

THE FLAMING SWORD

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH – JUDE 3

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All scripture references are
taken from the King James
Bible.

CONTACT US

We would like to hear from you.
Please contact us by any of the
following means:

ADDRESS:

European-American
Evangelistic Crusades (EAEC)
P.O. Box 166
Sheridan, CA 95681

TELEPHONE:

(888) 708-3232
(916) 944-3724

WEB SITE:

www.eaec.org

EMAIL:

info@eaec.org

RESURRECTION LIFE OF JESUS CHURCH

8341 Fair Oaks Blvd,
Suite B
Carmichael, CA 95608
(916) 944-3724

Service: Sunday 10:30 AM

John S. Torell, Sr. Pastor
Charles Thorell, Pastor

We are a Bible centered group
of believers desiring to grow in
the full knowledge of Jesus
Christ without compromise to
His Word.

"Some want to live within the
sound of church or chapel bell; I
want to run a rescue shop within
a yard of hell. God has called
me to go, and I will go. I will
blaze the trail though my grave
may only become a stepping
stone that younger men may
follow."

~ C.T. Studd

THE CORNER

Dear readers,

It is so easy to be preoccupied with life and all the things going on that there are times when I am driving that I just like to sit quietly in the car as I travel down the road. On one such occasion, I found myself thinking about what Jesus has done in my life. The Holy Spirit brought to remembrance the story of the leper who came to Jesus for a healing. This man had been shunned by society and lived as an untouchable outcast. Since there was no cure for leprosy, he had no hope; it was just a matter of time as the leprosy slowly killed him. I'm sure he had heard of all the various miracles Jesus had performed and maybe, just maybe this Jesus could heal him too. On the day he finally met Jesus, he knelt down in front of Him and said, "If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean." (Mark 1:40) Jesus looked upon this leper with compassion not revulsion and then did something unheard of in that day; He reached out His hand and touched this man with scarred and oozing skin and said, "I will; be thou clean." (1:41)

I found those words particularly comforting that day as I meditated on them. Just a few simple words, "If You will..." This leprous man was filled with despair but still had enough faith to go to Jesus. More importantly, Jesus didn't turn him away. That is what stood out to me that day as I was driving, if we come to Jesus, He won't turn us away. Jesus can make us clean from anything and everything, and more importantly, He is willing to do that. That was His purpose for coming here on earth, to save us, He was willing. Jesus did the hard part by coming to the earth and dying on the cross, now just like with the leper, He stands waiting for us. When we come to Him with our needs, we can be assured that we will receive the same answer. (Hebrews 13:8)

But the story doesn't end there. After the leper was healed and later presented himself to a priest to prove that he was clean and no longer leprous, he went about proclaiming what Jesus had done for him. In much the same way, every Sunday morning during the service at Resurrection Life of Jesus Church, we always set aside time for those who wish to share what God has been doing in their life. It's really an opportunity to brag about Jesus! This is precisely what this man did, he went around bragging, he couldn't help himself! I would like to note that the former leper didn't just testify in the synagogue, he went all over town telling everybody about Jesus. After all, leprosy in those days was incurable, at least to man, but with God all things are possible. (Luke 1:37) This man was filled with joy and excitement and he wanted to share it with everyone that could hear the sound of his voice. He had been through a life changing experience!

This leads me to ponder how much more we can do for Jesus in our every day lives. It is estimated that 150,000 people around the world die every day. I wonder how many of them heard about Jesus? I'm not so much concerned if they rejected Him or not, but how many of them actually got to hear the good news of the Gospel that "if you will" come to Jesus, He will save you! I think we as Christians would be dismayed if we knew the number. Life here on earth is very short when compared to eternity. How are you investing your time?

May God richly bless you today,

Charles Thorell

Charles Thorell

Limited Atonement

By John S. Torell

"Limited atonement" is a term that is used in Calvinistic doctrine that has caused a lot of problems for the last 400 years. In this brief article, I am only pointing out the main teaching in this doctrine. Should the reader want to educate himself further, there is ample information from books and the internet.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Reformation against the Roman Catholic Church began in 1517 when Martin Luther, a German Roman Catholic priest posted his 95 theses on the door of his church building. John Calvin was an eight year old French boy in 1517, who would later develop the Protestant theology. He left the Roman Catholic Church as a young man, became born again and joined the Protestant movement. He moved from France to Geneva, Switzerland, due to persecution where he became a theologian and a minister. He became the founder of the French Protestant Church in France in 1550, which was called "The Reformed Church."

French Protestants were called "Huguenots" and their persecution was so severe that the French Reformed Church was never able to get established due to hundreds of thousands of its members being murdered. Survivors were able to flee to the British colonies in America, South Africa and other nations. Due to persecution of born again Christians in England, many British Christians ended up in Geneva and were influenced by the theology that Calvin had developed. As a result, Calvinism was transplanted to Scotland by John Knox (Presbyterian Church) and by the Puritans to England who eventually ended up in the American colonies. Hyper-Calvinism was developed by "Particular Baptists" in England during the 1700s, which in time also spread to the United States.

THE DOCTRINE OF LIMITED ATONEMENT

The question was raised in the mind of John Calvin: Did Jesus die for the entire human race or only for those who would accept him as Lord and Saviour? I do not believe that it was the Holy Spirit that planted this question in his mind; rather, this was from the Devil, since it brought in confusion and threw many people into torment. As Calvin developed the doctrine of limited atonement, he believed that Jesus only died for the elect, those who were predestined to be born again. Was Calvin right or wrong? Let's find out what the Bible says on this matter.

WHAT DID JESUS TEACH?

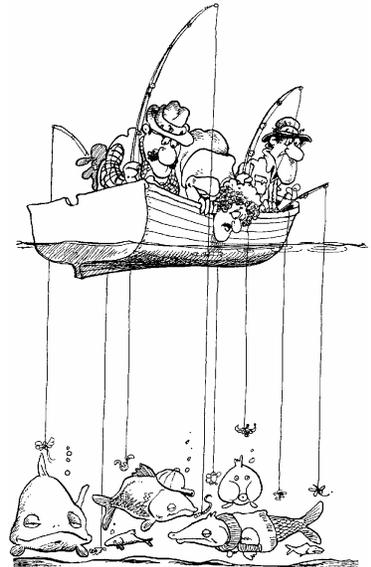
Jesus never brought up the subject of election concerning individual people. When Jesus sent out the apostles to preach and to heal (Luke 9:1-2), He never told them to check out if the people were chosen of God for salvation. It was a blanket order to go and preach to whosoever they would find along the way. The same was true for the 70 others, they were sent out on a similar mission. Jesus did not tell them to check and see if the

people in question were elect or not and then minister to the ones who qualified. (Luke 10:1-3) In what is known as the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20), Jesus told His disciples to teach *all nations*. There was no mention on His part concerning a selective salvation for certain individuals; rather, it was a general call to all humans.

Jesus did not complicate the process of preaching the Gospel. He had one simple command: go out to the people and preach repentance.

In the Gospel of Mark chapter 16, a portion of scripture that both fundamental and liberal Christians claim is not part of the Bible, Jesus clearly tells His disciples to go into the whole world and **preach the Gospel to every creature.** (Mark 16:15-20) In those contested verses, Jesus makes the following statement: "He that believes and is baptized shall be saved." It is important to note that there is no discussion about being elect first. In the Gospel of John, Jesus tells the crowd that **"if any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink..."** (John 7:37-39) Again we can see that Jesus did not tell the crowd that those who were the elect could come unto Him. We are told in chapter three of the Gospel of John that God so loved the world...that **whosoever believes in Jesus will never perish.** (John 3:16)

Jesus never taught how a human being could know who is God's elect and eligible for salvation. Preaching the Gospel is like fishing, you don't know what is down in the water, you simply aim for any fish that is willing to bite your bait and be hooked. This is why Jesus told Peter and Andrew that He would make them "fishers of men." (Matthew 4:18-19)



SUMMARY

Jesus did not complicate the process of preaching the Gospel. He had one simple command: go out to the people and preach repentance. The Devil did not like that message so he made it more complicated to bring men into bondage. No man, regardless how Calvinistic he is, has the gift to tell if a person has been elected to be saved or not. To have a doctrinal debate on this subject is a waste of time and breath.

WHAT HAS GOD SAID ON THIS SUBJECT?

When God called Abraham, He told Abraham that he would be a blessing to all families on the earth. (Genesis 12:3)

Years later God confirmed to Abraham that he would be a blessing to all nations in the world. (Genesis 22:16-18)

The prophet Isaiah spoke on behalf of the Lord to all people in darkness, not just an elect group. (Isaiah 9:1-7)

God spoke through Isaiah to the people of Israel, that everyone who is thirsty may come. (Isaiah 55:1-9)

When God sent Jonah to the city of Nineveh, He didn't tell Jonah to do an investigation first to see who was elected for salvation, and then only preach to these people; instead, he was told to go to the city and preach judgment if the people were not repentant. (Jonah 1:1-2; 3:1-10)

WHAT DID THE APOSTLES TEACH?

When Peter preached his first sermon after the day of Pentecost, he told the whole crowd to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus. (Acts 2:37-41) Peter did not tell them to fill out an application so that the apostles could get back to them after they had been checked out that they were worthy of being led in the sinner's prayer. Instead, the apostle Peter brought out that God is not a respecter of persons. (Acts 10:34)

This is also later confirmed by the apostle Paul. (Romans 2:11) He makes it crystal clear that Jesus died for all men, not for just some elect. (Romans 5:17-19) In his letter to Timothy, Paul again confirms that it is the will of God that all men will be saved. (1 Timothy 2:1-4) It is in chapters nine and ten of Hebrews that Paul once and for all establishes what the atonement is, who it is for, and what it will do to cleanse a sinner from sins and bring them into the kingdom of God.

It was Jesus who finalized the truth of the Gospel when He told the apostle John that if any man heard His voice and opened the door, He would come in and sup with him. (Revelation 3:20-22)

THE DEVIL HATES EVANGELIZATION

The Devil does not want you to be saved; it is his will that you will perish and end up in the Lake of Fire. If you get saved despite his resistance, he will put doubt in your mind whether or not you are saved. After John Calvin developed his doctrine on limited atonement, it caused havoc in the Church for the last 400 years. There have been many debates by so-called "learned scholars" whether the church should evangelize and send out missionaries. Since Hyper Calvinists believe God has in advance selected who will be saved, it is futile for man to witness or establish missions. According to them, the church should concentrate on helping the saints to grow and leave the conversion outside to God.

You don't need to be a Hebrew and Greek scholar to get an understanding on this subject; the Bible has clearly addressed this topic in a language you speak and read. Jesus made it simple by telling us to go out to every nation and preach the good news that Jesus saves!

Do not complicate the Bible. Just read it and simply do what God and Jesus has told us to do. Stop trying to split hairs. Do not try to discuss issues which we have no knowledge about and are unable as humans to understand.

If you want to analyze and debate the issue of limited atonement and be tormented whether or not you are one of God's elect, go ahead, but I will not join you because I am going to rest secure in the bosom of Jesus and lead as many people to Christ as I can!

"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people. Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee. Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." (Isaiah 55:1-13)

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

When God sent Jonah to the city of Nineveh, He didn't tell Jonah to do an investigation first to see who was elected for salvation...

Rethinking Robert Schuller

By Warren Smith

As a former New Age follower, I could hardly believe it. On Oct. 17, 2004, more than 20 years after his first appearance on the "Hour of Power," New Age leader Gerald Jampolsky was once again Robert Schuller's featured guest. I was not surprised on one level because I had always been aware of Schuller's affection for New Age teachings. What did surprise me was Schuller's willingness still to be so openly aligned with a veteran New Age leader like Jampolsky.

I was very familiar with Gerald Jampolsky. When I was exploring New Age teachings, he was the first one to introduce me to the New Age Christ and to the New Age/New Gospel teachings of "A Course in Miracles." Widely reputed in New Age circles to be the closest thing to a New Age bible, "A Course in Miracles" taught me that "there is no sin," "a slain Christ has no meaning" and "the recognition of God is the recognition of yourself."

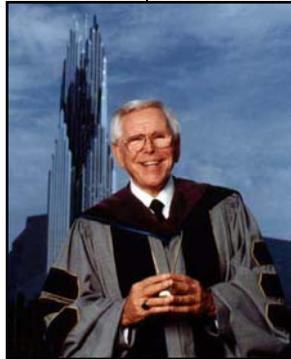
On this "Hour of Power" program, Schuller praised Jampolsky and recommended all of his "fabulous" books¹ – in spite of the fact that every one of them was based on the New Age teachings of "A Course in Miracles." He also stated that Jampolsky's latest book, "Forgiveness," was available in the Crystal Cathedral bookstore. Amazingly, Schuller had begun the year as a featured speaker at the annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals. He was now closing the year by featuring a prominent New Age leader as his special guest. As usual, no one in Christian leadership was holding him accountable, or even seemed to care. Over the years, Robert Schuller had obviously done a good job of softening up the church.

Schuller's latest move is to hold a "Rethink Conference" at his Crystal Cathedral. With an unusual mix of Christian and non-Christian speakers, the conference will take place Jan. 17-19, 2008. He is co-hosting the conference with Emerging Church movement leader Erwin McManus. Schuller's "rethink" website states the purpose of the conference: "Our aim is to bring together a cross-section of the key leaders in today's culture so we can grapple with what's truly happening in our world."²

Among the 30 speakers lending their names and varying degrees of credibility to Robert Schuller's conference are Lee Strobel, Dan Kimball, Charles Colson, George Barna, Rupert Murdoch, George Herbert Walker Bush, Larry King and Rick Warren's wife, Kay Warren. While Rick Warren has tried desperately to deny his spiritual ties to Schuller, his wife's presence at the conference speaks volumes.

Conference speaker Lee Strobel's recent book, "The Real Jesus: A Journalist Investigates Current Attacks on the Identity of Christ," purports to expose today's deceptive false Christs,

yet an in-depth discussion of the false New Age Christ is completely missing from his book. Meanwhile, apologist Strobel, a former Saddleback pastor, makes no apologies for aligning himself with New Age sympathizer Robert Schuller.



The Emerging Church also refuses to take the New Age seriously. Not surprisingly, two of its top leaders – Erwin McManus and Dan Kimball – agreed to participate in this Schuller "Rethink Conference." The word "rethink" can be found throughout Kimball's book "The Emerging Church," which was forwarded by Rick Warren and Brian McLaren. The



Lee Strobel

word "rethink" can also be found throughout the books of other Emergent leaders, including McLaren. So what is this "Rethink Conference" really about? What do Schuller and "the forces that be" hope to accomplish?

In defining the word "rethink" Webster's states: "to think over again, with a view to changing." From my perspective as a former New Age follower, I believe that Robert Schuller's mission has always been to "rethink" and "change" biblical Christianity into something "new" – as in New Age/New Spirituality. There is a reason that New Age leader Neale Donald Walsch and his New Age "God" refer to Robert Schuller as an "extraordinary minister." There is a reason Gerald Jampolsky and so many other New Age leaders go out of their way to praise Schuller. They know that Robert Schuller has always been open to spiritual compromise.

In fact, in his latest book, "Don't Throw Away Tomorrow: Living God's Dream for Your Life," Schuller eagerly writes about the virtue of compromise. In this book, that bears New Age leader Gerald Jampolsky's endorsement on the back cover, Schuller states, "We need to learn the healing quality of wise compromise." He further states, "Perhaps the only way to deal with contradictions is to combine them creatively and produce something new. That's ingenious compromise." Whether Schuller knows it or not, he just presented the recipe for a New World Religion.

In "Don't Throw Away Tomorrow: Living God's Dream for Your Life," Schuller uses the term "God's Dream" in the subtitle and within the book. He used the term "God's Dream" heavily in his 1982 book "Self-Esteem: The New Reformation." Saddleback pastor Rick Warren used the Schuller term "God's Dream" to introduce his widely publicized global "P.E.A.C.E. Plan." He described his peace plan as "God's Dream for you – and the world." Brian McLaren, Bruce Wilkinson, Joel Osteen, Erwin McManus and a host of other Christian leaders also use the Schuller term "God's Dream." Why?



Gerald Jampolsky

Although “God’s Dream” is a Schulleresque term with no biblical foundation, it has become part of the vocabulary of the church’s new emerging purpose-driven mindset. It is interesting that Warren uses the Schuller term “God’s Dream” to describe his peace plan. Is “God’s Dream” suddenly becoming the metaphor for world peace? Will we be asked to “rethink” and “compromise” our faith for the good of the world? Will we be asked to “rethink” and “compromise” our faith to attain the world peace that is “God’s Dream”? Is this Schuller-inspired conference designed to initiate this kind of “rethink” and “compromise” process? So what are we expected to “rethink”? What must we ultimately “compromise”? The answer lies within the New Age itself.

The New Age *also* has a “peace plan” and its adherents are *also* calling for conferences like these. They insist that world peace will only occur when Christians abandon their “exclusive” and “divisive” relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Neale Donald Walsch, speaking for his New Age “God,” unequivocally states that “the era of the Single Savior is over.” Yet at the same time, Walsch’s “God” suggests that Robert Schuller could be instrumental in providing a bridge from the church to the peace and oneness of a New Spirituality. Is this New Spirituality where Robert Schuller and these kinds of conferences are ultimately headed? Time will tell. It is important to note that Walsch is not some obscure New Age leader. He is a best-selling author and highly regarded by his New Age peers. Just ask Gerald Jampolsky. It was Walsch who wrote the introduction to “Forgiveness” – the book that was so highly recommended by Schuller on that 2004 “Hour of Power” program with Jampolsky.

In Revelation 2:2, Jesus Christ commends the church of Ephesus for exposing false teachers and driving them out of the church. Men like Robert Schuller wouldn’t have lasted five minutes in Ephesus. And neither would those who continue to stand alongside Schuller giving him undeserved influence and credibility. The church does not need to “rethink” and “compromise” its God-given biblical doctrines to accommodate the world. It needs to rethink its willingness to follow worldly leaders like Robert Schuller.

Endnotes:

1. http://www.hourofpower.org/interviews/interviews_detail.cfm?ArticleID=3079
2. <http://www.rethinkconference.com>

Warren Smith is a former New Age follower who at one time was deeply involved in the New Age teachings of *A Course in Miracles*.

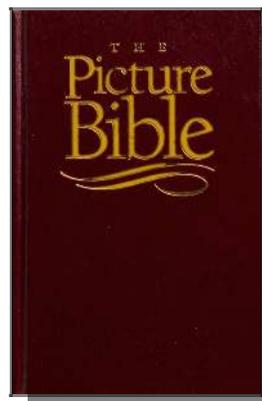
He is the author of *The Light That Was Dark: From the New Age to Amazing Grace* and *Deceived on Purpose: The New Age Implications of the Purpose-Driven Church*.

His book *Reinventing Jesus Christ: The New Gospel* is out of print but available online at www.reinventingjesuschrist.com

THE PICTURE BIBLE

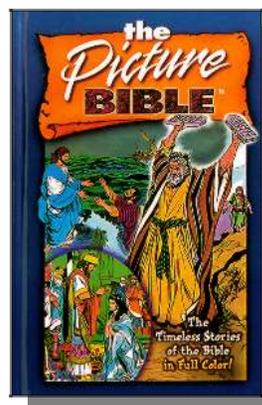
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See page 8 for ordering details.



**THE PICTURE BIBLE
(Hardcover)**
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See our website for a preview.
www.eaec.org/bookstore/children_bibles.htm

My parents gave me this Bible when I was a child. I can’t tell you how many countless hours I spent looking at the pictures before I could even read. The artwork is very good. Once I learned to read, the Bible became alive as I read the text and understood the events portrayed. I am who I am today because I have applied God’s Word in my life. This Bible was the beginning of that foundation.

~ Charles Thorell

Are American Elections Rigged?

By John S. Torell

I want to take the opportunity and share with you what I think about the upcoming presidential election while the primaries are now in full swing.

THE CANDIDATES

Picture a corporation which owns a stable of racing horses. The corporation owns many of the horses participating in an upcoming race, but it is not telling the public about it. Instead each horse and jockey is managed by a team, who claim to be independent and free from control. All of the horses are entered in different races around the country, each with its own publicity and the people who are gamblers are able to read about each horse, its rider, and all other information that would interest the person who is into betting on horse races.

Regardless which horse wins a race, the corporation will always win, since it has ownership of each horse. The gambling public is kept in the dark, and believes that the horse they have selected to put their money on is a free agent and not controlled by anyone, except the jockey riding it. And so it is in politics. There is a "corporation" which owns all of the candidates and so it doesn't matter who wins the political race, the corporation always wins.

THE CORPORATION

For many years I have told you that there is a world government, which has a 13 member council, of which one is the president. This group is all Jewish and based upon the twelve tribes of Israel and eventually the 13th member will become their messiah. The Bible describes this man as "the Beast" (the antichrist).

There are many different layers of sub departments under this top group, and some of the most powerful departments are the *World Jewish Congress*, *The World Zionist Federation*, *B'nai B'rith*, the *American Jewish Committee*, the *American Jewish Congress*, the *Jewish Federation*, the *American Civil Liberties Union* (ACLU), the *Anti-Defamation League* (ADL), and the *American Israel Public Affairs Committee* (AIPAC).

In order to control and lead the Evangelical/Pentecostal Christians in the United States, Pastor John Hagee from San Antonio, Texas was given the green light and the finances to start a department for Christians in the United States. This organization was formed in February, 2006 and named *Christians United for Israel* (CUFI).

THE PARTIES

For the last 200 years the Corporation has been able to only allow two major political parties in the United States, the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. Governor George Wallace tried to run for president on the American Independent Party and so did Ross Perot, but every attempt to successfully form a third party in the United States has failed.

Despite the bickering between these two parties, they both agree that the political state of Israel must be defended at any cost, with no discussion, when the foreign aid bill for billions of dollars is voted for Israel year after year. Weapon systems are always "sold" subsidized by the American government to Israel, and there is never a question that Israel will have the best military hardware developed in the United States. Weapon sales to Arab nations are always resisted and are for most part blocked in Congress. Whatever the Corporation wants, is always given in the name of bi-partisan policies.

Many of the top leaders in the parties are American Jews, and regardless if the president is a Democrat or a Republican, a large number of the cabinet posts and staffing at the White House are always held by American Jews. Some of them have been foreign born, like Henry Kissinger.

THE MEDIA

The media outlets in the United States are also divided up into two sections of liberal and conservative. What most Americans do not know is that all media outlets (television, radio, newspaper, magazine, publishing houses and the movie industry) is either owned by Jews or operated by Jewish men and women. The media will make or break a candidate; this includes sports stars, movie stars, etc.

Most of Americans born after World War II are raised watching television, and by the time they reach the age of 20, they have watched some 16,000 hours of programming. They have been trained since they were toddlers that they need to watch the television or read a newspaper to find the truth. Sales of independent books or newspapers are very difficult since the distribution chain is also controlled by the Corporation.

THE IRAQ WAR

When Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and all the other Democratic candidates began their primary campaigns, they all had one thing in common: opposing the war in Iraq and bringing the troops home immediately. It was on the anti-war platform that the Democratic Party took control of both houses in 2006. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi built her entire campaign on this issue.

What happened next? Suddenly, the Democratic leadership began to tone down its rhetoric and now the candidates are not saying much about the war in Iraq. Why? The Corporation was the power behind the attack and deposing of Saddam Hussein after the 9/11 attack and it is the vital interest of the state of Israel that American troops remain in Iraq in order for Israel to have less pressure on its borders. It really doesn't matter who becomes the next President of the United States, the policy for Iraq will still be the same.

WHAT QUALIFIES A PERSON TO RUN FOR THE PRESIDENCY?

In order to qualify to run for president of the United States, the candidate must be approved in advance by the Corporation. A man or woman cannot suddenly become "Israel friendly," they must have a proven track record. A candidate must also have been active in the party for which they run, and that means that for many years they have nourished political friendships and collected IOU's (I owe you). A candidate must have access to millions of dollars, since it will cost more than 100 million dollars to run for president. That means that a candidate must have sponsors, who will expect favors if their candidate is elected.

In order for the American people to be fooled, the Corporation will field a number of candidates from each party, and each candidate is supposed to put on a good "floor show" in order to make the six o'clock news. Juicy gossip and dirty ads will lead the public to believe that there is a real "race" going on here. Just like those fake wrestling matches are rigged, so is every election in the United States.

The Corporation doesn't mind if a candidate is morally corrupt, been divorced a number of times, or if they are atheists or Christians; all that matters is that they are willing to take orders from the Corporation and implement its plans. After that is done, the candidates have all the freedom to champion their own causes, as long as they are not in conflict with the policies of the Corporation. All the major candidates this year have the approval of the Corporation except Congressman Ron Paul. With his grass root successes, the Corporation is using the media to slander and ignore Paul so that the masses of Americans will reject him.



Ron Paul

Abortion and homosexuality are of no interest to the Corporation in this election so each candidate has the freedom to do what they want in these areas.

WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF VOTING?

When it comes to foreign policy, the American voter has no say on the matter whatsoever. I have stated many times in the past that America in itself does not have a foreign policy; because of the Corporation, its policy is molded to the needs of Israel. Any American politician willing to stand up and publicly demand that America's interest, not Israel's, should come first will be vilified by the media and driven out of office or murdered.

The American people lost their homeland many years ago and the last free president was Abraham Lincoln; we all know what happened to him. John F. Kennedy tried to break loose from the Corporation and was also eliminated. Lincoln had greenback's backed by gold and Kennedy had his silver certificates. Both men had this in common; they tried to issue money free from the control of international Jewish bankers and they paid for it with their lives.

As Christians and American citizens, we now have a field of candidates which have been placed in front of us. In the presidential election this fall, you and I will have to vote for devil

#1 or devil #2. The only hope we have is to vote for the lesser evil and pray that God will supernaturally intervene and roll back the evil in our nation; this includes abortion, pornography and homosexuality.

IS THERE A LONG TERM SOLUTION

The Bible tells us that there will be an antichrist, a one world government and a one world religion in the future. We don't know the timing but for every person you and I are able to lead to Christ, it means one less soldier for the Devil and one more soldier for Christ. If we can lead millions of Americans to Christ, they in turn will have an impact on their workplaces, public schools and the morals of this nation. Prayer, fasting and soul winning is our only hope to a better nation, if God permits and doesn't turn the American people over to a reprobate mind.

Did I vote in the primaries this year? Yes, because I was concerned about having a Mormon president and wanted to make sure this would not happen. Will I vote this fall? Yes. What will be my choice? Vote for the lesser evil.

CONCLUSION

I realize that this article is a strong political analysis of the political system in the United States and one that most pastors will not address for two reasons: they have no idea what's going on behind the scenes or they fear the Corporation. Regardless, I feel that it is important that we as Christians should be informed so that we can focus our prayers in the right direction. Please see the article below to see how influential the Corporation truly is and the power it wields.

Gandhi grandson quits post over comments on Israel 1/26/2008

Arun Gandhi, the fifth grandson of the revered pacifist Mahatma Gandhi just resigned from a peace institute he co-founded with his wife. He drew condemnation for saying in an online forum that Israel and Jews "are the biggest layers" in a global culture of violence. He also wrote that Jewish identity "has been locked into the Holocaust experience – a German burden that the Jews have not been able to shed."

"It is a very good example of (how) a community can overplay a historic experience to the point that begins to repulse friends. The Holocaust was the result of an individual who was able to influence his followers into doing something dreadful... The world did feel sorry for the episode, but when an individual or nation refuses to forgive and move on, the regret turns into anger."

Gandhi was later made to apologize for his "poorly worded post." Abraham Foxman, director of the Anti-Defamation League, called it "shameful that a peace institute would be headed up by a bigot. One would hope that the grandson of such an illustrious human being would be more sensitive to Jewish history."

Raised from the Dead

Rick Madison was born in 1961 in Jasper, AL. At 6 months of age, He fell off a sofa and went into a coma for 6 days. Prayer warriors in his family began to pray and intercede for him. When Rick was five years old, he was shot at several times by a great uncle who had lost his mind. His grandmother was shot four times and Jesus raised her from her death bed a week later. Jesus kept him safe as he hid in the house. When he was eight years old, Rick was almost killed in a laundromat where he was playing hide and seek with a friend. He had climbed into a large dryer to hide when a group of thugs walked in and saw him in the dryer. They braced the door shut and began searching for the proper change. One of the girls with them fought for him and begged the others not to start the machine. As they all left in a hurry, the girl ran back in and opened the door for him.



After many accidents and near death experiences, Rick gave his life to Jesus at 10 years of age. He graduated from high school in 1980 and was later introduced to various drugs and alcohol. He stopped worshipping God and followed the world. However, God was still drawing Rick back by His Spirit. At age 23, he had a very successful air-conditioning and heating business but he did not have joy and peace. Even though he was making a lot of money, he wasted it in the night clubs and party scene.

On April 13, 1986, Rick was involved in a horrible head-on collision. He was rushed to the hospital but was pronounced dead-on-arrival. He received numerous broken bones such as a broken neck, ribs, jaw, hip, and a crushed foot. He also had a torn aortic artery, a ruptured spleen and a punctured lung. He remained in a coma for 27 days and the doctors advised his family three times to make funeral arrangements. However, there were prayer warriors in his family who believed Jesus could raise him up. God revealed Himself to Richard through an out-of-body experience so that he sat up out of a coma and walked out of a wheelchair ten weeks later. He was completely delivered from drugs, alcohol, and tobacco and filled with the Holy Ghost. Rick is a walking miracle testimony to thousands of people throughout the world that God's love can powerfully restore even the most hopeless lives.

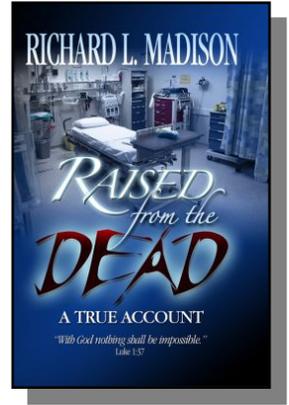
As you read this true story, you will discover how you can:

- Hear directly from God
- Know God's will and purpose for your life
- Defeat Satan's power over you
- Operate in the gifts of the Spirit
- Prosper as God watches over your finances
- Receive physical healing
- Minister healing to others

Richard Madison is now a full-time evangelist who travels the world to tell the remarkable story of how God raised him from his deathbed and completely delivered him from drugs and alcohol. Many miracles have occurred in his meetings and in other people's homes. As a result, he has prayed for 16 people in comas and 14 have awakened! Six of those had

been brain dead. Rick has found it to be true that when God delivers you from something, He often births that same kind of ministry in you.

We are offering this thrilling account of God's grace and power and a CD of Rick's testimony so you can hear for yourself the words of a man who truly knows there is nothing that is impossible for God!



RAISED FROM THE DEAD
Richard L. Madison - \$15
 Testimony CD included

**"For with God nothing shall be impossible."
 (Luke 1:37)**

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LETTERS

Dear John and Aina Torell,

I greet you in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. Thank you very much for your prayer; Spiritual papers; magazine, etc. you have been sending to me! Let God bless you, your family, your country, for all you have been doing for me and for whom I have been asking you to pray for. – Yours in Christ Jesus, Tezera



Perhaps you are not aware of Noah Hutchings teachings. Hutchings is a hyper-dispensational, dual covenant teacher. He pushes the Scofield's interpretation of the Bible. There are now dozens of good essays on the internet warning about the Purpose Driven, church growth movement (CGM) craze, and they are free. – In Christ, Greg

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We were aware of Noah Hutchings is a hyper-dispensational, dual covenant teacher that pushes Cyrus Scofield's interpretation of the Bible. However, we are choosing to carry his book since it does not promote these viewpoints and only deals with the heresies of *The Purpose Driven Life* and its affect on Southern Baptist churches.

Dear Pastor John and Aina,

I read with great interest and enthusiasm your newsletter in which you wrote about how God is leading you to outfit your ministry to provide live online church services. I would like to contribute \$300 US towards this project. I do not celebrate Christmas; I have come to truly loathe it as a Christian, and determined this year that I would donate any money I might receive as a gift to the Lord's work. I received \$300 and felt it should come to you. I pray that God will mightily bless you in this endeavor. Your recent series on The Southern Baptist Convention was very good, and certainly sobering. Thank you again for your website ministry. – In Christ, April

Please be blessed any way you see fit to use this. I am just very grateful that God opened the door for me to do this. Your CD's & newsletter's have opened my way of thinking. The truth does truly set us free. Thank you so much for your ministry. – Your sis in the Lord, Debra

Praise the Lord . I am Pastor from Kenya , i really thank for his protection ,because people have been killed but me God have protected we have had the problem for election , the church is doing well . i would like to continue be in touch with you, please pray for kenya and the church that im leading , thanks for your mail. Bye and God bless you reachly. pls Greet your Family and the Church.

Dear Pastor John & church family,

Greeting in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. May the Spirit of God guide and direct you as you serve Him in Spirit and Truth. – Tom & Kathie

Shalom, man of God!

I was surprised to read your mail since I did not know you. But the information you communicated sent a chill in my body. Indeed, I had been offered the book purpose driven life at a conference in South Africa and it was a thrill. The other side of the coin makes me afraid now. I live in Togo in West Africa and I can tell you the French translation of the book is been appraised here! What can we do to abort this wicked plot? I must confess that new age is quiet not known here and all kinds of junk theology and teachings are going out unchecked. I will do my best to warn those close to me about this book but in all we must denounce new age here. Can you help? May 2008 be full of god-ordained surprises to you all. – Thankfully, Japhet

Dear Pastor John,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I am a regular reader of the newsletter and *The Dove* magazine. I can say that God has blessed me and has opened my spiritual eyes to see God's truth.

Since 2004 I didn't received *The Dove* magazine. I know that you need financial support. Unfortunately our currency "Birr" doesn't work in the USA. So my only support is prayer. I will continue to support in my prayer. I need your prayer. As a pastor I am living in different pressure.

As you know, Africa is the battle ground of evil. All evils from western countries harbored in different modern medias such as DVD and VCD. Our youngsters copied all things from Hollywood. Abortion and sex are rampant even in churches.

Unless God the Holy Spirit helps me I can't do anything by myself. So please pray for me with this in mind I want to continue the regular reader of *The Dove* and the newsletter. May God bless you. – Yours in Christ Jesus, Nigussie

Thank you for *The Flaming Sword*. I don't know about judging other Christians and running them down. We should leave it to God to correct the one he puts in the ministry. They have to give account to him how they live and what they teach. – Sincerely, A Sister in the Lord

Please see our response to this comment with the article, "What give you the right to judge people?" on page 10.

Question: *What gives you the right to “judge” people?*

Answer: *The Word of God.*

By Terry Watkins

One of the most **misunderstood** and **misapplied** verses in the Bible is Matthew 7:1, “Judge not, that ye be not judged.”

Webster’s Dictionary defines **judge** as 1. The presiding official in a court having power 1. To decide 2. To determine; (Webster’s Dictionary p.330)

While we as Christians are NOT definition ONE – 1. The presiding official in a court having power. That authority belongs only to God.

“So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.” Romans 14:12

But – we as Christians are commanded to “1. To decide 2. To determine” what is “right” and “wrong” according to the word of God.

If you do not “judge” – “right” from “wrong” – you are traveling a blazing “one-way” course to “perversion” and “degradation” that will eventually land you in a “lake of fire”! Revelation 21:8

A lot of Christians read Matthew 7:1 and say, “See, we’re not supposed to **judge between right and wrong.**” And any sense of declaring someone, especially other Christians, to be wrong, is “judging” that person.

There are some serious problems with this interpretation...

For instance, if you keep reading Matthew 7, you’ll soon read in verse 15:

“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravaging wolves.” Matthew 7:15

Notice these false prophets “come to you in sheep’s clothing”-- in other words they are “masquerading” as Christians! And yet, according to the Lord Jesus Christ – “they are ravaging wolves.” According to the Lord Jesus Christ – Beware: some “so-called” Christians – are “ravaging wolves”!

How can we tell the “sheep” from the “wolves” unless we “judge” or “determine”?

How can we do as our Lord commanded and “beware of false prophets” unless we “judge” them by the word of God?

If we do not “judge” or “decide” their error by the word of God, how do we even know they are in error?

Are we to not “judge” their “conversation”, and “testimony?” Because someone professes to be a Christian should we accept whatever they say and do as “right” and “pleasing to God?”

Who said the following?

“If we continue on this path, respectable, industrious and honest, if we fulfill our duty faithfully, it is my conviction, the Lord God will continually help us in the future. He will not leave respectable people in the lurch indefinitely. He may test them, but in the end He lets His sun shine upon them and gives them His blessing.”

Billy Graham? Jack Van Impee? Billy Sunday? Dwight Moody?

ADOLF HITLER!

Most people don’t know, but Hitler claimed to be a Christian. In fact, Hitler’s campaign was “Positive Christianity.” Because Hitler professed to be a Christian, should we just “ignore” the terrible acts he did? Should we read Matthew 7:1, “Judge not, that ye be not judged” and say “What gives you the right to judge Hitler?” Nonsense. We as Christians are to expose and “judge” ERROR by the word of God.

The Bible over and over COMMANDS us to “judge.”

“Judge not according to the appearance, but **judge** righteous judgment.” John 7:24

“But he that is spiritual **judgeth all things**, yet he himself is judged of no man.” 1 Corinthians 2:15

“I speak as to wise men; **judge** ye what I say.” 1 Corinthians 10:15

“For the time is come that **judgment** must begin at the house of God: . . .” 1 Peter 4:17

The Lord Jesus Christ commanded “judging”:

“Judge righteous judgment” (John 7:24)

“Why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?” Luke 12:57

The Lord Jesus Christ commended Simon in Luke 7:43 for “judging” and Jesus Christ said Simon was “right” for judging:

“And he said unto him, Thou hast RIGHTLY judged.”
Luke 7:43

To illustrate the complete “spiritual insanity” and “perversion” of the “judge not” philosophy, here's an incident with Michael Sweet formerly of the “Christian” rock group Stryper:

During one of Stryper's “Christian” concert tours, they hired the “secular” group White Lion as the opening act. During some of the concerts White Lion openly used filthy, vulgar profanity from the stage. At one concert White Lion even threw out filthy pornographic magazines into the “Christian” audience.

In an interview Michael Sweet was asked, how “did you guys deal with those things when it happened” - Sweet unbelievably replied:

“We felt that we couldn't judge any other group. If we told them hey, you can't do this you can't do that, we would be judging them.” www.michaelsweet.com/interview.html

Incredible!

Here's a “ton” of Christian young people that came to hear “Christian” rockers, Stryper — and White Lion is using filthy, vulgar language and throwing pornography into the young Christian audience and Stryper doesn't have enough conviction and backbone to even tell them to stop because — that would be judging them!

What a wicked, ungodly, filthy mess! Hey, try reading the Bible for a change!

“Them that sin REBUKE BEFORE ALL, that others also may fear.” 1 Timothy 5:20

“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, **but rather REPROVE them.**” Ephesians 5:11

You parents better beware when you send your Christian young people to that “Christian Rock” concert!

And people ask me — would you rather “Christian” young people go hear Stryper or Marilyn Manson — **well, there's not much difference!**

In 1 Corinthians 5, the Apostle Paul is addressing the church at Corinth, “It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you.” Paul did NOT write back and say remember Matthew 7:1, “Judge not, that ye be not judged”. No. Paul does not hesitate to “judge” this “brother in the Lord.”

“For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have **judged** already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed,” 1 Corinthians 5:3

And Paul goes so far as to deliver him unto Satan to kill him! And the man is a Christian (. . . that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus)!

“To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.” 1 Corinthians 5:5

Paul even “rebukes” the Corinthian church for NOT “judging!”

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? **do not YE JUDGE them that are within?**

13 But them that are without God judgeth. **Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.**

6:1 Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints?

2 **Do ye not know that the saints SHALL JUDGE the world?** and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters?

3 **Know ye not that WE SHALL JUDGE angels?** how much more things that pertain to this life? (1 Corinthians 5:12-6:3)

The Bible CLEARLY, over and over commands the Christian to “judge” or “determine” what is right and wrong — with the light of the word of God. God gave us a book — the word of God — and we are to JUDGE anything and everything by the word of God — and that includes Christian rock and Christian rockers!

“Them that sin **rebuke before all**, that others also may fear.” (1 Timothy 5:20)

“This witness is true. **Wherefore rebuke them sharply**, that they may be sound in the faith;” [Notice this is aimed towards Christians.] (Titus 1:13)

The Bible says there are some who “profess to know God” (so-called Christians) but “in works they deny him, being abominable” and God says they are “disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.” How can we possibly obey our Lord without “judging” their “works?”

“They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.” (Titus 1:16)

How can we “prove” something without “judging” or “discerning” it with the word of God?

“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.” (1 Thess. 5:21)

The Bible commands us to “withdraw yourselves from every brother that walks disorderly.” Again, how can we know who “walks disorderly” except we “judge” or “discern” from the word of God?

“Now we **COMMAND** you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly**, and not after the tradition which he received of us.” (2 Thess. 3:6)

Jesus Christ writes to the church at Ephesus:

2:1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: **and thou hast TRIED THEM which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:** (Revelation 2:1-2)

The act of "TRIED THEM" is "JUDGING" them! When someone goes to court they are "TRIED" or "JUDGED"! And the Lord Jesus commends them for "JUDGING" them! And again, these were so-called Christians, even claiming to be apostles!

Paul writes in Romans 16:17, and again notice the application is to "judge" or "mark" other so-called Christians.

"Now I beseech you, brethren, **MARK THEM** which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them." (Romans 16:17)

In Philippians 3, Paul again admonishes us to "mark" or "judge" so-called Christians:

". . . **MARK THEM** which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, **that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:**" (Philippians 3:17-18)

These are just a few verses that command the "child of God" to "determine" or "judge" between "right" and "wrong."

The immediate response is – How do we "judge" what is "right" and "wrong?" How can we "judge" what is "right" and "wrong?" You say something is "wrong" and "not from God" – others says it's "right" and "from God" – how do I know who is "right?"

There is only one logical answer. That answer is simple, sure and steadfast. . .

By the King James Bible – the word of God.

You can read all kinds of books and articles on a given subject about what someone "feels", "thinks", "believes", etc. – **but what does God SAY?**

Do NOT believe a word, I, or anyone else says, without FIRST checking what God SAYS:

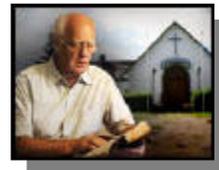
"God forbid: yea, **let God be TRUE, but EVERY man a LIAR;** as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged." (Romans 3:4)

May the Lord help you, as the Bereans, who **"searched the scriptures daily, WHETHER THOSE THINGS WERE SO."**

"These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, **and searched the scriptures daily, WHETHER THOSE THINGS WERE SO.**" (Acts 17:11)

Swedish temperance organization bans 'gay sermon' preacher

Do you remember the Pentecostal pastor Åke Green? He became a household name when he was indicted on hate speech charges following a sermon in Borgholm, Sweden in 2003 in which he spoke of "sexual perversions" as a "cancerous tumor on society." Green was convicted of agitating against a sexual group by Kalmar District Court but was later cleared by both the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court. Use the following link to read the transcript of his sermon. www.eacc.org/bibleanswers/ake_green_sermon.htm



Åke Green has now been barred from membership in Sweden's largest sobriety movement, which he has been a member of for many years, as a result of his views on homosexuals. He received a phone call of his expulsion from the IOGT_NTO a week ago in which the vice chairman, Anna Carlstedt said, "The board has decided that your repeated negative comments about homosexuals as a group run counter to IOGT and NTO's founding tenets and policy." She implied there were homosexual members who had reacted negatively to Green's membership. Furthermore, Carlstedt said during the phone call that Green's opinions were contradictory to IOGT-NTO's by-laws and programs.

"I do not understand what that has to do with sobriety" stated Åke Green. "In the by-laws, it states among other things that IOGT-NTO wants to cater to men and women without looking at race, nationality, religion, social status and political ideology. They are rejecting their own by-laws. If that is the case they should also strip people from other religions of their membership."

Anna Carlstedt said, "It is because of his public and repeated statements against our homosexual members that he can no longer be a member. He has no right to offend people." Green was surprised and upset by the ruling and said that "homosexual members are clearly worth more than Christian members."

Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. (Romans 1:22-27)