'S GREATEST MENACE - TV!

(The idol of millions of Americans)

T-hief of morals, thief of time,

E-vil bent and full of crime,

L-eading young and old astray,

E-ver from the narrow way.

V-ending venom like a snake'

I-nto minds, small and great;

S-atan's hissing loud and clear

I-nto poor, deluded ears.

O-nly Christ can set them free,

N-ever more its dupes to be. - *Stephen Houbolt*

MARTIN LUTHER SAID: “Don’t talk to me of love and friendship if the Word and faith are to be compromised... When doctrine and Christian fellowship are concerned, we do not want to have anything to do with those who teach error or to regard them as brethren. It is a devilish, deceptive, and fraudulent attack, whereby the Evil One desires to lead us away from the Word, when he demands that we should in something give way and suffer error for the sake of concord. If we would agree to this and accept that he would soon have a complete victory.”

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary.

Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape. (*Phil. 4:5: moderation = reasonableness*)

Conscience will not prevent you from doing wrong, but it surely will keep you from enjoying it.

A religion that won’t take you to church services won’t take you to Heaven.

People do not reject the Bible because they do not understand it; it is because they do understand it.

God is looking for people who are small enough to just do what He tells them.

A MAN SENT FROM GOD

A.W.Tozer said, "John's (John the Baptist) greatness was this – **'He was a man sent from God.'** **John 1:6**...You cannot deny that the life and vitality of the Christian Church lie in the spiritual leadership of men anointed of the Holy Ghost. I dare to tell you that there is a danger in too much democracy in the life of the Church... I do not believe that God expects the Church to thrive and mature and grow just on plain democratic principles." Of course, most Baptists think that the Church is a democracy, but that is because they never bothered to study the Scriptures. Search the New Testament epistles and see if you can find any congregational voting! Over and over again, God has called a man and used him to accomplish His work. God sent a man, Noah...Abraham...Moses...Peter...Paul, etc. God never sent a board or committee. Well, what about Elders and Deacons? Do you mean that it is wrong to have these or other committees in the Church? No, but it is pretty difficult to get much accomplished with a group of individuals, especially if each has his own idea about what ought to be done. Few realize that Elders, Deacons and other committees have been called to help the man God has called! Sometimes the problem on these boards is some are not content to follow...they think they must lead. In the local Church, God has called a man, a Pastor, and He gives others to help that man get the job done. He's God's man who leads the way! He is not simply a dictator, but he is God's appointed man to lead the sheep! Sheep need a shepherd, not a committee. Three times in Hebrews 13 it says in effect: **"Obey them that have the rule over you."** Let's do it God's way and have God's blessing!

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HELL, HADES, OR GRAVE?

In Luke 16, Jesus us showed us what happens to those who leave this world without Christ. Very few believe in a literal hell today but notice what Jesus said. First of all, he was in a **"place."** Hell is not a state of mind. Then, he was in **"torments"** (v.23), he was **"tormented"** (v.24,25,28), he was in a **"flame"** (v.24). People who don't want to believe God, love to play games with words. To take the harshness out of hell, some replace it with the Greek word "hades" (most modern bible versions: NASV, NIV, in the margin, etc.) Let's read it that way: **"And being in hades he lifted up his eyes being in torments..."** Change the name, but he is still tormented in the flame! Others say the word hell should be translated "grave." That's not true, but let's read it that way: **"And being in the grave he lifted up his eyes being in torments..."** You still have torment! (Besides the fact that nobody lifts up his eyes in the grave). The flame is still there! The truth is, when a person leaves this world without being born again by the Spirit of God, he goes to hell; a place where people are tormented in the flame. Any other interpretation is denying the very words of the Son of God. Now, we do not preach that the unconverted spend eternity **"tormented in this flame"** because we get some fiendish delight out of it. Not at all! We preach it because it is the plain teaching of the Word of God. We preach it because **"Knowing the terror of the Lord we persuade men."** The wonderful truth is, **"God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."** You don't have to spend eternity in hell! You do have to repent and **"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."**