



Christian Identity Ministries

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"Blessed be the LORD God of *Israel*; For He hath visited and redeemed *His* people, And hath raised up an horn of salvation for *us* in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began; That *we* should be saved from *our* enemies and from the hand of all that hate *us*; to perform the mercy promised to *our* fathers and to remember his holy covenant; The oath which he sware to *our* father Abraham, That he would grant unto *us*, that *we* being delivered out of the hand of *our* enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of *our* lives." Luke 1:68-75; the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic-Germanic-Scandinavian people are *ISRAEL!*

#304

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"A FEW ANSWERS TO 'ANSWERS IN GENESIS'"

by Pastor Don Elmore

The June 11, 2011 Saturday Enquirer had another story about the "Answers in Genesis" new park in nearby Grant County, Kentucky. The headline was "Ark Work Could Start Soon"; with the secondary headline being "Tax rebates pave way for \$172M attraction". It was on page one, right at the top of the first page; and it continued on to page A12.

One wonders why this organization gets such good promotions from the newspaper. And this story is not unique; there have been many stories about "Answers In Genesis" throughout the years. Many of them, front page stories.

I remember when they only had a book and cassette tape room in a very small space in a small strip mall, located at their headquarters in Florence, Kentucky. In around twenty years they have built a museum (worth over thirty million dollars and totally paid for) and now plan to build a one hundred seventy two million dollar park with full-size replica of Noah's Ark, a Walled City with retail, food and themed venues, a children's play area, a Tower of Babel with a special-effects theater and a Noah's Animals area with a petting zoo. Other exhibits include a Journey Through History themed attraction, a First Century Village, an aviary and a special-events area for large gatherings. Both of these attractions are/will be in Northern Kentucky.

This organization, "Answers In Genesis," has offices in what we would call "white" communities, and is doing valuable work in producing books and videos that counter the claims of evolutionists, although they basically teach a form of evolution themselves!

I am aware of the forces supporting "Answers In Genesis"(AIG), these being the same powers that are supporting similar multi-cultural, anti-Christian organizations such as Alpha, Promise Keepers, The Full Gospel Businessmen's Association, Billy Graham Ministries, producers of many modern Bible versions, and a multitude of other ministries.

These forces are the anti-Christian powers seeking One World Government under man, not God. The essence of my criticism is to show that AIG supports the humanistic and unbiblical "Brotherhood of Man" doctrine (which is also a Hindu/ Roman Catholic/ Masonic/ Jewish/ Judeo-Christian and World Church belief).

There is a major acceptance today in Judeo-Christianity of defiance to revealed Biblical Law. Most of their churches teach that the Law of God was nailed to the cross of Jesus Christ - in other words, the Law of God is now totally of no use to New Covenant Christians.

I use the popular term, "Judeo-Christian" which infers that form of Christianity arose from Judaism. We can appreciate that if a form of Christianity did arise from that source, then it arose from those whose traditions Jesus condemned as "making the Word of God of none effect through your tradition" (Mark 7:13).

This "Judeo-Christianity," stemming from Judaism, must involve "another Gospel." This is what concerned me about AIG. What might be

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termed “Hebrew-Christianity” or “Israel-Christianity” does not defy revealed Biblical law (as does humanistic “Judeo-Christianity”) nor is it multi-cultural.

For instance, less than sixty years ago, mixed racial unions were illegal in most of the states in the United States and other White nations. But now, they are tolerated as being supposedly within God’s plan. Under the influence and promotion of the Jewish-Masonic-Papal-Communist/Socialist-controlled governments and media, Western Christianity has succumbed to the approval of race-mixing, and we’ll be looking at what is behind this.

The Bible abounds with evidence of God’s clear will that the races be separate in every way. AIG moulds all its answers around Judeo-Christian doctrines and traditions, and claims a different basis and definition of “race” from that which the Bible gives. Furthermore, there is evidence of Jewish Talmudic sources, or of what the Apostle Paul calls “Jewish Fables.”

Because some might think these are extreme statements, some details on some of their doctrines are given:

1. In claiming that there is only one race, “the Human Race,” AIG denies the basis of the doctrine of predestination, or any concept of a “chosen race” which are featured throughout the Bible. On page 51, in their infamous book, **One Blood**, they state the following: “According to the Bible, all people on earth today are descended from Noah and his wife, his three sons and their wives and before that from Adam and Eve (Genesis 1-11).” This statement denies any people being BEFORE Adam or being BESIDE Adam. This also exposes their false doctrine of Noah’s flood being world-wide.

2. In claiming one origin and destiny for all peoples, “Answers In Genesis” denies the prophetic word about, “The Seed of Abraham,” “the regathering of Israel” and “the restoration of the Kingdom to Israel.” They fail to see that even Israel’s different tribes and kingdoms have different destinies which in itself destroys their concept of the equality of all races. For example:

- Was there a tribe in Israel that was destined to kingship?
- Was there a tribe in Israel that was destined to Priesthood?
- Was there a tribe in Israel that was destined with the Birthright?
- Was there a kingdom in Israel that was destined to not be a people of God, but later to be a people of God, again?
- And on it goes. “Answers In Genesis” deny all these destinies because they believe that all people are equal.

3. “Answers In Genesis” by saying all vessels are the same denies, “Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonor?” Instead, AIG says on page 96 of **One Blood**: “The Christian Church could greatly relieve the tensions over racism if only the leaders would teach that all people are descended from one man and one woman and all people are equal before God.

Furthermore, all are sinners in need of salvation; all need to build their thinking on God’s Word and judge all their cultural aspects accordingly; all need to be one in Christ and put an end to their rebellion against their Creator.”

In other words, don’t believe what our Savior has instructed us: “Beware of the doctrine of the Pharisees.”

4. AIG claim that Jesus descended from Noah, through women:

a. Joseph was NOT the genetic father of Jesus. No male sperm was involved. Mary was the birth mother of Jesus.

b. If the “first Adam” did not need a father’s genes, why should the “second Adam” need them either?

c. AIG claim, just as the Jews do, that Jesus descended from Noah, through women. They believe that everyone except Noah and his family were destroyed by Noah’s flood. This is approaching Roman Catholic doctrine that Jesus came through Mary, who “as the Savior of the human race, was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin” (quoted from Roman Catholic teaching about their doctrine on the Immaculate Conception).

d. In a subtle indirect way this lines up with the New Age Mother Earth, Lilith, Lady Gaga, etc. The teaching of multi-racial Jewry is that a Jew is a person who has a Jewish mother but the Bible shows that genealogies are reckoned through the MALE side, i.e. a male begets a male down the line. All throughout the book of Genesis, Matthew 1, Luke 3, and many, many other scriptures, without a doubt, demonstrate this point.

e. For AIG to claim Jesus descended from Noah is absolute wickedness for another very good reason. Jesus had no human father, Joseph being his legal father only. Joseph provided to Jesus the legal right to the Crown.

f. “*But we see Jesus, ...Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same ...For verily he took not on {him the nature of} angels; but he took on {him} the seed of Abraham (through Mary).*” (Hebrews 2:9-16). Thus He is able to only be the Kinsman Redeemer of His covenant people Israel.

g. AIG believe that all people came from one original man and woman, but the Bible does not say

that all races come out of one womb. Jesus was “born of a woman” (Mary) of the tribe of Judah, but “begotten” of God, His father.

5. AIG believe that all mankind is “of one blood.” Acts 17:26 is the verse which many people (including AIG) like to use to support the idea that there are no differences between races. “*And he made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation.*”

Some points need to be made here:

a. In the majority of Bible manuscripts texts (over four hundred), the word “blood” is not there. Even Scofield agrees that the word “blood” is not in the manuscripts. The consensus of opinion among authorities is that the word “blood” should be omitted as not being in the original manuscripts. In the KJV the word “blood” is in *italics* which means that it is not in the original; the word has been added by the translators.

b. Ephesians 2, Ezekiel 37 and other scriptures also tell us of this same view that God has put the two former divided and hostile kingdoms of Judah and Israel together and has reunited them as ONE. “*And hath made of one all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth...*” The translators deliberately misled their readers!

c. This verse is an excellent demonstration of how people can try to use one part of a verse to prove their point, but at the same time ignore the rest of the verse that flatly contradicts what they are trying to say. The second part of this verse is stating that God made “boundaries” where differing people/ races were ordained of God to live

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separated from one another. AIG can't have it both ways.

d. AIG ascribes different groups supposedly arising from Noah's descendants as being a development over an undefined period of time, whereas the Bible presents racial origins much different from their position. Notice how the Bible defines in a very short time how two nations came to be and also how they are descended from the male.

"Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father. And the firstborn bare a son, and called his name Moab: the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day. And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Benammi: the same is the father of the children of Ammon (Ammonites) unto this day." But this is found in Genesis 19:36-38; eight chapters away from chapter 11, the last chapter of AIG usages.

e. The Moabites and Ammonites did not arise from any such undefined "development," and remain as specific races throughout the Bible, being precisely defined, rather than "undefined." The claim that all races come from Noah cannot hold water as it is based upon the manufactured wrong idea, "of one blood."

6. AIG believes that the term "kind" means "family," such as the family of all fish, birds, or cattle. In other words, they believe that God created ONE male and female fish, bird, or cattle from which all fish, birds and cattle were reproduced; only one of each sex. They didn't even consider the clean and unclean animals.

a. Notice what they say on page 35 of *One Blood*: "Now let's consider a scenario in history. Two members of the dog/ wolf kind that God had selected to be on Noah's Ark got off this enormous ship in the Middle East after the flood. These dogs mated and had offspring, and so on. Eventually, small groups of dogs started splitting away from the main group and went off by themselves in different directions. As a result, small populations of dogs were separated from each other. This obviously split the gene pool, resulting in a number of populations with different combinations of genes." So all the different dogs and wolves in the world today came from the parents of just two wolves/ dogs that got off the ark in Noah's day. Heresy!

b. They do not believe that God created all the different kinds of fish, birds, or cattle but that they evolved from one male and one female. They follow this belief with man too. They believe that all men (of all races) descended from one man and woman; and that this special parent was of a mid-brown color [sounds like the United Nations statue of the 'universal brown man,' that they hope will be their One World Race]. And from this one male and one female they evolved into the different races; they state plainly that there is only one race - the "human race".

c. Noah was instructed to take two (one male and one female) of every kind of unclean animal and seven pairs (male and female) of every kind of clean animal of the land where his people lived. And they did not live in the entire world; only one part of the earth - they didn't live in North America, Central America, South America, Europe, Central and Southern Africa, Antarctica, etc.

d. AIG do not believe that the "kind" means "species" or "genus" because they would have to build a much larger ark than what they are going to reproduce in Kentucky. What a massive boat would that be? Every specific kind of animal in the entire world!

e. But what animals did Noah have on the ark? Genesis tells of an unclean and clean bird that Noah let loose from the ark after the rain had stopped. First he sent out "a raven" (unclean) and on two different occasions a "dove" (clean). Two different kinds of birds; one raven and one dove. What kind of bird would they reproduce, would it be a clean or an unclean animal? They would not mate together! AIG fails to consider that there are clean and unclean animals and hold to the bizarre position that a wolf and a poodle all come from the same parent four thousand five hundred years ago.

f. In Leviticus 11:22, there is delineation between different clean insects: "*Even these of them ye may eat; the locust after his kind, and the bald locust after his kind, and the beetle after his kind, and the grasshopper after his kind.*" So how did this happen if Noah only took of one kind of each clean animal? Of course, AIG only teaches the first eleven chapters of the book of Genesis. As Pastor Blanchard has pointed out: AIG has said that this transformation took ONLY two hundred years after the flood. All the different kind of animals/ plants were set after two centuries - super fast evolution!

g. The word "kind" in the Law clearly means different 'genera' or 'species' within a general category or family of bird, animal, or reptile.

h. AIG teach a misleading and otherwise untrue definition of the meaning of "kind," contrary to the Scripture's intention. All species did not develop through natural selection from one pair of created plant or animal kind. God created all the different varieties of creation; every "kind" or 'specie' of plant, tree, cattle, bird, reptile, fish, and so on. To say otherwise is to rob God of His intended meaning in His written Word and diminish His creative power. This is exactly what AIG does. They say that all plants, animals and mankind started from one male and one female or from one plant and then EVOLVED into the different species that they now are in. They also teach a shorter, but much faster form of evolution! And they are supposed to be the opponents of evolution?!

7. Does "kind" refer to mankind too?

a. Do you remember Genesis 8 and the unclean raven and the clean dove? They were BORN that way. Are people born that way too? One can read from Genesis to the end of Revelation, and the entire corpus of the Bible speaks of one God who is to come and save His people and ultimately to regather, reunite, and restore His people to the land promised to Abraham and his seed forever. The Bible also tells of another people who are the opposite and imposters of the seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob - the seed of Canaan, Esau-Edom, etc. The seed of Abraham has their name on the twelve gates of the New Jerusalem; while the seed of the Jews are destined to the lake of fire. "But all peoples are equal..." says AIG?

b. The holy city, New Jerusalem in Revelation 22:12, "*And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are THE TWELVE TRIBES OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL.*"

c. Revelation 22:14, "*And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the TWELVE APOSTLES OF THE LAMB.*"

d. If God has a chosen race or elect race then all other races must be "unchosen." AIG and most churches

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declare that this matter has changed from one of RACE to one of BELIEF, even if they cannot support this scripturally.

e. The Bible teaches racial separation. For example 2 Corinthians 6:16b-17, “I will dwell in them, and walk in them, and I will be their God, and they shall be MY PEOPLE. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean {thing}, and I will receive you.”

AIG and almost all preachers wrongly use the word “thing” rather than “people.” When we look at this verse, the general teaching is that there should be a separation of one people [not thing] from another. It is about people. Matthew 25:32 shows how this verse is showing the separation of Israelites according to whether they are sheep or goats. “And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats.”

f. “Touch” means “carnal intercourse.” Unclean people are not to be “touched” by clean people. Acts 10:28 teaches that a person from the Kingdom of Judah should not call any man from the House of Israel common or unclean - now that the Savior of the House of Israel has died and been resurrected. For she once was divorced and unclean, but NOW she is made clean by the blood of the Redeemer.

g. Bible genetics is a great Bible subject but there is not a Judeo-Christian Church or Roman Catholic Church that can handle it, probably because either:

i. “It is not given to them to understand the mysteries of the Kingdom of God” (Matthew 13:11),

ii. Their manufactured doctrines will not cope with it.

iii. Their false Universalism doctrine demands that they cannot believe Bible genetics, as it totally opposes their doctrine.

iv. AIG would rather argue with “The Potter” who makes different people (vessels), some for glory and some for destruction. “Has not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honor, and another unto dishonor” (Romans 9:21).

v. AIG and almost every church in existence today deny what the Bible says about the “holy seed.” The matter of the “holy seed” as the line through Adam-Noah-Abraham-Isaac-Jacob/ Israel as “the holy people” is ignored and totally rejected by AIG.

a. Ezra 9:1-3, “Now when these things were done, the princes came to me, saying, The people of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites, have NOT SEPARATED themselves from the people of the lands, doing according to their abominations, even of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites. For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons, so that the holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of those lands...”

“And when I [Ezra] heard this thing, I rent my garment and my mantle, and plucked off the hair of my head and of my beard, and sat down astonished.”

c. Ezra 10:1-2, “Now when Ezra had prayed, and when he had confessed, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God, there assembled unto him out of Israel a very great congregation of men and women and children: for the people wept very sore. And Shechaniah the son of Jehiel, one of the sons of Elam, answered and said unto Ezra, We have transgressed against our God, and have taken strange [foreign] wives of the people of the

land: yet now there is hope in Israel concerning this thing.

Now therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all the wives, and such as are born of them, according to the counsel of my lord, and of those that tremble at the commandment of our God, and let it be done according to the law.”

c. Deuteronomy 7:1, 6, 8: After telling Israel that they are forbidden to marry any people that are in their area, [Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and the Jebusites] God tells them why: “...for thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath **chosen** thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth...”

But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.”

Did you notice that there was no opportunity for an Israelite to marry **any** foreigner. There were no missionaries sent to try to convert them, for none could be converted. All the Israelites who had committed this inter-racial marriage said that they had trespassed their God!

d. Look how AIG confuse the scripture. They say that “Rahab was a Canaanite who since she is listed in the genealogy of Matthew 1 {although it is debatable that these two are the same person} must have married an Israelite (descended from Shem)”. They say that since this was clearly a union approved by God, it underlines the fact that the particular ‘people group’ she came from was irrelevant - what mattered was that she trusted in the true God of the Israelites” (Page 91, **One Blood**). They said the same thing about Ruth, who they claim was a Moabite,

and even though God told His people not to marry them, approved of this mixed-marriage because she became a child of God. But Rahab and Ruth were true Israelites and not Canaanites and Moabites. They had a valid marriage with no bastards (Deuteronomy 23:2) for children.

Churches and organizations like AIG and its other like groups: Alpha, Promise Keepers, Full Gospel Businessmen’s Fellowship International, Billy Graham Ministries, {Creation Research} etc., shore up belief in the humanistic and unbiblical “Brotherhood of Man” doctrine (which is also a Hindu/ Roman Catholic/ Jewish/ Masonic and World-Church, World Government belief). To do this, the impression must be falsely created that all races evolved from one single origin - that is that all men are descended from the same man and woman.

AIG of course, believes this along with others in this matter, and thus has a false front. Thus they do not suffer persecution for what they present, from World Government sources! Rather, these forces back them! What does this tell us? On the front page of the June 11, 2011 *Enquirer*; the top article is an example of many newspaper coverages of this belief in the illuminati doctrine. And we know that there will be many other pro-articles that will be in the paper in the near future.

And so, what effect do the doctrines of modern churches and AIG have in practical terms? Well probably ninety percent of the members of churches are creationists, and that is no problem on its own. But if that view of creationism insists on adding doctrines that promote the UNIVERSALISM that flows from the idea of one singular origin of all races, then **any concept of the Biblical chosen race has to be discarded**. Further to this, God’s purpose for choosing Israel as that race has to be modified by changing



race to become a matter of belief instead. This paves the way for non-biblical multi-culturalism which is a dogma of humanism, believed intensely by the World Church and World Government!

AIG does this in their teaching of what is a valid Bible-approved marriage. It is based on belief, not race. For if a male and female of the same race differ in belief, and then they marry it is not approved as a good marriage. But if two people of two different races have the same belief (in AIG doctrines) then if they marry, it is a good Biblical marriage. Belief is what determines a good marriage.

This prior point is illustrated in several of their books, including their blasphemous book, *One Blood*. On pages 89-90 of this book, under the heading "Purpose of Marriage," AIG asks the following question: "According to the Bible then, which of the impending marriages in the illustration on the following page does God counsel against entering into?"

On page 90 they have pictures of the following six people that illustrate three impending marriages:

1. A **black** male "Christian" + A **white** female "Christian."
2. A **white** male "Non-Christian" + An **Asian** female "Non-Christian"
3. A **white** male "Non-Christian" + A **white** female "Christian."

They answer the question asked on page 89: "The answer is obvious - the third one. According to the Bible, the priority in marriage is that a Christian should marry only a Christian." For them, the only good marriage is the first one - the black male with the white girl - the INTER-RACIAL one. But the Bible always points out that this type of marriage is disastrous to the covenant that our Father made with our fathers.

But AIG is dead wrong: For can any non-Israelite be a true "Christian"? Anyone, even the murderers of Jesus Christ, can become "Christian" in what they believe, but they are totally wrong.

Even in the United States, interracial marriages were strictly forbidden, until the invention of the "marriage license" a little over a hundred years ago. They fail to mention this in their books. I wonder why?

They fail to mention what kind of children will be produced by the mixed-race marriages! They are bastards and the Bible says that any "*bastard shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD...*" (Deuteronomy 23:2a). No wonder the prophet Ezra cried so bitterly when he heard the Kingdom of Judah was guilty of committing this sin (Ezra 9). This is totally omitted in the writings by AIG.

And what about the verses in 1 Corinthians 7:12-15 that talks about marriages in which one spouse is a believer?

"But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away. And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him. For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children

unclean; but now are they holy. But if the unbelieving depart, let him/ her depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace."

But look what AIG says about these verses: "It is true that in some exceptional instances when a Christian has married a Non-Christian, the Non-Christian spouse, by the grace of God has become a Christian. This is a praise point but it does not negate the fact that Scripture indicates that it should not have been entered into in the first place. This does not mean that the marriage is not actually valid, nor does it dilute the responsibilities of the marital union - see also 1 Corinthians 7:12-14, where the context is of one partner becoming a Christian after marriage."

If you reread 1 Corinthians 7:12-15 again, do you agree with what they said that these scriptures are talking about: that one partner becoming a Christian after marriage. I fail to find that that is the case. It is talking about a marriage in which one of the spouses is an unbeliever. And it says that as long as they want to stay in the marriage, they should be allowed to stay. but if they want to depart, then their spouse should let them depart. It nowhere says that they should marry a person of another race.

AIG is really an organization that just gives the answers for ONLY chapters 1-11 in Genesis. It stops at the end of chapter 11, right before the covenant made with father Abraham, Isaac and Jacob/Israel.

They ignore the covenant made to the fathers of Israel and fail to recognize the importance of verses which teach the opposite of what they believe. For example, AIG claims all people come from one original man, but the Holy Scripture does not say that all races come from one "womb."

Isaiah 51:1-2 tells us about the narrowing down to one **particular womb** of God's chosen people: "*Hearken to me, ye that*

follow after righteousness, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. Look unto Abraham your father; and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him ALONE, and blessed him, and increased him." AIG and most of the churches will not accept this one origin of God's people; but they have no problem with saying that all people are descended from Adam and Eve.

They totally ignore seventy eight percent of the first book of the Bible and all the rest of the sixty five books! And the answers that they give are wrong; so wrong that they are in agreement with the forces that teach UNIVERSALISM and the doctrines that are unchristian - in other words, they are in agreement with the World Government.

They state on page 67 of their book, *One Blood*, that "Noah and his family were probably mid-brown... [and] Adam and Eve, they would most likely have been mid-brown as well." This means that there were no other groups [whites, blacks, yellows, etc.] until "after the flood, for the few centuries until Babel, there was only one language and one culture group."

There are a lot of different ethnic groups that disagree with this statement! No white, black, or yellow races older

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than four thousand five hundred years! History majors must be going crazy!

AIG has given its followers the same solution to the racism problem that the Jewish Talmudism/ Communism/ Humanism anti-Christian movements all give: Intermarry till there is only one color - the brown man. No Israel left. All are destroyed because of their mating of our and their race - just like what happened before Noah's flood.

Does anyone have the ability to think anymore? If, in the Christian era, it was wrong to have a *non-Israelite* to be the pastor, missionary, teacher, deacon, member, etc., of their church, then were all the people in the past wrong?

If it is wrong to have a woman to be the pastor, missionary, teacher over men in their church, then were all the people in the past wrong?

If it was wrong to have the people of the United States forbidden by law to interracially marry, then were all the people in the past wrong?

AIG says that they were all wrong. AIG is a very dangerous organization for they teach our race to commit suicide by practising miscegenation. And do you know why? Do you know their little secret? Most of the leaders of this organization have already committed race-mixing; for they are married to a wife or husband of another race!

Courtesy The New Covenant Messenger PO Box 321 Union KY 41091

A ROGUE GOVERNMENT INVENTS 'ROGUE MARRIAGE'

by Robert McCurry

The root cause of the escalating so-called 'same-sex marriage' debacle is the violation of the First Commandment by the founding fathers and subsequent generations: *"Thou shalt have no other gods before me"* (Exodus 20:3). Because of the US Constitution First Amendment [section 116 Australian Constitution] endorsement of 'religious pluralism,' pagan, anti-biblical, and anti-Christian 'religions' continue to flourish in this nation. And because God's Biblical 'Perfect Law' is denied, scorned and rejected - even by a large segment of professing 'Christians' - man is forced to seek humanly designed legislative, constitutional and judicial remedies for America's maladies. But band-aids are not effective for terminal conditions.

Sadly and unfortunately, 'the government invented rogue same-sex marriage' debacle is not another spoke in the wheel to destroy God-ordained marriage; marital infidelity, divorce, and divorce and remarriage, interracial marriage and cohabitation is now the ho-hum accepted norm. The acceptance of 'same-sex marriage' as another 'norm' has now joined this league.

The solution for this free-fall into the abyss of humanly unstoppable chaos is for God-called preachers and the Lord's Church to trumpet 'Thus saith the Lord!' without compromise or apology; repent, believe the Gospel and live in obedience to God's Word.

Some thought-provoking comments by Dr. Ted Baehr:

**Government has no authority to license
'same-sex' marriage**

Abolition of the family! ...The bourgeois family will disappear, in the course [of history] as its supplement [private

property] disappears, and both will vanish with the destruction of capital. [The Communist Manifesto, Ch 2, Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels]

On June 25, 2011, MSNBC and the other undereducated, misinformed and politicized news media proclaimed, "New York becomes sixth and largest state to legalize gay marriage." Of course, this is the same group of fellow travelers and useful idiots who misapply the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to the respective states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion," to deny Christians the freedom of worship, when the clause plainly recognizes the inalienable freedom of worship.

Either of these distortions of real truth is more of the same Marxist double speak. The New York state government has no authority to legalize homosexual marriage, whether the government was conscious of the Marxist thrust of its illegal actions or just being a useful idiot in the advance of Marx's goal to destroy the family.

Pages could be, have been and should be written about the progressive Marxist destruction of the American constitutional republic. And pages could be, have been and should be written about the destructive nature of the homosexualization of the culture. With regard to the illegal action of the New York state government, it is more important to understand clearly that the civil government has no authority in the area of the free exercise of religion such as marriage. If it has no authority and tries to exercise power not vested to it, then the state is acting illegally.

So that you don't buy the lie, this commentary focuses on the fact that, intentionally or not, too many in the press, the mass media, the government and the education establishment have confused the citizens of America about the institution of marriage.

First of all, as many of our readers already know, there are at least four spheres of government: individual government, family government, ecclesiastical government and civil government. In the United States of America, the civil government owes its existence to the consent of the governed, not the other way around, in the tradition of Magna Carta.

Furthermore, since the Rev. Samuel Rutherford wrote "Lex Rex," which clarified the rule of law posited by the Magna Carta, all forms of government have been under God's Law in the United Kingdom and the United States. When king or ruler is above the law, he often acts in imperious and dictatorial ways, for the very nature of power is to corrupt the powerful, unless it is restrained by God's Law. In essence, God's Law says to

love your neighbour as yourself, and the civil government is subject to that divine law.

Thus, the Declaration of Independence made it clear that King George III acted illegally when he oppressed the American colonies, because he was under the law of God. Countries that allowed men to rule above the law have produced tyrants such as Stalin, Hitler, and Mao Tse-Tung. Current examples include Mugabe, Chavez and the military junta in Burma, among others.

It must be emphasized that marriage between one man and one woman is a God-ordained, God-defined, biblical act. For eighteen hundred years in western countries, mar-

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Chris Martenson

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riage was a unique institution, initiated by God when He created Adam and Eve, presided over by Jesus Christ when He blessed the act of marriage and stated that a man and a woman would leave their parents [household] and join together to become one flesh [and a new household] and sustained by the Holy Spirit, which not only holds the marriage together but also produces the offspring that God creates.

The norm in most other religions is not monogamy, although many have borrowed the form of a Christian wedding. Moreover, the state's involvement in Christian marriage is relatively recent. In 1837, Rev. Henry Morris complained that the state had usurped the authority of God in marriage. Morris railed against the passage of a law on marriage by providing a detailed look at the institution of marriage. He painstakingly interpreted the scriptures to establish his point that marriage is most importantly a religious institution, and therefore it should not be relegated to a strictly civil character:

"They took from the Clergy the solemnizing of Matrimony, and put it into the hands of Justices of the Peace..." In the former instance of this desecration being ordained, the power to legislate had been seized by those who would be restrained in nothing that they imagined to do; and, in a day specified in their ordinance, 'no other marriage whatsoever within the Commonwealth', but such as should be contracted... before a Justice of the Peace, 'should be held or accounted a marriage according to the law of England.'

But the national principle is not yet sufficiently prostrated to make us again ripe for so arbitrary and irreligious an imposition, and therefore, by the law just come in force, you are left to form your own judgments, whether marriage is a mere civil contract, or a Divine institution 'whether it shall be celebrated with or without any offices of religion' whether the Church, the Conventicle, or the Register-office, shall be the place of celebration and whether the Clergyman of the Parish, the Dissenting Teacher, or the superintendent Registrar, shall officiate on the occasion."

Morris adds that the biblical position is that only God ordains marriage. So, in the light of history and God's Word written, the judges in Massachusetts, California or any other state or federal court have nothing to say about Christian marriage and have no authority to define, ordain or desecrate it. Morris brilliantly continues in his sermon:

"...by the state of matrimony the spiritual marriage that is betwixt Christ and His Bride is signified and represented ...But that 'the fruitful vine' ...is not procurable by a civil contract, it cometh only of the Lord."

His reasoning is impeccable, but many have forgotten that marriage belongs to the church. In fact, a few are very uncomfortable with that concept because of the abuse of power by some ecclesiastical authorities. Two wrongs don't make a right, however. And they certainly don't make a civil right to same-sex "marriage."

With regard to the abuse of power, it must be noted that civil government is good, although there can be bad presidents, governors, judges and other authorities. Family government is good, although there can be bad fathers and mothers. Ecclesiastical government is good, although there can be bad clergymen. The rules and the laws of the exception do not make the rule. In other words, a bad father does not give us the license to call for the abolishment of fatherhood, etc. What it does do is to give us the opportunity for

checks and balances, which until recently were most perfectly expressed in our constitutional government.

The church has to reclaim marriage as its unique institution. Whatever anyone wants to do outside of the church may be their business, but it is not sanctioned by God's Law. The state has the right to regulate only what the Constitution allows it to regulate, because there is no liberty for license. But, the state does not have the right to tell the church that any couple outside of the faith is married.

We need to stand for God's Law in the face of the power grab by those in civil authority who know no restraints. New York and the other increasingly socialized states have not only violated God's Law, they have also violated their own Constitution and the will of the governed. When they do that, they are subject to indictment, trial and just punishment.

Now, all those who freely exercise their inalienable right to religious faith must stop acting like useful idiots and fellow travelers by going along to get along. Instead, they must stand for their God-given rights by proclaiming loud and clear that these New York government servants have crossed the line into illegal activity that has no authority and makes them criminals.

Often, people of faith and values do not stand up because they have been slowly boiled in the brine of socialism and so give the states powers they have no authority to use. Often the state or federal government creates the problem by violating our individual rights to property, estates, income, etc., through the Marxist device of illicit taxation. Then the government argues that the state needs to govern marriage to alleviate the tax burdens the state created so that it can encourage marriage. Such circular and dishonest reasoning has almost deceived the very electorate.

Now the people must throw off the stupor of Marxist doublespeak and return to the basic principles that made them free to live at peace in the American republic that recognizes "Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

The power to tax is the power to destroy. Do not let it destroy godly marriage and families! (Dr. Ted Baehr, posted: June 27, 2011, WorldNetDaily).

[We have just been informed that Dr. McCurry has had an angina attack, and is presently (4-8-11) undergoing bypass surgery, please pray for him]

Courtesy the Wake-Up Herald, 605 Moore Rd, Newnan GA 30263

ULTIMATE RECONCILIATION

by Tom Mitchell - BIWF (Canada)

The term "Ultimate Reconciliation" identifies a doctrinal position that many within the world-wide Christian Israel movement are still unfamiliar with. It is the belief that every single person who ever lived will eventually come to salvation, God's Kingdom, and everlasting life.

People holding to this interpretation of Scripture admit that only a minority have found salvation through Jesus' blood, in this world age. They agree that participants in the millennial age to come will consist of only a small percentage of the world's population since time began.

"Time" from a Biblical point of view, might be described as: the Old Testament era, the New Testament era, the millennium and eternity. From the "Ultimate Reconciliation" position the millennium is followed by age

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after age where people who did not find salvation in the earlier periods are cleansed of sin. These long ages to come are seen as punishing and correcting, adjusting and convincing, all suffering sinners with “purifying fire” until finally everyone who ever lived has surrendered to God and received Jesus as Saviour. There are variations on the above but the central theme remains clear: Everyone will be saved!

The Bible does teach that under Jesus’ rule a perfected creation will come to a genuine ultimate reconciliation before Almighty God.

Creation began in a state of total harmony under God. This relationship ended after the fall of Adam and Eve and a future reconciled kingdom will manifest after the victorious millennial reign of Jesus Christ. Jesus’ thousand-year rule climaxing with the second resurrection and His final judgment will completely adjust and correct all the effects of sin resulting in a renewed creation.

The millennial reign brings the kingdom on earth to perfection. Every rock, river, plant, insect, animal, human and angel will exist in divine harmony - obedient to Jesus’ personal supervision and cleansed of corrupting sin. Descriptions of this triumph are found in Revelations 21 and 1 Corinthians 15:24-28. The kingdom is pictured after the forceful elimination of false accusers, the beast, the false prophet, death, hell and “...whosoever was not found written in the book of life” culminating in Revelation 20.

Most Christians look forward to an ultimate perfected kingdom age. Their theology varies in how they see God handling unrepentant sinners to establish this condition. Three views predominate regarding their fate:

1. They will live forever in a special zone of eternal torment.
2. They will all be purified and cleansed for ages and enter eternal life.
3. They will receive the punishment of actual everlasting death.

All three groups have their favorite Bible verses, interpretations and historical quotes to back up their views. The majority position of British-Israel and Christian-Identity teachers and writers has always been number three: The Annihilation of the wicked. This view, often called “Conditional Immortality” understands man’s natural destiny (since the fall) is inevitable, real and eternal death, but that we may receive the special gift of resurrection and everlasting life through Jesus’ sacrificial death. God’s rebellious enemies collect the natural “wages of sin.” Final reconciliation comes about by a cleansing destruction of the “tares,” not by refining them into wheat (Matthew 13:30, 40, 50).

A leading “Ultimate Reconciliation” teacher has portrayed people suffering “fiery” correction for ages after the events chronicled in Revelation 20. The time period of Revelation 20 includes the end of the millenium, the white throne judgment, the end of death and hell, and the second death of unregenerate sinners. For a proof text that pain and evil continues after the completion of these events he referenced Revelation 22:15; “*For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.*” Of course Revelation 22 does follow Revelation 20, but in actual fact John’s

Revelation vision ends in Revelation 22:8! John “comes to his senses” at this point and returns to his own time where he talks with the angel “...which shewed me these things.” John is now back in his own era at the feet of an angel who had revealed God’s vast panorama of the future to him.

John has returned from the end of time to his own time. Revelation 22:15 is simply future to John’s earthly lifetime. It does not describe episodes after the millennial age! But the speaker did ignore some verses that do legitimately follow Revelation 20 timewise: “*And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away*” (Revelation 21:4).

The finality of judgment at this time is brought out again a few verses later; “...*the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death*” (Revelation 21:8b). Also before John’s Revelation vision ends at Revelation 22:8 one more verse sums up the post-millennial condition; “*And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him*” (Revelation 22:3). By reviewing the above I discovered how a simple misinterpretation was being used to support the idea of “purifying” torture for sinners continuing for ages after Christ’s victorious millennial reign.

Incidentally, some insist rebellious sinners are still living after the second death of Revelation 20 based on Revelation 21:8; “*But the fearful and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone; which is the second death.*” But this verse is clearly a reference back to the one and only “second death.” A restatement of the fact that the people described (experiencing the second

and final death) will not be in the “*new heaven and a new earth*” - the holy city, new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:1,2). Remember, death dies in the second death - the end of death. Hell (hades) dies in the second death - the end of hell. Thus “*whosoever was not found written in the book of life*” also experience their end! The first death (personal) offers potential resurrection in Scripture. The second death (general) does not.

REVIEWING MATTHEW SEVEN

Most of us are familiar with many Old testament passages that make a clear connection between sin and genuine death. “Live Forever” theology (whether with eternal tormenting fire or age-lasting cleansing fire) seems to draw mainly from the New Testament. But punishment by eternal death is taught there too. Matthew 7 is one example of many. “*Enter ye in the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat*” (Matthew 7:13).

The picture here is of two gates only. A strait (narrow) gate and a wide gate. The verse tells us the wide gate leads to destruction. Strong’s Concordance (#684) defines the Greek word ‘apoleia’ used for “destruction” as: ruin, or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal); damnable (nation), destruction, die, perdition, perish, pernicious ways, waste.”

IT JUST ISN'T FAIR...! SAYS WHO...?

by Robert Alan Balaičius

An entreaty to wayward children of the Most High to see and accept God's plan - and live! Life wasn't meant to be fair; so don't expect it to be what it is not. Good reading and essential instruction for all.

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THE RAPTURE IN THE LIGHT OF TABERNACLES

by Dr. Stephen E. Jones

The Rapture as a new teaching; “Rapture” passages; Paul's reference to Moses; the Feast of Trumpets; ten days of Awe; the Feasts in Jacob's life; the Feast of Tabernacles; Priestly Garments & Rapture; Patterns of Moses and Jesus; Qualifications for Priesthood.

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Young's Concordance sums up the meaning as "loss." Neither reference suggests the wide gate could lead to ages of confinement.

'*apoleia*' is used five times in Scripture including Romans 9 where Paul speaks of God dispensing His mercy in verses 15, 16, and 18. Then he gives the illustration of two vessels: "*Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much long-suffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: and that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory*" (Romans 9:21-23).

Note that the vessels of wrath are destined to destruction and the other vessels to mercy and glory. But if the vessels of wrath are coming into eternal life via cleansing fire they would also be receiving God's mercy, when the passage teaches that they won't. The first fulfillment of this wrath-bringing destruction pictured here was the AD 70 destruction of over a million Messiah-rejecting Jews. As a type of end-time wrath it presents us with death and total devastation.

The other three uses of '*apoleia*' also represent ruin, loss, death or destruction in the accepted sense of those terms (Philemon 3:19; 2 Peter 2:1, 3:16). For example 2 Peter 2:1 warns that '*apoleia*' will be swift. Can age after age of refining fire be thought of as "swift"?

The two gates in Matthew 7:13 are pictured as opposites. We know the broad gate leads to destruction. It will help us to understand "destruction" if we see where the other gate leads. "*Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it*" (Matthew 7:14). The strait gate leads to life! The broad gate doesn't. There is no hint that the broad gate leads to life by ages of suffering. And to clarify this more fully the Scripture states: "*... few there be that find it.*" A universalist theory of salvation is that the broad gate leads to the slow method (ages of purgatorial cleansing) to life and the strait gate is the rapid route. Those that find destruction do not find life. The essential meaning in Strong's and Young's of '*apoleia*' as "loss" is clear. Destruction here illustrates loss of life!

Only modern man would have trouble understanding the next few verses of Matthew 7: "*Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire*" (Matthew 7:16-19). Jesus is presenting by his street preaching to the common man in an agrarian culture an every day example from normal farming practice. No one could imagine that throwing a corrupt tree into a fire could produce a better tree, then or now. The natural reading of Jesus' warning is that certain people - represented by bad, fruitless trees - will be destroyed.

"*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven*" (Matthew 7:21). This begins a powerful section of Scripture packed with meaning that preachers have mined for centuries, but note one clear teaching of verse 21: ***Not every one will come into the kingdom of heaven.***

Jesus is talking about these people who shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven when He says: "*And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity* (lawlessness) (Matthew 7:23). If Jesus never knew them and He orders them to "*depart from me*" it seems safe to assume He didn't know them, He doesn't know them, and isn't going to get to know them. Could His command be taken to mean, "Come into my presence to experience the cleansing fire of my law"?

Jesus then compares a person's whole being to a house, "*Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his home upon a rock: and the rain descended and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand, And the rains descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon the house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it*" (Matthew 7:24-27).

In this parable, Jesus describes two houses, relating them to salvation. One survived, founded on a rock (Jesus Christ). The other represents those who hear Jesus but don't act on His sayings. Their "house" is destroyed, it falls, it is over and finished. Nothing in Matthew 7 offers the unrepentant sinner a second chance.

Paul often warns about destruction being sudden, inexcusable and unexpected. For example, in 1 Thessalonians 5:2, 3. Young's defines the Greek as simply "destruction" and Strong's states: "(to destroy; a prol. form); ruin, i.e. death, punishment; destruction."

Malachi 4:1 describes the awesome judgment coming on the wicked. The Bible pictures judgment as swift and final, not as continuing for ages after the millennial kingdom where sinners are rebuilt and refined into eternal life.

A CAUTION REGARDING DOGMATISM

Countless published studies (deeper and more detailed than this sketch) have helped Bible students to understand their immortality to be totally conditional on receiving Jesus Christ's sacrificial payment for sin. Again and again Christians have been satisfied that real destruction of the wicked rests on a more solid Scriptural footing than both eternal torment and universalism via "cleansing fire."

Yet all interpretations have their stronger and weaker points. It could be a big mistake for some Israel-Christian organizations to insist on only this position as a sort of doctrinal statement or litmus test for participants. [This is why CIM has never issued a 'statement of beliefs.'] Many Identity groups decided years ago to avoid becoming official "churches" or denominations. By avoiding polarization on various issues several fellowships have escaped fragmentation over the years. This is not to say that membership in ecclesias should not be organized.

The belief in eternal torment has been a majority orthodox doctrine throughout much of the history of Christendom. The modern resurgence of the Israel Identity (from around 1850) coincided with the rise in the understanding of "Conditional Immortality." This era has also featured the strongest exposition of the Kingdom on Earth. Yet pockets of all these teachings (including "Ultimate Reconciliation") have always survived within smaller assemblies of believers. The ultimate reconciliation view has been on the rise in the last few years, often under the banner "The Restoration of All Things."

GIVE NOT THAT WHICH IS HOLY UNTO THE DOGS

by Dr. Wesley A. Swift

While it has some major problems it does expound on a much forgotten and neglected verse of Scripture, Matthew 7:6. Interspersed with notes, interpretations and explanation by Robert Alan Balaicius, to try and offset the error and confusion.

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Those who defend it vigorously have developed alternative interpretations for the Bible verses that seem to deny it - just as those expounding the two other main views have done for their beliefs. Generally, the majority of Christian-Israel teachers and books have accepted that actual death is God's eternal punishment for sin.

This is evident by reviewing the material released for decades by Covenant Publishing, Destiny Publishers, and other major distributors. Should any British-Israel or Identity group begin insisting that "Ultimate Reconciliation" is the only "Scriptural Truth" and attempt to publicly refute every criticism, they could be excluding many sincere Bible believers and leading their fellowship into narrow denominationalism.

In any case each Christian stands alone before The Almighty, responsible to shine what light he has on these controversial issues, even under intense persecution, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in ['gehenna'] hell" (Matthew 10:28).

Courtesy The Congregations of Israel, PO Box 94, Round Hill VA 20142

A FRESH LOOK AT JAMES 5

Eric Benson, Media Missionary
Healing The Sick

It is easy to find yourself in persecution because of your beliefs, and because we live in a world of stress, economic change, political change ...whatever it might be. And because of that we can find ourselves weak and weary from the weight of the world upon us. When we're like that, we need a support structure. Fortunately in the Scripture we find how we can be that support structure for one another.

James 5:13-18: "Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray. Is any merry? Let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much..."

Faith healers that have strange beliefs use it to teach that all Christians are guaranteed healing, or your money back. Others use James 5 as a formula that guarantees physical healing if we follow it precisely.

But if this is really a formula for physical healing, it's the *only* place in the New Testament where there's any kind of a guarantee like this. And in fact, it flies in the face of some other Scriptures. If you take a look at 1 Timothy 5:23, we find where Timothy was told to drink wine for his ailing stomach; 2 Timothy 4:20 we find Trophimus was left sick. So we find places even in the New Testament where individuals involved with the ministry directly were physically ill. So if this is a formula on how to deal with physical illness, why weren't they fixed and moved on?

We are always told that James 5 is about physical illness. Let's take a fresh look at this passage by first determining its teachings as we examine the Greek language that's used here and applying that teaching to the world we live in today. First and foremost we need to understand the context; **the best way to understand Scripture is to understand it contextually.** How does it fit into the context, not rent from its area and used as a proof text.

Let's go back to the beginning of James 1:1. James refers to the recipients of the letter: "**James a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus the Christ to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting**". James is writing

this letter to the dispersion of the Israelites that took place, and now they're believers in the Christ, and because of that, they are facing hostility from the pagan cultures where they live, and they're also facing hostility from some Judahite brethren because they're coming back into the fold, into the new banner of the Christ.

Have you ever been in a position where you feel like you're getting attacked from not only *outside* the faith, but you're also getting attacked from those *in* the faith? James is writing to those who are dealing with this type of thing. He opens his letter in verse 2: "**My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into diverse temptations**". (or *various trials* as some translations say). Throughout the letter James returns to the theme of patiently enduring trials and persecution. So this entire book is directed to individuals who are suffering in the midst of trials and tribulation. James brings up again and again the idea of that type of suffering and shows first and foremost the value of prayer in the midst of trouble.

Notice back in James 5:13 individual believers are told to pray. In verses 14, 15 we find that the elders are told to pray. In verse 16 we're told that the congregation at large should be praying for each other. In verses 17, 18 we have an example of effective prayer.

So prayer is the foundation for what James is addressing as a means to deal with suffering, and as a means to deal with the persecution. Verse 13: "**Is any among you suffering? Let him pray.**" The word 'suffering' here is the Greek word 'kakapatheo', which means to be weak, to be weary, or to endure evil treatment. This is the idea of something *more* than physical illness. In fact, this word 'kakapatheo' is used two other times in the New Testament: 2 Timothy 2:9 and 2 Timothy 4:5. In each case, this Greek word is used to refer to Paul or to Timothy as suffering persecution for being a preacher of the Gospel. So the only two times this Greek word is used, it has nothing to do with physical ailment; it's dealing with spiritual persecution.

James is addressing not those suffering from physical disease. He's addressing those being persecuted and abused because of their stand for Jesus the Christ. As an antidote to their suffering, James says pray because prayer is essential for enduring affliction. Who is our ultimate source of comfort? In 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4, we find that God is referred to by Paul as the Father of Mercies, the God of all Comfort; who comforts us in all our affliction. In how much affliction? All. Similarly, Peter writes in 1 Peter 5:7 "Casting all your cares (or anxiety) upon Him because He careth for you".

The words "let him pray" in James 5:13 are the Present Tense in Greek. So literally in English it could be translated as a continual pleading or 'let him keep on praying' would be a better way to render it.

When life is difficult, when we're weak in faith, when we're weary with persecution, when we're crushed by affliction, we must continually plead with God for comfort. That's a basic spiritual truth that is sometimes forgotten; "*Oh what peace we often forfeit, what needless pain we bear because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.*" We choose to forfeit that peace when we choose not to be in communication with our God.

One other thing it says in verse 13: "**Is any merry, let him sing Psalms**". Those who manage to maintain a merry or cheerful or joyful attitude in the midst of their suffering are encouraged to sing psalms, praises to the Almighty. Songs of praise, spiritual music that lifts up the heart, are a great way to testify to God's grace and mercy. Not just to yourself. How many times do you use music as a means to encourage yourself? As you sing praises, you might be a



blessing to somebody else who needs encouragement at that moment, too. Music is a gift from the Almighty that can be used for uplifting the heart. [do not confuse the voodoo type 'noise' from modern "singers" for music - it isn't!]

In verse 14, "*Is any sick among you, let him call for the elders of the church*" [of the local organised assembly]. This Greek word is the key word: '*astheneo*'. It is translated in English as 'sick,' and it literally means 'to be weak.' This word is used eighteen times in the New Testament for physical illness, weakness ...but it is used fourteen times as a reference to *emotional* or *spiritual* weakness. It's not limited to physical ailment and the context of the passage of James that we're reading tells us we are dealing with something more than physical ailment.

How do you hear James 5 always referred to? In many churches it is strictly referring to physical illness. But James is telling us if you are afflicted, persecuted, if you are suffering emotional or spiritual ailment, call for the elders of the church [assembly]. In the epistles this Greek word is used almost exclusively for spiritual weakness. For example, Paul uses the word to describe one who is weak in the faith in Romans 14:1, also in 1 Corinthians 8:11-12. So this word for 'sick' refers to those who are spiritually under pressure. James 5:14 could more properly be translated is any weak among you?

The fact of the matter is, the longer we suffer, the weaker we feel. The more we undergo persecution and difficulties, it literally zaps the strength right out of us. We feel weak and powerless at times. What do you do? These spiritual warriors are exhausted, weary, defeated, have tried to draw in the power of God through prayer, but they have lost personal motivation. They need to call for back-up. In that condition, the spiritually weak need the help, the encouragement, the fellowship, the support of the spiritually strong.

James tells the weak to call for the strong, that they might be strengthened through the spiritual Ministry of Prayer. The elders are supposed to be spiritually mature, very likely have gone through some of these things in the past and come out of them. They pray with us and for us. It's the same as Paul expressed in Galatians 6:1 "*Brethren if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness.*" The wounded, the exhausted, the broken sheep go to their shepherd who intercedes for them and with them, asking God for renewed strength on their behalf. This is an important ministry of church elders, the Ministry of Prayer. Acts 6:4, the apostles said the same thing.

Those who have been defeated in spiritual battle, do not need to hear the opinions of human wisdom. They need to pray to be strengthened by the power of God through prayer. What else are they supposed to do? Let's look at verse 14 again, "...anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord". This word 'anointing' is kind of interesting when you study the Greek. It changed my entire perspective of what was taking place here. The word in Greek for "anointing" is '*aleipho*', and it means "*to rub with oil*". It's the same word in Greek used in Matthew 6:17 or Luke 7:46 when a person's head was anointed with oil, or the anointing of Jesus' body as recorded in Mark 16:1, or the anointing of His feet in John 11:2 and John 12:3.

Basically the way it can be translated or pictured is not

simply to apply a drop of oil, but the ideal of a refreshing. It's referring to a ministry to those who are weak and weary, instead of dragging them around in a disheveled condition. James suggests that they need to be uplifted and encouraged.

Deep tissue massage, or therapeutic massage sometimes uses therapeutic oils and the stress seems to eek out of you. It's that same kind of a concept. What we're talking about here is a refreshing through oil, or a refreshing because of that. If you are undergoing trials and tribulation, you need times of refreshing. It's a different concept than simply applying a drop of oil on somebody and saying 'move along, next.' It's deeper; the ability for them to walk away and feel different about themselves. The idea is that you look and feel different. The anointing was about getting encouragement and uplifting.

Metaphorically the elders' anointing of the weak, defeated believers with oil conveys the responsibility for elders to stimulate, to encourage, to strengthen and to refresh the people under their charge. The elders ministry of intercession and restoration is, of course, to be done in the name of the Lord. To do something in the name of Jesus the Christ, is to do something that you believe *He* would

have done in that same circumstance. So often we pray in the name of our Lord, but are we really thinking of that? We pray with the will and authority of our Lord. When we pray, can we really literally picture Jesus praying for the things we are praying about? Elders are to do something in that way, to pray in His Divine Will.

The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. The prayer of faith is made in the full realization that it's God's will to enter that prayer in the manner desired. That prayer

can't always be about physical healing, because while we know that God can strengthen us in the midst of physical trial, and He does, and He can also heal, can God provide miraculous healing? Absolutely. But does God always *choose* to do it the way we think He should? No, He doesn't. So it's difficult to say blanket, the Prayer of Faith will save the sick if it only applies to physical healing.

On the other hand, if James has been talking throughout this entire letter about spiritual affliction, about emotional trial and difficulty, and the elder is praying with an individual for victory over sin, encouragement in the midst of spiritual conflict, for that weak and weary saint, is there any question at all about God's will? I don't think so. I believe God is never pleased for His children to be weak in their faith. I think God always wants us to rise up in our faith and encouragement.

The prayer is but a *channel* for God's power. It's the Lord who will raise him up. That's what we see in verse 15. The prayers provide the encouragement for the believers to move forward, so the Lord may build him up in strength to face the conflicts they're dealing with.

The fact is, that when one is spiritually weak, they will, when coming to the Lord for forgiveness, find forgiveness. This again does not refer to physical healing here. Spiritual defeat is often both the cause and the result of sin. What does physical healing have to do with sin? Time and time again you hear, "The reason you are not getting physically healed is because obviously you just don't have the faith," or "You have sin in your life and you're just not letting go, that's why you're not getting healed."

THE SALVATION OF NICODEMUS + IS GOD FAIR?

by Bible Teacher James Strahan,
DVD#CI-552 @ sug don \$17

FIVE PARTS OF THE KINGDOM + HOW JESUS PREACHED THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM.

by Bible Teacher Ernestine Young,
DVD#CI-553 @ sug don \$17
Both from America's Promise 2007
Summer camp



This passage is abused in that way. But think about it. If this is referring to someone who is spiritually and emotionally battered and weak, those individuals may very often fall into conditions of sin. Those individuals when they pray for an uplifting from God in the midst of that, you can see why they would be forgiven. It has nothing to do with physical ailment.

James 5:16: "*Confess your faults one to another and pray one for another that ye may be healed.*" So turning the attention away from the sins of the believers who have been defeated in the spiritual battle, James addresses the congregation as a whole; exhorting believers to continually confess their faults. Don't wait until these faults have dragged you into the depths of utter defeat. This is a preventative measure James is talking about right here. He's saying, "When we hold each other accountable, do you have an accountability partner; somebody you can go to and talk about things you're facing?" When we continually talk about the things we need to overcome with one another and pray for one another, we are strengthened, and we might not end up at the position where we need to have our weak and weary sickness healed and to be raised up. This is preventative medicine right here.

Sin is exceptionally dangerous to an isolated believer. When you are out on your own with no support structure, it is easy to fall into a trap because sin seeks to remain private and secret. But God wants to deal with His people in a loving environment with brothers and sisters in mutual encouragement and accountability. That is what being members of an assembly, and ecclesia, is all about: mutual worship and encouragement.

James reminds them that prayer is effective. The word effectual here in Greek is 'energeō'. We get the English word energy from 'energeo'. So the prayer of a righteous man is very strong. It's energetic, it's full of energy. The energetic prayers of a righteous man are a potential force in calling down the power of God for restoring the weak struggling believers to spiritual health. Weak prayers come from weak people. Strong prayers come from strong people; not by *their* strength or power, but because of the indwelling presence of God in their lives. Christ in them, the hope of glory.

As God's people, we must be willing to admit to each other our weaknesses, and hold each other accountable, and seek help from one another to find, together, the strength that God wants to give us, as the body of the Christ.

James 5 isn't about saving the sick physically, as much as it's about saving the sick spiritually.

Courtesy Hear Ye! Hear Ye! General Post Office, Lead Hill AR 72644.

HOMOSEXUAL/ LESBIAN 'MARRIAGE' – THE BATTLE!

by Peter Stokes

Almost every day we see some new development in the push to change the *Marriage Act* to include same sex 'couples.'

Not only have Homosexual lobby groups like *Australian Marriage Equality*, continued running nationwide campaigns supported by left wing activist group *GetUp!*, but so-called 'progressives' in the ALP have moved state by state to have their 'Conferences' endorse the idea and to have the National ALP Conference discuss the issue in December 2011.

Fortunately, the NSW state Labor conference, held in

July, 'dodged' having a vote because the conservative *Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees' Association* opposes same-sex 'marriage.' Rather than lose the vote the 'progressives' agreed, instead, to simply send it to the ALP National Conference.

The ABC has also pushed the issue with a special Q&A and the Sunday night "religious" program *Compass* recently ran two consecutive programs on the issue.

The first program featured interviews with three same-sex 'couples' who "want to get married." The second program involved Geraldine Doogue hosting a 'Dinner' with six people for a 'chat' about the issue.

The program was called '*Marriage Right vs Rite*,' but did she have a balanced set of dinner guests? Well ...NO! Only two totally opposed homosexual 'marriage,' Sydney Anglican Bishop **Rob Forsyth** and Catholic priest **Frank Brennan**. Sadly, Brennan did "endorse" homosexual and lesbian relationships.

The other dinner 'guests' were: homosexual activist **Dennis Altman**, who didn't really want 'marriage' but rather focused on 'equality' and also openly rejected the notion of 'sexual fidelity;' Lesbian broadcaster **Julie McCrossin**, who attends a Uniting Church and wants to 'marry' her lesbian 'partner;' **Geoff Thomas** - the father of a homosexual man who says he was once homophobic but now supports his son's 'right' to 'marry.' He also appeared on the Q&A program to confront Juliar Gillard on this issue.

Then there was Victorian Baptist minister **Nathan Nettleton** - who supports homosexual 'marriage' and says he would be happy to officiate at a 'wedding' of two homosexuals. Nathan also supports the ordination of homosexuals and is proud to be the first divorcee ordained by the *Baptist Union of Victoria!* There you see the slippery slope at work! While pressure continues to mount on Juliar Gillard, she has said that she would continue to have her view

but would not shut down debate [but then she also said she would not bring in a Carbon Tax!]

At the same time she has brought forward the ALP National Conference to December - it was to be later in 2012 - no doubt so that any adverse decision taken would be forgotten by the next election.

By distancing herself from the move to change the Marriage Act, she can also claim she was forced by the Party, thus she would not be seen as breaking yet another election statement (promise!).

There is also a strong possibility that now the Greens (Communists) hold a significant power base in the Senate, as well as a member in the House of Representatives assisting Labor to stay in power, there could be a compromise afoot. The issue of euthanasia is one the Greens have been pursuing for some time and they may try to make a deal. This could possibly be to support Euthanasia (or the 'Territories Rights' Bill) and allow the same-sex 'marriage' debate to go through to the keeper - for a while. BUT, make no mistake, any deal will be temporary and the push will re-start almost immediately. Any compromise will always give ground - and ultimately help move the issue forward.

In the meantime, many newspapers and media outlets such as Yahoo7 and Channel Ten continue to run 'polls' asking people if they support same-sex 'marriage.'

Interestingly, we have won many of those although some have been very close - others have been overwhelmingly in support of same-sex 'marriage.' Of course, these polls are not scientific and some can be rigged, but it is



important that we continue to try and be involved and engaged in the polls and the debate.

A recent, unexpected voice joined the debate on our side of this issue and caught many commentators off-guard. Loree Rudd, sister of Kevin Rudd, came out strongly opposing same-sex 'marriage' and promoting Christian wisdom and Christian values. She wrote an 'Open Letter' to Labor MPs which was reported in the newspapers.

She said, "God loves all humans equally, but not all things that humans do are of equal value... It is with great sadness that I note delegates to State labor Conferences are falling like flies under the weight of compassion aroused by homosexual activists who they do not wish (or wish to be seen) to offend. Also I know there are genuine supporters... in the grand scheme of things, the wisdom of the ages is sadly lacking in the western world. This lack of wisdom tries to frighten happily married men and women and all people of faith in God from standing up for marriage, family and children - threatened with labels of homophobia and bible-bashing. If marriage is disintegrating, we need to restore it so that men, women and children grow in wisdom. Disintegrating the definition of marriage along with marriage itself will not harness a recovery...

Politics can only aid a nation insofar as it builds on the foundation of time-tested wisdom."

She suggested newspapers should start printing daily segments of Proverbs until they had published the whole Book!

When interviewed by the *Australian* newspaper she said there was a worldwide homosexual movement that "fed propaganda" to lobby for the changes. "I call them the global gay Gestapo: it is the lobbying movement that is brainwashing people, particularly the young in the community that this (homosexuality) is an optional extra in life," she said.

She is a very gutsy lady who has made a much stronger stand than many church leaders on this issue. Please pray for her.

Naturally, the media and homosexual activists have thrown everything they have at her because she used the term 'gestapo;' [GEheime STAats POLizei - secret state police, or secret service] yet her dictionary defines the word this way: 'gestapo' - adjective, "of or resembling the Nazi Gestapo, especially in the brutal suppression of opposition: example 'The new regime is using gestapo tactics.'"

It is a legitimate term for people who intimidate and abuse anyone who opposes them, and that is certainly what many homosexual activists have done, to anyone who speaks out - even in love and concern - against the normalization of their unnatural sexual activity. We know - we have been on the receiving end of some of that aggressive behaviour because we speak the truth.

Many EX-homosexuals have also been on the receiving end of that aggression when they have spoken out against the idea that homosexuality is innate or stated that people are NOT 'born gay.'

There is actually NO genuine evidence that substantiates the 'born gay' or 'innateness' rhetoric. Even the personal swipes and intimidation on letters pages and web comment pages that Loree received, and we often receive as well, show that same aggression. They always play the man (or woman in this case) not the ball, so they should

expect to bear the label!

The fact is - they have NO BALL TO PLAY WITH! The only 'argument' they have is one of 'equality,' and, as Aristotle rightly stated a long time ago, "the WORST form of equality is to make equal that which is not equal." Same-gender relationships will never be equal to heterosexual relationships.

They cannot naturally engage in 'normal/ natural' sexual activity. Neither two men nor two women have the necessary equipment to produce the next generation. Two men and two women are sterile without the unnatural, artificial help of IVF WHICH THEY SHOULD **NOT** BE ENTITLED TO!

Why? Because children need both a mother and a father. Now as Christians, we know that, because otherwise why would God have decided to require both to reproduce? But the 'world' does not believe in God, so how can we get that point across?

Easy, and it is also a good argument against evolution. Why does reproduction require TWO people (as with most animals for that matter) to replicate. If it was not necessary, surely reproduction would have by now found (evolved) a way to do it independently. Remember that evolutionists cannot claim IVF as 'evolution.'

So, the question to ask is 'WHY does it take two opposites to reproduce, and why does all good social science research show that children NEED and do best when raised by a married biological father and mother?'

Now they may claim evidence to the contrary, but it does not stack up. Small sample sizes, self-select groups and biased, and often skewed or manipulated research, has been used.

Over eighty percent of all HIV/AIDS in Australia is the result of same-sex activity and the STD rate is much higher than in any other group. The uncomfortable truth is that same-sex sexual activity is unnatural, unhealthy, and unproductive.

URGENT ACTION

We must write to our own MP and twelve senators and tell them we are totally opposed to any legal recognition of same-sex relationships including marriage.

We must emphasise that MPs need to

- Consider the BEST interests of children before the selfish interests of adults.
- Understand that same-sex relationships are NOT equal to heterosexual relationships.

The MPs have scheduled a parliamentary debate on the findings of their 'research' into what their constituents 'think', most of which are simply web polls - for August 17, 2011. So it is vital that we act NOW! Please get your friends to write too. [if you do not know the contact details of your MP (one) or Senators (twelve) then phone the Electoral Office and ask them - **13 23 26**].

Courtesy Salt Shakets, PO Box 6049, Wantirna Vic 3152

BURNED BISCUITS

(from a Vietnam Navy Fighter Pilot)

When I was a kid, my Mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then. And I remember one night in particular when she had made breakfast after a long, hard day at work. On that evening so long ago, my

THE POST-CHRISTIAN ERA AND THE NEW DARK AGES

by Robert Alan Balaičius

The situation is far worse than the average person can imagine, for the enemies of Christendom (who are actually at the helms of our ships of state) are so busy creating artificial "emergencies," sabotaging and gutting the infrastructure of our nations from within, and giving all our resources away - while smiling to the camera and telling our people "Everything is good! We are fine..." though our nations are in spiritual, moral, and economic bankruptcy.

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Mom placed a plate of eggs, sausage and extremely burned biscuits in front of my dad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed!

Yet all my Dad did was reach for his biscuit, smile at my Mom and ask me how my day was at school. I don't remember what I told him that night, but I do remember watching him smear butter and jelly on that ugly burned biscuit. He ate every bite of that thing; he never made a face nor uttered a word about it. When I got up from the table that evening, I remember hearing my Mom apologize to my Dad for burning the biscuits. And I'll never forget what he said: "Honey, I love burned biscuits every now and then." Later that night, I went to kiss Daddy good night and I asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned. He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your Momma put in a hard day at work today and she's real tired. And besides - a little burned biscuit never hurt anyone!"

As I've grown older, I've thought about that many times. Life is full of imperfect things and imperfect people. I'm not the best at hardly anything, and I forget birthdays and anniversaries just like everyone else. But what I've learned over the years is that learning to accept each other's faults - and choosing to celebrate each other's differences is one of the most important keys to creating a healthy, growing, and lasting relationship. And that's my prayer for you today; that you will learn to take the good, the bad, and the ugly parts of your life and lay them at the feet of God, because in the end, He's the only One who will be able to give you a relationship where a burnt biscuit isn't a deal-breaker!

We could extend this to any relationship. In fact, understanding is the basis of any relationship, be it a husband-wife or parent-child or friendship! "Don't put the key to your happiness in someone else's pocket - keep it in your own." Be kinder than necessary because everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle. "Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil - it has no point." (AmProm)

TRUE LOVE

by Dr. J.V. Foster

Love/ charity does not fail to support one another in crisis, rearing children, or when falsely accused. (Taken from 1 Corinthians 13).

1. It develops the ability to be on time for appointments and keeps their word.
2. It does not say, "I don't need counseling, you are the one with the problem."
3. It does not call Godly principles "hang-ups" in someone's life.
4. It does not leave the one they love who is sick and goes to do their hobby.
5. It does not assume that they are always right and you are never right about anything.
6. It knows that when we marry, we marry the whole family, NOT JUST the individual.
7. It does not demonstrate arrogance in private or public, to embarrass another.
8. It does not continuously procrastinate, and constantly break its word.
9. It does not lovingly spend time with someone they love, only at their convenience, rather at the convenience of the one they love.
10. It does not let one person in the relationship do all the sacrificing for the benefit of both.

11. It does not let the other party bear all the responsibilities for maintenance of the relationship.

12. It provides financially, morally, spiritually, socially for the others' needs.

13. It does not take advantage of another's frugal nature.

14. It does not presume to know it all before hearing all the facts.

15. It does take care of one's health for the benefit of the family.

16. It is always willing to talk things out, communicate rationally.

17. It is always willing to admit when it is wrong, say "I'm sorry," "Will you please forgive me?" and "How can I make it right?"

18. It is never a "room-mate" in a marriage, but assumes full responsibilities as wife or husband.

19. It always supports the other parent in disciplining children, settling any disagreement in private later.

20. It does not do the right things at the right time at one's own convenience, but always at the time of need of the other.

21. It does not assume that "my time is my own, don't bother me".

22. It tries to have fun and enjoy family times, not complain or be resentful of the activity.

23. It does encourage the ones they love in all their endeavours.

24. It does not put hobbies, sports, or TV as more important than family

requests or needs for affection and attention.

25. It does not use its talents or intellect to make others feel like a fool or inadequate.

26. It does not laugh in one's face when mistakes are made.

27. It does not always expect sex to be the end result of expressing affection.

28. It does not expect one hundred percent from another without giving one hundred percent in return.

29. It always remembers special days and expresses positive feelings.

30. It's always willing to fix problems the Jesus way.

31. It is never self-indulgent, self-centered, hypocritical, arrogant, macho, know-it-all, devious, deceitful, selfish, using others for personal gain, ignorant of facts yet making decisions that affect others.

32. It does not speak down to the one they love.

Courtesy America's Promise, Box 157, Sandpoint ID 83864.

Greetings in Jesus' Name!

Well the wedding of Rebecca and Jonathon is now behind us, and they are on their honeymoon, under God's care. I heard that Pastor Dave Barley's son Tyler was also marrying a girl called Rebecca on the same day! Most of the family came together for this wedding, and on Sunday afternoon we were gathered together with about fifty people present. You can understand there was much to do. It has caused some delays and I apologize for any slowness with the mail. Jessica has been working very hard to get through it all, and if you are still waiting for something - it shouldn't be long.

Thanks again for your support which helps us stay ahead of the bills that continue to come. We appreciate all your letters and clippings etc. We hope you receive this messenger as favourably as some other recent ones. May our Heavenly Father bless you, and keep you in His gracious care, and grant His protection,

WHERE IS YOUR SOUL AFTER DEATH?

by late Pastor Sheldon Emry

Many have rejected the idea of a torturing 'hell,' although they accept the other side of the coin, i.e. the 'soul' of the believer going to heaven for eternity. A good scriptural examination, to be used as a starter.

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