




A NEW Watchman Report: Christianized Pagan Practices

Christianized Pagan Practices

Watchman Report



There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.
Proverbs 14:12

PLUS
1 DVD

Compiled by
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EXTENDED LIFE Christian Training

The Bible says those who love this world and what is in the world—don't have God's love in them. Tragically, many Christians who would never say they love this world, do however, celebrate holidays, festivals and embrace practices that are actually pagan and mock the very God they claim to honor. Everything about paganism is contrary to God's laws and embracing pagan traditions is clearly condemned by the Bible. These words sound harsh to many but the evidence to back them up is undeniable. Many do not *want* to know about or *refuse* to take seriously—what the Bible teaches on this. But The trumpet is being sounded challenging professing Christians—to become informed and avoid dishonoring God.

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“GOD TOLD ME...”

Rightly Discerning Popular Teachings, Practices and Prophecies

By Karen Connell

*All Scripture is from the KJV or NKJV unless otherwise specified—all numbers are from the Strong's Concordance and the Hebrew Greek Complete Word Studies Dictionary (CWSD).

There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them are without signification.

(1 Corinthians 14:10)

Many, Christians and non-Christians alike were duped into believing that something spectacular was going to happen on September 23rd. Whenever I was asked what I thought was going to take place, my answer was NOTHING! Why? Because Scripture confirmed my answer. The Christian community especially, was whipped into a frenzy over the latest prophecy craze to falsely predict the Rapture or other end time events either based on a



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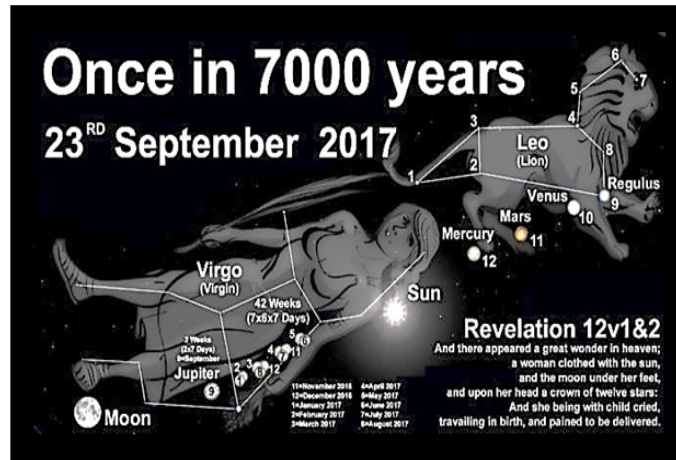
plainly non-Biblical source or from Scriptures that were being misused. This year of 2017 is a series of “signs in the Heavens”—starting with the eclipse of August 21st and including a celestial alignment which allegedly took

place on September 23, 2017—all supposedly indicating “something big was going to happen!” Not only are these numerous false teachers and ministries misleading the Christian community but they are also misleading the secular community into observing their predictions and giving the enemy plenty of ammunition for discrediting the true faith of Christianity.

Even Fox News got in on the act! On September 15, 2017 a Fox News headline that stated: **Biblical prophecy claims the world will end on Sept. 23, claims Christian numerologists.** There were many, many YouTube videos and blogs devoted to predicting that either the Rapture, the Second Coming, the start of the Day of The Lord (also known as The Great Tribulation) or “something very big!” will happen on September 23rd due to an allegedly “extremely rare” celestial alignment that supposedly fulfills the “prophecy” of Revelation 12. Those teaching this failed to understand that there are many things that need to happen before the fulfillment of Revelation 12. These false ministers are not only leading many Biblically ignorant followers of their ministries into grave spiritual error, but worse yet into the world of the occult!

It is so important in these end times to remember that false ministers and ministries have an unscriptural theology regarding their concept of **God**. This means when people have an unscriptural view or concept of God, their understanding of how God manifests Himself (i.e. speaks to them) and operates in their lives will also be faulty, which in turn will be the foundation for their accepting unscriptural teachings, practices or prophecies.

Therefore, it is imperative that we know the **origin** for what is being taught and practiced or prophesied—especially if the Bible is being used to legitimize these things. What we believe and practice must be free from error, for it is the **little leaven** (error) that if not corrected will lead to death. As I once heard it said, *“Whether the charge against a killer is first or second degree murder, voluntary or involuntary manslaughter, or just carelessness in causing a death, the*



result is still the same—a dead body” (i.e. death). That is why we must not take lightly any error that is practiced or taught by any ministry—no matter how popular and revered they may be by other well-known ministers or ministries. I have found that when one ministry fails to correct or accept correction from another ministry or minister, it is because something is at stake (i.e. loss of reputation or financial loss usually) if a minister or ministry is found to be in error. Personal gain has caused more compromise and ruined more ministers and ministries that were once very right on. We are commanded to correct those who are in error and to stay away from those who refuse to be corrected...

(Titus 1:9)

Holding fast the faithful word as (you) have been taught, that (you) may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers. (A

gainsayer¹ is One who contradicts, denies, or questions the validity of truth). (Parenthesis mine added for clarity)

(Titus 3:10)

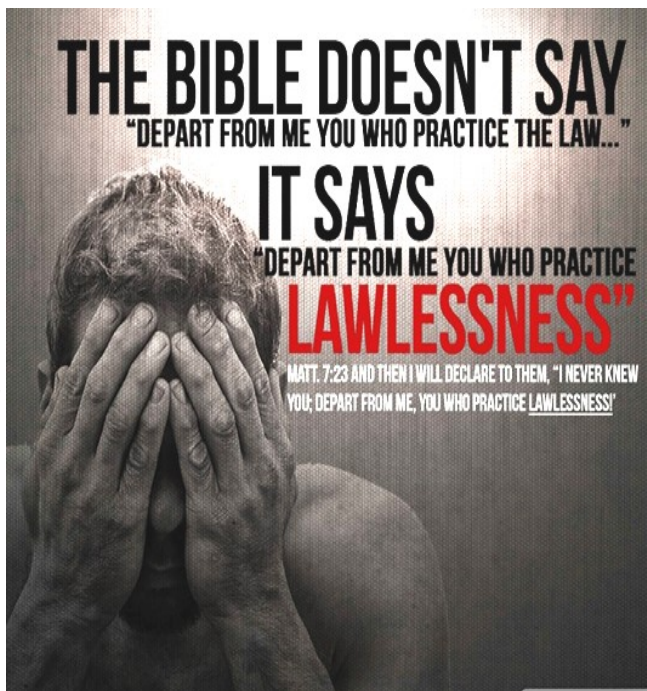
A man that is an heretic after the first and second admonition reject; Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sins, having condemned himself.

The fact that

a “Christian” minister or ministry may use a lot of Scripture as the basis for what they do and teach, can be used to draw unwary Christians—who don’t *rightly divide* the word of God—into accepting what is falsely taught or practiced. This is how many Christians are being deceived by ministries that misuse or mishandle the Word of God in their ministry.

Any ministry that attempts to use the Bible to make their gnostic, New Age, or Jewish Kabbalistic views and practices appear as

¹ **GAINSAYER** STRONG'S #483 *antilego* (an-til'-eg-o); to dispute, refuse, contradict, deny, speak against, truth.



God's LAWS are God's WAYS!

GAINSAYERS are LAWLESS

Scripturally sound, is a ministry from hell—no matter how much they may use the name of Jesus in their prayers and practices. **(Matt 7:22-23) Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not (correctly) prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'** (I.e. “gainsaying” is rebellion against God’s word or laws) **NKJV** (Parenthesis are mine for clarification).

A great problem is that many of the teachings, practices, or predictions from these false ministries can often be accurate or even achieve desired results by those seeking help or answers concerning the future. Thus, those who receive the lie that... **the end result justifies the means** (i.e. embracing false teachings, practices, or predictions)—those embracing these are partakers of Satan’s deadly leaven. May we never forget that Satan’s antichrist ministers *can* and *are* being used for the purpose of achieving healing, making accurate predictions and doing many supernatural signs and wonders. **(2 Thess 2:9) (Their) coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders** (i.e. teachings, practices, or predictions). (Parenthesis are mine for clarification).

A “lying wonder” is a something that leaves people in “awe” of what they see or hear—something such as a supernatural event or some “special revelation” that deceives the person who receives it. Therefore, just because it is supernatural or even accurate—always keep in mind ... those using sorcery can be very accurate and do



supernatural acts. This is one of the most subtle deceptions used by Satan for getting God’s people to accept his false ministers... **(2 Cor 11:13-15) For such are ... deceitful workers ... And no wonder! For Satan, he transforms himself into an angel of light... Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness** (ministers who appear right), **whose end will be according to their works** (an

alternate translation of this phrase is: “whose purpose (goals or agendas) will be achieved by their works”). **NKJV**

If a ministry departs **in any way** from the **true intent of the word of God**, they are ministers for the Angel of Light (Satan). Those Christians who lack knowledge of what the Scriptures really teach—will easily fall prey to any deceptive ministry that misuses Scripture by twisting—stretching—misapplying—or by adding to & subtracting from the Scriptures. As a result of misusing the word, multitudes of

Christians are unknowingly being led into many occult and New Age practices by those involved in what is being called a “Christian ministry.” Therefore, it is essential to know beyond a shadow of doubt—whether that which a minister or ministry believes and teaches is a doctrine or revelation of unholy demon spirits or is it truth as rightly revealed in the word of God by His Holy Spirit. God’s ways are much higher than that of human beings. Those willing to do things God’s way by trusting Him and OBEYING what He has declared in the Scriptures pertaining to life and godliness—will live a life that is blessed because they refuse to compromise His truth!

(2 Pet 1:4) Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises (i.e. truthful declarations from God) **that by these you might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.**

Herein lies the problem... “lust.” When a Christian falls into lust, they have allowed their CARNAL nature to have its way, which means they have ignored, rejected or compromised God’s word in order to fulfill a carnal desire that God has forbidden in His Word. May we seriously consider this word from the LORD:

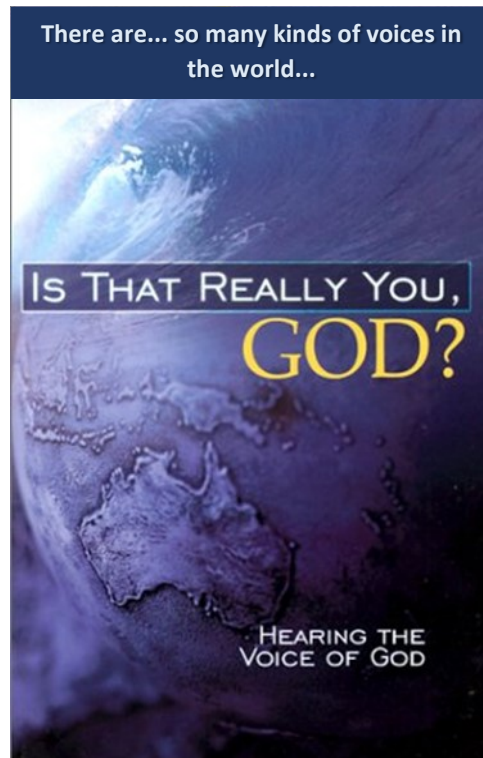
“Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans (human desires and ways) who turn their hearts away from the LORD.... But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence... They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water (God’s Word). Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they go right on producing delicious fruit... “The human heart is most deceitful and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is? ... But I know! I, the LORD, search all hearts and examine secret motives. I give all people their due rewards, according to what their actions (i.e. decisions) deserve” (Jer 17:5, 6-10) NLT.

The above text tells us that life, godliness and being a partaker of the one true God’s divine nature comes ONLY through receiving the truth that God DECLARES to us. Therefore, we must know or be able to hear (understand) what God has told us or declared to us. This means we MUST be able to hear God’s voice.

Hearing His voice keeps us in relationship with Him. If we start feeling “bored” or “lonely”—we are not hearing God’s voice. His voice keeps us stable, strong and sound, so we will not wander off the narrow road that leads to life. His sheep hear HIS voice, and sheep can’t feed themselves... they must have a true shepherd and not a hireling with a personal agenda, to lead them to God’s life giving food source. God’s sheep know His voice. Jesus said: **Every one that is of the truth hears my voice. (John 18:37)**

However, in this final generation of Christianity it has become common place to hear professing Christians say, **“God told me...”** This type of communication is showing up in professing Christian’s conversations because they are hearing it from the pulpit, on Christian

media and reading it in books purchased from the local Christian bookstores. To say, “God told me this or that,” implies that we audibly



hear the voice of God speaking to us and this sounds very “mystically” and “spiritually” appealing.

Although the... “God told me” method of communicating makes for interesting sounding spiritual experiences, what people need most is to really hear the voice of God—from His Word. Christians... need to **stop** saying “God told me”—unless what they hear is coming from the Scriptures. One reason I say this, is because occult practices are rampant (many times unknowingly) within modern day Christendom among many “spirit filled” professing Christian’s lives and gatherings. Thus, many are truly “hearing “voices” and “messages” ...but they are not from God’s Holy Spirit.

(1 Cor. 14:10) There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices (in the Greek text

“voices” literally means: *disclosures or revelations from*) **in the world, and none of them are without signification** (this literally means: none of these voices are without *revelations or messages or impressions*). These things are being received by many Christians but are actually coming from many “kinds” of sources—such as lying and seducing spirits.

There are many demonic spirits in this world and we are able to *hear their “voices” or revealed messages and impressions*. So every voice, impression or message we hear isn’t automatically the voice of God. We don’t allow Mormons or Jehovah’s Witnesses to play the “God told me” divine revelation card, and we shouldn’t allow Baptists, Presbyterians, Methodists or Charismatics and Evangelicals to have a free pass on this crucial issue either.

Saying “God told me...” emphasizes **our stories** and **our spiritual experiences** making **us** the center of attention rather than *God’s word*. There has been an increasing preoccupation with mystical revelations and encounters and emotional ecstasies, by those seeking to *hear God’s voice* or to receive “divine revelation from God.” Those in this place, for whom the Bible alone is simply not enough are being deceived. For them, biblical revelation isn’t “revelation” unless supplemented or replaced with personal “words from God,” emotional impressions, omens (i.e. signs that are taken to be revelations or messages) or other *subjective spiritual*

experiences. These things are how the pagans receive communication from their demon gods. As I will discuss in this article, the VOICE OF THE LORD emanates from His written Word. This is why Satan has seen to it that there is an increasing and outright rejection of the authority and sufficiency of Scripture as the basis for truth and for **hearing God's voice** by more and more Christian leaders and schools of theology. This has become a recipe for theological and spiritual disaster among God's people.



God's PERSPECTIVE (view) on any situation that we as human beings face, is found within the pages of our Bibles. To see what the Bible has to say, is what it means to "seek His

face" (perspective) and ultimately "hear His voice."

(Psalms 32:8) I will instruct you and teach you in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide you with mine eye (i.e. perspective).

It is also from the Scriptures that we hear God's voice (i.e. what He proclaims or makes known) concerning directions or instructions or counsel that we may need. When we look to other sources for these things, we open ourselves up to seducing and lying spirits that we think are "God speaking to us" or through others. God's Word contains all we need— but we simply "... **have not, because we ask not.**" (James 4:2).

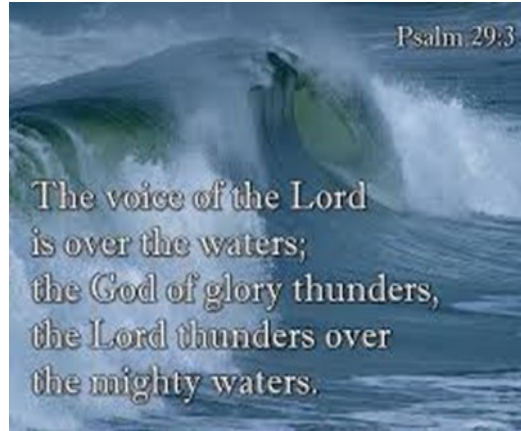
(2 Tim. 3:16–17) All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable...

- for **doctrine**, (literally: learning information for instruction and direction)
- for **reproof**, (literally: proof resulting in disapproval of what is sin)
- For **correction**, (literally: the process of refinement, purification, reforming, making right)
- for **instruction in righteousness** (literally: to impart knowledge that is right)

... So That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works... I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom... Therefore:

- **Proclaim the word** (i.e. not some message you "think or feel" you heard apart from God's Word);
- **be instant in season, out of season**; (be quick to use the Word to)
- **reprove**, (literally: convince of a fault) **rebuke**, (literally: express disapproval)
- **exhort** (literally: To give moral or emotional strength to others by comforting, consoling, providing relief from pain) **with all longsuffering** (great patience) **and doctrine** (sound biblical teaching)... **For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts (carnal desires) shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears... And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.** (Parenthesis mine for clarity).

♦ **FABLES** G3454 *muthos*; *moo'-thos*; a **tale** (i.e. a message) **that is fiction** (i.e. a false account based on the imagination) from G3453 *mueō*; *moo-eh'-o*; meaning: to be taught - to be instructed (i.e. by what is false).



Although some people unintentionally say... "God told me"... apart from Scripture, without understanding what is being implied (i.e. that they actually heard the audible voice of God like Moses did). In other cases, certain people and preachers freely use the phrase as a means of claiming that they actually hear a voice directly from God, when in reality that is not the case. This misuse of God's name is a clear violation of the third commandment.

(Deut. 5:11) Thou shalt not **take** (use) **the name of the LORD thy God in vain: for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain** (literally: to use His name uselessly or deceptively).

Christians often feel compelled to say "God told me..." to legitimize whatever spiritual experience they have or to legitimize their own thoughts (i.e. imaginations or reasoning) or to justify their decisions to do things (that are often contrary to the Word)... by saying, "**God told me...**" when in reality He did not do so. This is using His name in VAIN. There is much false teaching coming from the "prophetic movement" concerning the Voice of the Lord that tries to get people to hear God's VOICE apart from His word. This is causing God's people to listen to the many "other voices" that are in the world (including the spirit of divination which can be very accurate).

When my husband and I were involved in the prophetic movement, we paid big money to be taught to "hear God's voice" through impressions or thoughts, which was an open door to seducing spirits. I received many so called "prophetic personal prophesies" that were not from God during that time. We must stop looking to our thought life to hear the voice of God. God's voice does not come from our thought life... it comes from the life giving **water of God's Word...**

Ho, every one that thirsts, come ye to the waters... hearken diligently unto me ...Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live... Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man **his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55:1-3)**

The Bible Clearly Defines the Voice of the Lord

The Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ is the living VOICE of God upon the earth today. Jesus Christ, who is God, became a human being called the **WORD of God** who lived upon the earth—before His death, burial, resurrection and ascension into heaven—where He now remains, in His resurrected body, until He returns to earth at the end of this age.

- (John 1:1, 14) In the beginning was the **Word** (logos), and the **Word** (logos) was with God, and the **Word** (logos) **was God**... And the **Word** (logos) was made **flesh** (a human being), and dwelt among us...
- (Acts 3:20-21) And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you... Whom the heaven must receive until the times for the restitution (reorganization or restoration) of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

In (Psalm 29:3-9) the origin and manifestation of the Voice of the Lord is revealed

There are seven characteristics regarding the VOICE of the Lord that are given in the following verses of (Psalm 29:3-9). These verses reveal the **origin** (source) for God's voice and also how His voice **manifests** in us. Following are some things the Holy Spirit made clear to me as I looked closely at this text.

#1. (Psalm 29 vs.3) The voice of the LORD is upon (or more literally: **comes from**) **the waters...** This verse reveals that:

- **God's VOICE**—which Literally means: that which is **proclaimed** (i.e. **made known**) –“comes from” (originates) from the **WATER**—and “water” represents the **“Word of God”** (Ephesians 5:26). Thus, the **“living water”** (i.e. living word) from the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ gives **light** and **life** to our human spirit. Jesus Himself is called the **WORD** (NT:3056 “logos” (log'-os)—which literally means: “communicator of topics” and whatever He communicates is pure **truth** that reveals the **way** to eternal (continuous spiritual) **life**.
- (John 14:6) *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*
- (John 7:38) *He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly* (NOT OUR CARNAL THOUGHT LIFE) *shall flow rivers of living water.*
 - **BELLY** G2836 *koilia*; koy-lee'-ah; Defined as a **MATRIX**: The place within (our spirit) where something **originates** and develops.
- (John 6:63) the **words** that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Jesus said the *WORDS He speaks to us are G4487 *rhema*.

- **rhēma**; (ray'-mah); which is defined as an utterance or NARRATION given to a gathering, or a specific individual: In other words a message that tells the particulars of the logos (i.e. a matter, subject or topic) being communicated from God's word.

***NOTE: When the Scriptures (logos) communicate to our spirit information on a matter, subject or topic and it is received as truth—then God's Holy Spirit uses the "logos" Word that has been received as truth and further develops the subject as "rhema" (with more information and/or insight) on the particular matter, subject or topic (logos). This means the "LOGOS" Word is the **ORIGIN** (source) for a "rhema" word. The message or revelation (i.e. rhema Word) can be specifically for a corporate body or specifically to an individual—in either case it is for the purpose of releasing God's living, life producing water—from the "logos Word."**

- (John 4:14) But whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.
- (Isaiah 49:10) ...even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

The VOICE of the Lord (what He proclaims or makes known to us) from the logos Scriptures, and becomes a rhema Word when it comes to life within our spirit as truth and then gives us... God's insight or perspective. This rhema living water springs up from our spirit into our soul (i.e. mind, will & emotions), guiding us through true prophetic words of God's knowledge, wisdom which is discernment (i.e. His personal perspective).

#2. (Psalm 29 vs. 4) The voice of the LORD is powerful;

- **POWERFUL** H3581 *kôach*: {ko'-akh} meaning to be firm; {vigor} to produce {force} {fruits} {might} {strength} {substance} {wealth}.
- (Hebrews 4:12) For the word (logos) of God is quick (literally: life-giving), and powerful (lit: active-effective), and sharper (lit: decisive i.e. having the power to determine an outcome or create a turning point) than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents (i.e. motives) of the heart.

The logos word is "quick" meaning a powerful source for "rhema" or the life giving personal word that speaks to us discerning and revealing our thoughts and motives in light of God's perspective.



#3. (Psalm 29 vs. 4) The voice of the LORD is majesty

- **MAJESTY** H1926 *hâdâr* (haw-dawr') means: {beautiful} {superior} {glorious} {honorable}—thus what God's word expresses (i.e. His "voice") to us is {beautiful} {superior} {glorious} {honorable}.
 - (2 Cor 3:16, 18; 4:2) Nevertheless when we shall turn to the Lord (i.e. the Word), the vail (spiritual blindness) shall be taken away...But we all, with open face (literally: no spiritual blindness) beholding as in a glass (a mirror i.e. or what the Word reflects is) the glory (very clear "majesty") of the Lord... by (revelation of) the Spirit of the Lord... (Then we will) not handle the word of God deceitfully; but (handle the word of God) by the manifestation of the truth... This tells us God's perspective reveals His "majesty" (glory) through His truth.

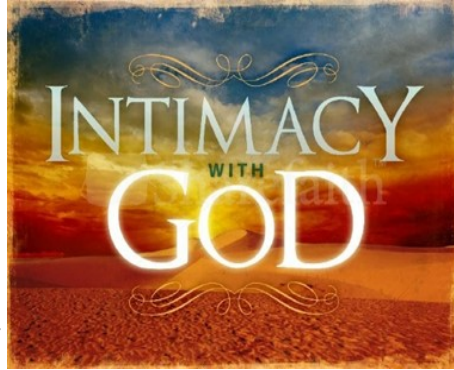
*NOTE: Please notice how the voice of the Lord is associated with His GLORY—which makes clear His MAJESTY (being worthy of honor). When we look into the WORD we see God's perspective of ourselves. This is telling us that what God reveals to us (i.e. His revelation) reveals His majesty or what is worthy of being highly honored as truth.

#4. (Psalm 29 vs. 5) The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars (H730 'erez (eh'-rez) a cedar tree (refers to tenacious roots) i.e. the Lord's voice causes us to be rooted and grounded in Him developing tenacity or the refusal to give up—making us stable and able to endure).

BREAKS H7665 *shâbar* (shaw-bar') Definition: to break out, break forth, brings to birth (i.e. produces tenacity so we won't be weak and fail).

(Isaiah 34:16; 35:1-6) (THOSE WHO) Seek out of the book of the LORD, and read: not one of these (who seek) shall fail (lack), none shall fail (lack) her husband (i.e. referring to the true seekers or the Bride who will not fail to be or lack intimacy with Jesus the Word): for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them. 35:1 The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. 35:2 It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God. 35:3 Strengthen ye the weak hands (literally refers to: power and abilities), and confirm (establishing) the feeble knees. 35:4 ay to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong (courage and confidence), fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you. 35:5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. 35:6 Then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: because in the wilderness shall waters break out as (i.e. brings to birth), streams in the desert.

NOTE: This text from (Isa 34:16; and 35:1-6) reveals that the “voice of the Lord” comes by seeking God’s Word and receiving it by His Spirit ...those who seek God’s Word are **gathered** (vs. 16) (in Hebrew it iterally means: **to grasp** i.e. or to understand **His voice**... that speaks to them from the word they read). Those who seek God’s voice (Word) will **hear** and (prophetically) **speak** what God’s voice has said to them (i.e. because they have been in the **wilder-ness**), causing rejoicing that brings forth a “quenching” in their **solitary places** and in their **desert** by bringing forth “**streams of living water**” (i.e. referring to the prophetic voice of God).



- **WILDERNESS** H4057 *midbâr* (mid-bawr') a reference to a **place of speech. (vs. 35:1)**

***NOTE:** The wilderness is the place where we learn to hear God’s voice (word)... it is where Moses, John the Baptist and Jesus (all prophetic types) received the voice of the Lord.

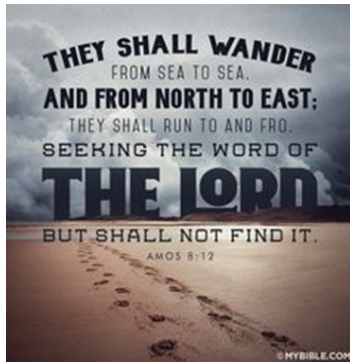
- **SOLITARY PLACE** H6723 *tsiyâh* (tsee-yaw') meaning to be barren-drought (i.e. famine), **dry places** (the word “dry” in Hebrew H954 *bûsh* (boosh) means: confusion, disappointment and shame).

***NOTE:** Where there is bareness (i.e. lack of “living water”) what is received in the wilderness and spoken into “solitary places” produces “gladness” (H7797 *sece* (soos) meaning: brightness) a reference to “revealed light or the truth” that will quench (put out) **dryness—shame** (sin issues) that cause confusion, and disappointment because of **famine** (i.e. not hearing the true voice of God)

- **Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD. (Amos 8:11).**

The Word of God is very clear about the fact that **God does not speak to the prideful or the rebellious**, so they become “dry” and dryness or walking in dry places make them vulnerable to demonic spirits (who speak to them) as mentioned in (Lk 11:24). When the Word of the Lord is released to those in dryness demonic powers are cleansed ... **(35:1) ... the solitary place shall be glad for them** (who hear and speak the Word of the Lord).

- **DESERT** H6160 *arâbâh* (ar-aw-baw'); is associated with **sterility**; from the root H6150 *ârab* (aw-rab') meaning **to be darkened**.



***NOTE:** When the voice of the Lord “quenches dryness” (i.e. confusion, disappointment, shame)... by the light of His Word it... produces life (i.e. no more “sterility”) ... it blossoms and brings forth power and abilities, establishing, courage and confidence. **35:1** “...the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. **35:4** goes on to say: **fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you.**

In order for there to be rejoicing and blossoming God must bring forth His punishment (vengeance) which is His (recompense) or literally deserved consequences (i.e. sin always has consequences). But when this happens we are not to fear because God promises to use these to “save us” (deliver and set us free). This results in the restoration mentioned in (**35:5**) **because in the wilderness** (the place of God’s voice) **shall waters break out** (i.e. brings to birth), **as streams** (of living water) **in the desert.**(i.e. place of dryness, darkness and sterility)

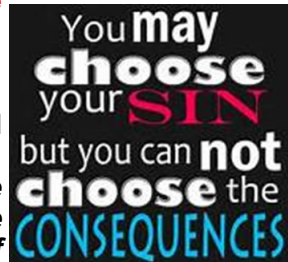
#5. (Psalm 29 vs. 7) says: **The voice of the LORD divides**

- **DIVIDES** H2672 *châtsab* (khaw-tsab') Meaning: to cut.
 - (2 Timothy 2:15) Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly **dividing** (dissecting) **the word of truth.**

***NOTE:** In order to go deep into God’s word and receive greater understanding we must “rightly divide” or more literally “**correctly dissect**” God’s word. By studying the Scriptures in the original languages in which they were written (Hebrew and Greek), God will take us beyond our superficial understanding of His Word and give us a much bigger picture.

#6. (Psalm 29 vs. 8) says: **The voice of the LORD shakes ...**

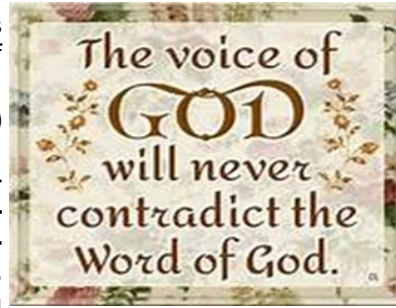
- **SHAKES** H2342 *chûl* {khool} kheel: Defined as... **To drive away wounding, trembling** [i.e. Instability], **sorrow and pain and fear; to form** (a place of) **rest,**
 - (Psalm 29:8) **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**



***NOTE:** As stated above the “wilderness” (i.e. place of speech) is where we hear God’s voice and the above text says what He speaks to us will “**shake**” by His speech (i.e. that will **drive away wounding, trembling** [i.e. Instability], **sorrow and pain and fear; and form**

rest,) in the place of “**Kadesh**” (This Hebrew word refers to the place of “**sanctification**”).

• **KADESH** H6946 *qâdêsh* (kaw-dashe') means: **sanctuary; sanctified** from root H6942 *qâdash* (kaw-dash') A primitive root; Meaning: to **keep one's sanctuary wholly prepared as a consecrated, purified or sanctified place.** (i.e. our sanctuary—is our born again spirit). The voice of the Lord **SANCTIFIES** us in our spirit.



#7. (Psalm 29 vs. 9) says: **The voice of the LORD discovers**

- **DISCOVERS** H2834 *châwaph* (khaw-saf') defined as: to **uncover** (expose) to **strip off** as an act of labor or in disgrace.
 - (Psalm 29:9) **The voice of the LORD makes the hinds to calve, and discovers the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory.**
 - (Hebrews 12:1) **Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside** (literally: cast off) **every weight** (hindrance), **and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience** (literally: maintain the power to withstand the hardship or stress (i.e. of sin's influence) **the race that is set before us.**

***NOTE:** We must labor to study the Word so the voice of God will **expose** and **strip away** ALL sin (defilement) that so easily **besets** us (literally: competes for influence in our lives). When this work of sanctification is done and our “sanctuary” is pure our “**temple**” (i.e. body or literally our whole being spirit—soul and flesh) **will speak of** (make known) **His glory** (literally: be appointed to communicate and make very apparent His honor and authority).

- (1 Peter 2:9) **But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth** (make known) **the praises** (glory) **of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.**

CONCLUSION

From this text then, in (Psalm 29)—it should be very evident that **the voice of God speaks from His Word to teach us, direct us, correct us** and **warn us of error** and gives us the authority and honor to communicate these things to others.

As we continually hear God speak to us through His Word, we grow into spiritual maturity and experience the ongoing renewal of our minds (Rom. 12:1-2). When God's voice speaks to us by spiritual gifts such as

a **word** (logos) of **knowledge** (i.e. information) that comes directly from God's Spirit concerning a subject (person place or thing or regarding some topic concerning them) this **word** (logos) of **wisdom** (i.e. understanding/discernment) concerning a subject i.e. person, place or thing or topic) is the voice of God speaking to us through His revelation gifts (words of knowledge, words of wisdom and words of prophecy). We know it is His voice because it will be the same familiar voice that speaks personally to us, instructing, correcting, reproofing and directing us, as we study the Scriptures. Demonic spirits, speak false, elevating, empty and deceiving words that pervert and misuse the Scriptures and we must not cling to words that are empty or vain thoughts that puff us up and are associated with mysticism coming from seducing and deceiving spirits. Many times people receive these words and say "God told me" ...

- In order to manipulate others in some way.
- Or often they are seeking to validate their poor or compromising decisions by attaching God's name to something they have chosen to do.
- Or because they are using the name of God to promote their own, or some demonic agenda by using the "God told me" message that will in some way be a direct contradiction to a doctrine or truth that is revealed in Scripture.

"...the day of Christ is at hand... Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first..." (2 Thess 2:2-3)

As Christians we are to **maximize God and His Word** and **minimize ourselves and our words**. When people are left remembering our riveting story about God talking to us, instead of remembering God's Word, we've done a great disservice to the NAME of the Lord. As mentioned, this how we "take the name of the Lord in vain" and break the 3rd commandment of God. Often by saying, "God told me"—leaves others... who obviously don't hear Him speak in the way that is being implied—feeling sub-par in their Christian life. It also serves to puff up those, who claim to hear God talk to them, and give them a spiritually elite (esoteric) status, and put them on a level above other Christians.

We must be careful however, to not immediately classify a friend as a lunatic or a heretic if they do use the "God told me" language in their communication, without qualifying it with Scripture. However, when you hear people talking in this manner, it should serve as a big red flag. In the case of calling out false teachers, we are to mark them well and expose their false teachings and practices so others will not be led astray by them.

As prophesied in Scripture there is a great falling away from the true faith in these end times because of lack of knowledge concerning God's voice that is causing the true faith of many to become shipwrecked ...

(1 Timothy 1:3-7, 18-19) ... charge some that they teach no other doctrine... Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is by faith... Now the end of the commandment is love out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned... From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling... Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm ...war a good warfare; Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck.

Thus, the true sheep of God are totally reliant upon hearing the Voice of their Great Shepherd to lead them, and no other “voice” will they follow. Those who argue with, ignore or pervert the Word of God are not God’s sheep... but are prideful and rebellious “goats” who eat anything and do not follow the Great Shepherd—the Lord Jesus Christ. May we earnestly seek the Scriptures and truly come to know the VOICE OF THE LORD so we don’t fall prey to the prophesied end time great apostasy. †

RICK WARREN - FALSE TEACHER- FALSE GOSPEL

SOURCE: this is an excerpt of an article from the Watchman Report: END TIME APOSTATE CHRISTIANITY

Rick Warren’s eleven million copy bestseller, **“THE PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE”** has replaced Bible preaching in thousands of pulpits and has replaced the Bible in many thousands of Bible study groups. His website claims he is starting a new Reformation. His claim is that rather than reform what the church teaches, Warren is going to reform what the church does. He is well on his way. Warren has turned the Gospel of Jesus Christ into a method rather than a saving true Gospel message. The method is to invite people on a forty day journey to discover the meaning of life.¹ Warren’s students are asked to take an oath before a witness (which Jesus forbids)² to turn forty days of their life over to Rick Warren and his method.



Rick Warren’s gospel is never clearly described. Here is one of his statements about it: “God won’t ask about your religious background or doctrinal views. The only thing that will matter is, did you accept what Jesus did for you and did you learn to love and trust him?” (Warren: pg. 34). But, doctrine does matter because our doctrine of Christ determines whether we believe in the Christ of the Bible or the Christ of Mormonism

¹ Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Life*, (Zondervan: Grand Rapids, 2002); Warren says his book is, “[A] guide to a 40_day spiritual journey enabling you to discover the answer to life’s most important question: What on earth am I here for?”

or some other religion. So Warren teaches that God is not concerned about our doctrinal views? Why then does the Apostle Paul say...

As I urged you ... teach no other doctrine... from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk... desiring to be teachers... understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm. (1 Tim 1:3, 6-7)

Also Warren's terminology to describe God provides a picture of God as a kindly grandfather who gushes with warm, fuzzy feelings. For example, he has a chapter that tells us what makes God smile. He uses Noah as an example. He writes, "But there was one man who made God smile. The Bible says, 'Noah was a pleasure to the Lord'" (Warren: pg. 69). This is a citation of Genesis 6:8 from the Living Bible. Again the paraphrase turns a verse that is God-centered into one that is man-centered. The NASB says, "But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord." The Bible tells what Noah received from God (not what God received from Noah). Warren's poor translation makes Noah the agent and God the recipient. The NKJV is more pointed:

"But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD" (Genesis 6:8; NKJV).

Warren's explanation of God leaves out many important truths and emphasizes those qualities that make God feel close and safe. This promotes an erroneous, Biblical understanding of God. You will never hear about God's wrath against sin from Warren. You will never hear about the warnings in the Bible concerning God's coming judgment. You will not learn about God's holiness from Rick Warren. You will not hear passages like this:

"See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking. For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less shall we escape who turn away from Him who warns from heaven" (Heb 12:25).

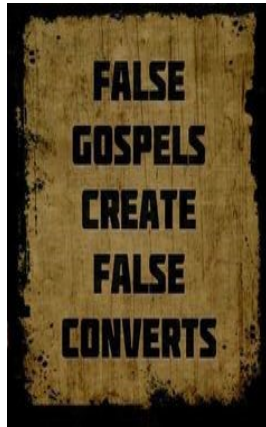
RICK WARREN, the Pastor of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California, is not only the author of the Lukewarm Watered-Down gospel of the "Purpose Driven Life" Book, he is also into the Seeker-Sensitive Movement & he finds Common Ground with other Religions despite what their View of Jesus Christ and the Gospel is.

In his "THE PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE" book, he tells us that his book is not about "you" and then spends over three hundred pages making it about you, over and over. This doesn't just look like self-help, read like self-help, sound like self-help and feel like self-help, it is self-help and it is all about you. That doesn't help lost people who need the gospel to solve their sin problem. Rick Warren makes an amazing claim. He writes, "The last thing many believers need today is to go to another Bible study. They already know far more than they are putting into practice" (Warren pg. 231).

If this were so we would never study the Bible again especially

Receive His forgiveness for your sins." (*NOTE: These are all true statements but this is not the true gospel message that Jesus and the Apostles preached, his omission of vital truths make it a false gospel).

- **TRUTH:** Is there anything missing in this message? Yes... What is missing is the mention of SIN and REPENTANCE! (**Mark 1:15**) **"...Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel...saying Repent, and believe in the gospel."**



- **RICK WARREN** continues to say, "So I invite you to bow your head and quietly whisper the prayer that will change your eternity. Jesus, I believe in You and I receive You."

- **TRUTH:** The true Jesus did what? Where's mention of His death, burial & resurrection? Without this it is **"different Jesus"** being presented.

- **RICK WARREN** continues: "If you sincerely meant that prayer, congratulations, I want to welcome you to the family of God." –

- **THE TRUTH:** How can he say that those who pray such a prayer are in the family of God if there is NO mention of REPENTANCE, JUDGMENT, HELL, HEAVEN, SELF-DENIAL, NO DISCUSSION OF SIN, NO mention of the LAW OF GOD which the SINNER HAS BROKEN, so there is NO SENSE of GUILT, NO SENSE OF CONDEMNATION, NO FEAR OF ETERNAL PUNISHMENT? His presentation of the Gospel is a false Gospel! It is a gospel that contributes to APOSTASY. It also contributes to DECEPTION and DEFECTION because people are going to come to a false understanding by what they THINK is the SAVING MESSAGE of the Gospel and when it fails to transform them, they will fall away.

A FALSE SHALLOW GOSPEL PRESENTATION ...

- Doesn't present the REALITY of ETERNAL PUNISHMENT,
- Doesn't present the REALITY OF THE LAW of God,
- Doesn't present the REALITY OF CONDEMNATION,
- Doesn't present the REALITY OF ETERNAL HELL,
- Doesn't WARN of GOD's WRATH,
- Doesn't CRUSH the SINNER under the WEIGHT OF their VIOLATION of BREAKING THE LAW OF GOD,
- Doesn't make them stand GUILTY before a HOLY GOD.

A FALSE GOSPEL PRESENTATION doesn't do these things and therefore is NOT a GENUINE gospel presentation. Thus, to tell somebody, "Welcome to the family" after being presented with a false representation of the Gospel such as Warren promotes... is deception at its best!

after reading: **(Matthew 5:48) "Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."**

According to Warren's logic, because we know we are to be "perfect" and have not put this into practice we should not go to another Bible study. Later in his book we learn why Warren warns against Bible study for those who are not perfect: he has an alternative! "I strongly urge you to gather a small group of friends and form a Purpose-Driven Life Reading Group to review these chapters on a weekly basis" (Warren pg. 307). He promotes having a Warren study to replace the Bible study. The amazing thing is that thousands and thousands of groups around the world have taken Warren's advice and began studying his book, leaving their Bibles at home! Pastors are preaching from Warren's materials rather than God's Word. Warren also says, "After you have gone through this book together as a group, you might consider studying other purpose-driven life studies that are available for classes and groups" (Warren pg. 307). The message of the gospel has been replaced with Rick Warren methods and the Bible has been replaced by the wisdom of man.

You can to look long and hard ...but won't find the TRUE GOSPEL MESSAGE in his book. The question then remains, how can one live a purpose driven life if you didn't know how to enter the Kingdom of God, or hear and understand how to be saved? This is the TRUE PURPOSE that God has predestined for those who would seek Him and love Him and this happens only by hearing and UNDERSTANDING the preaching of the TRUE GOSPEL.

How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ...But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?" So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by (according to) the word of God. (Rom 10:14, 17) (Parenthesis mine for clarity)

"...them that love God...are the called according to his purpose... He foreknew (there would be those that would love God so) He also predestined (them) to be conformed to the image of His Son (by being sanctified)... these He also called to be justified; and... also glorified. (Rom 8:28-30) (Parenthesis mine for clarity)

If you go through Warren's book, the following is the ONLY gospel presentation to be found, which is countered by a true Gospel response to Rick Warren's false Gospel message in which...

- RICK WARREN says: "First believe, believe God loves you and made you for His purposes. Believe God has chosen you to have a relationship with Jesus who died on the cross for you. Believe that no matter what you've done, God wants to forgive you. Second, receive Jesus into your life as your Lord and Savior.

But I fear that somehow your pure and undivided devotion to Christ will be corrupted, just as Eve was deceived by the cunning ways of the serpent... and happily put up with whatever anyone tells you, even if they preach a different Jesus than the one we preach, or a different kind of Spirit than the one you received, or a different kind of gospel... (2 Cor 11:3-4) NLT

The **STRONGER** the GOSPEL MESSAGE, the **HARDER** the GOSPEL MESSAGE, the more **DEMANDING** the GOSPEL MESSAGE and the more **LAW** is incorporated into the GOSPEL MESSAGE... the MORE **GUILT** it produces. Thus, the MORE the SINNER TREMBLES, the MORE **CONVICTION**, the MORE **FEAR**; and also the GREATER their UNDERSTANDING of **HELL'S eternal JUDGMENT**, and the LESS LIKELY it is to generate a FALSE RESPONSE (and false conversion). The true Gospel promotes a genuine FEAR OF THE LORD, because it is not a seeker sensitive Gospel!³

We want to make sure that if people decide not to obey and to walk away from Jesus Christ, they're walking away from the knowledge of the TRUTH, not some SUPERFICIAL NON-SAVING MESSAGE that doesn't even mention the RESURRECTION, without which you CAN'T BE SAVED... because you CAN'T be SAVED if you don't **CONFESS JESUS** as **LORD** and BELIEVE in your HEART that GOD... did what? ...RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD!" **If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved... For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (Rom 10:9-10)**

Without the true Gospel one cannot be saved from the carnal sin nature. This is why so many are not experiencing the transforming power of the true Gospel message and continue to struggle with sin—"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away... For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive (those) laden with sins, led away with divers lusts...Ever learning, and never able (no power) to come to the knowledge of the truth."(2 Tim 3:5-7) †

³ To read the entire article profiling Rick Warren and many other apostate ministers and ministries request a FREE copy of the END TIME APOSTATE CHRISTIANITY Watchman's Report that is advertised at the end of this newsletter.



"Fellowship with Him."

— 1 John 1:6

from Spurgeon's Morning and Evening Devotional

When we were united by faith to Christ, we were brought into such complete fellowship with Him, that we were made one with Him, and His interests became ours and are identical.

We have fellowship with Christ in His love. What He loves we love. He loves the saints—so do we. He loves sinners—so do we. He loves the poor perishing race of man, and pants to see earth's deserts transformed into the garden of the Lord—so do we. We have fellowship with Him in His desires. He desires the glory of God—we also labor for the same.

He desires that the saints may be with Him where He is—we desire to be with Him there too. He desires to drive out sin—behold we fight under His banner.

He desires that His Father's name may be loved and adored by all His creatures—we pray daily, "Let Thy kingdom come and Thy will be done on earth, even as it is in heaven."

We have fellowship with Christ in His sufferings. We are not nailed to the cross, nor do we die a cruel death, but when He is reproached, we are reproached; and a very sweet thing it is to be blamed for His sake, to be despised for following the Master and the truth He gives us and this puts the world against us. The disciple should not be above His Lord.

In our measure we commune with Him in His labors, ministering to men by the word of truth and by deeds of love. Our meat and our drink, like His, is to do the will of Him who hath sent us and to finish His work.

We have also fellowship with Christ in His joys. We are happy in His happiness, we rejoice in His exaltation. Have you ever tasted that joy, believer? There is no purer or more thrilling delight to be known this side heaven than that of having Christ's joy fulfilled in us, that our joy may be full.

His glory awaits us to complete our fellowship, for His Saints shall sit with him upon His throne, as His well-beloved bride and queen. †

Teach the Children

By

Karen Connell

This article contains an excerpt from this months Watchman Report entitled: **CHRISTIANIZED PAGAN PRACTICES**. The "fable" found in this article illustrates how Satan is inserting his pagan symbolism into the practices of professing Christians. This mixture is trying to Christianize what is of Satan is truly an abomination in the eyes of God—as this Report clearly reveals. God in His Word tells His people:

Do not fall into the trap of following their (pagan) customs and worshiping their gods. Do not inquire about their gods, saying: 'How do these nations worship their gods? I want to follow their example.'... You must not worship the Lord your God the way the other (pagan) nations worship their gods, for they perform for their gods every detestable act that the Lord hates. They even offer their sons and daughters as sacrifices to their gods..."So be careful to obey all the commands I give you. You must not add anything to them or subtract anything from them. (Deut 12:30-32) NLT

Those of us who are called by God to be a "seer" are His true watchman. We often must stand alone in our appointed place of watching for any enemy invasion and we must also contend with other leaders who do not appreciate or receive our ministry—because what we as watchman have to say interferes with these leaders own personal carnal agendas. The Apostle Paul, who was deeply concerned about any enemy invasion in the body of Christ, was one such watchman who was always on the look out for the welfare of God's people. As a watchman who often had to stand alone, he made the following statement:

For I have no one of kindred a spirit who is genuinely interested in your welfare and devoted to your interests... For the others (i.e. leaders) all seek to advance their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ the Messiah. (Phil 2:20-21) AMP



Watchman are needed because God's people more often than not don't see what watchmen see and therefore, need to hear and be given the opportunity to heed their observations and warnings. The sad truth is however, more "hear" than "heed." The watchman's messages are not popular messages with those who live "carnal" Christian lives, because they are more in line with the ways of the world than

they are with the ways of God. On the other hand, those who do "hunger and thirst after righteousness and holiness" both gladly "**hear and heed**" their messages, because they are not obeying their carnal "feel good" nature, but desire to obey the Holy Spirit of the true and living God. True watchmen must die completely to carnal things like popularity or maintaining a favorable reputation among those around them, otherwise they will not be willing to bring the message God has given them, or if they do deliver God's message it will come from an angry, prideful or compromising spirit—rather than out of genuine concern for the welfare of the people.

I realize that these Watchman Reports expose and slaughter many "sacred Cows" among God's people, and that very few are willing to "**read and heed**" these kinds of messages—especially the message like the ones contained in this months report

during this "holiday season" that exposes many Christianized Pagan practices. I also realize that the majority of professing Christians have never been taught these things, and need to be given the chance to allow the Holy Spirit to confirm to them the truth on these matters.

For instance, every year millions of professing Christians around the world celebrate what they believe to be the birth of the Messiah—the Savior of the world. Tragically, this celebration actually mocks the very God it purports to honor. Everything about Christmas goes contrary to God's law and instead embraces a tradition that is clearly condemned in the scriptures. These words may sound severe



but the evidence to back them up is undeniable. I am Sounding the Trumpet to challenge you to see for yourself, if your not fully convinced. Don't take my word for anything—do the research!

Recently, a story appeared on the Internet in which the PAGAN symbols of Christmas were attempted to be Christianized by giving them allegorical Biblical meanings. According to the storyteller the images so commonly associated with this season are now declaring a great *Christian spiritual message!* No longer do they come from the pagan world—a place where the True God is mocked. Today they are made to seem holy—declared so by people (not God)—people who believe they can decide for themselves how they will worship the Savior of the world.

In this modern era of holiday pagan Christianity, things like understanding the Temple or the Ark of the Covenant symbolism, and what the prophets proclaimed from God requiring moral purity is not being taught to our children (or adults for that matter). Today these things have been replaced with Christmas trees, candy canes and a jolly old man who only asks for milk and cookies. We have come a long way from the time when Jeremiah cried out, "**Learn not the way of the heathen.**" Now the message is reflected in words like "*Dancing Around the Christmas Tree*" and "*Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer.*" No longer are the ministers of God's people warning that there ARE serious consequences for ignoring or disobeying God's commandments, instead the warning is "Santa Claus is coming to town."

However, one of the most blasphemous things about the practice of millions of "professing Christians" today is their attempt to put "Christ back into Christmas"—which is a place He never was in to begin with! Even worse, Satan has enlisted Pastors to help Christianize his pagan lies, holidays and practices.

As you read the story below consider that not one syllable of it is true. It is nothing less than a "spiritual sounding" brazen attempt to rehabilitate evil and to dress it up to look like something good (just as the prophet Isaiah warned us about in (Isa 5:20): "**calling evil good and good evil.**" Can you imagine the founding Apostles blaspheming God this way?

In a very real sense the Baal god Moloch is being invited into many churches and given a seat of prominence—and he has gladly accepted the invitation. In ancient times the Israelites offered their children to Moloch. Today this same god is called Santa Claus—who is not a new god at all, but its the same pagan god and the same practice of children being sacrificed as an offering to him. *Following is the popular internet FABLE:*

"TEACHING THE CHILDREN" ...A Modern Christmas FABLE

This is how it happened...I just finished the household chores for the night and was preparing to go to bed, when I heard a noise in the front of the house. I opened the door to the front room and to my surprise, Santa himself stepped out from behind the Christmas tree. He placed his finger over his mouth so I would not cry out. "What are you doing?" I started to ask. The words choked up in my throat, and I saw he had tears in his eyes. His usual jolly manner was gone. Gone was the

boisterous soul we all know. He then answered me with a simple statement... "TEACH THE CHILDREN!" I was puzzled; what did he mean? He anticipated my question, and with one quick movement brought forth a miniature toy bag from behind the tree. As I stood bewildered, Santa said, "Teach the children! Teach them the old meaning of Christmas. The meaning that now-a-days Christmas has forgotten." Santa then reached in his bag and pulled out a FIR TREE and placed it before the mantle.



"Teach the children that the pure green color of the stately FIR TREE remains green all year round, depicting the everlasting hope of mankind, all the needles point heavenward, making it a symbol of man's thoughts turning toward heaven."

"Teach the children that the STAR was the heavenly sign of promises long ago. God promised a Savior for the world, and the star was the

sign of fulfillment of His promise."

"Teach the children that the CANDLE symbolizes that Christ is the light of the world, and when we see this great light we are reminded of He, who displaces the darkness."

"Teach the children that the WREATH symbolizes the real nature of love. Real love never ceases. Love is one continuous round of affection."

"Teach the children that I, SANTA CLAUS symbolize the generosity and good will we feel during the month of December."

"Teach the children that the HOLLY PLANT represents immortality. It represents the crown of thorns worn by our Savior. The red holly represents the blood shed by Him." Next he pulled from his bag a GIFT and said...

"Teach the children that God so loved the world that HE gave HIS only begotten SON..." "Thanks be to God for his unspeakable GIFT."

"Teach the children that the wise men bowed before the Holy BABE and presented HIM with gold, frankincense and myrrh. We should always GIVE GIFTS in the same spirit of the wise men." Santa then reached in his bag and pulled out a CANDY CANE and hung it on the tree.

"Teach the children that the candy cane represents the shepherds' crook. The crook on the staff helps to bring back strayed sheep to the flock. The candy cane is the symbol that we are our brother's keeper."

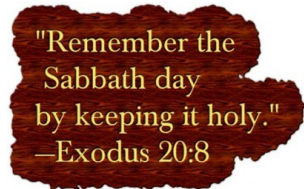
He reached in again and pulled out an ANGEL. "Teach the children that it was the angels that heralded in the glorious news of the Savior's birth. The angels sang 'Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good will toward men.'" Suddenly I heard a soft twinkling sound, and from his bag he pulled out a BELL.

"Teach the children that as the lost sheep are found by the sound of the bell, it should ring mankind to the fold. The bell symbolizes guidance and return." Santa looked back and was pleased. He looked back at me and I saw that the twinkle was back in his eyes. He said, "Remember, teach the children the true meaning of Christmas and do not put me in the center, for I am but a humble servant of the One that is, and I bow down to worship HIM, our LORD, our GOD." (End of Fable)

Yes, we must teach the children, but we must teach them what God's Word says and not what Santa Says!! I pray the greatest dangerous demonic deception is evident to all who read this FABLE, in that it is a good example of trying to Christianize what is purely pagan. May the Most High God open the eyes His unwary people! Request your FREE copy of this months Watchman report, CHRISTIANIZED PAGAN PRACTICES and learn what all of the things mentioned in this "fable" really do represent! †

JESUS Is Our TRUE SABBATH!

Karen Connell



This is suppose to be the holiday season of "peace and joy," but for many it is a time of "stress & frustration"—due to being caught up in all the trappings of the season. When thinking about how this used to be my situation, I felt compelled by the Holy Spirit to share some insights that have brought a great "rest" into my life. As one who truly loves God and wants **to be** and **to do** all that pleases Him, I seemed to always be "striving" to be "righteous" enough for Him. Striving creates stress and I truly needed to learn how to "**enter into His rest.**" Most Christians do not realize that "**keeping the Sabbath Day**" means just that. We are commanded to REMEMBER⁹ and KEEP HOLY the Sabbath DAY (Literally: sanctify ourselves at a specific time) and we do this by "remembering" the great sacrifice of the **body** (the bread) and **blood** (the cup) that Jesus provided for us as a way of acknowledging our sin by self-examination at the communion table of the Lord. By the symbols of the BREAD and the CUP we acknowledge and make known our sin and partake of the bread and the cup as a sign that WE ARE cleansed by our faith in His broken body and shed blood, from all sin and declared righteous (justified) before God. Thus, no more striving... we can truly enter God's rest. The word SABBATH² means "to put down or get rid of," WHAT? ALL SIN! If we confess, He forgives—this results in "rest"—no more striving or condemnation!

When we come to the COMMUNION table, we are told to examine ourselves before we partake of the "symbols" of the body and blood of Christ, which cleanses us from ALL sin (1 Cor 11:28). Understanding that **Jesus is our Sabbath** (not a certain day of the week) and that all old Testament Sabbaths & feast days have been fulfilled by his birth, death and resurrection—is not something that most professing Christians are being taught. Not understanding this truth keeps people "striving" to practice laws that Jesus fulfilled. Striving to be righteous and holy keeps us feeling guilty & we never enter the true rest that comes through faith in the sacrificial life and death of Jesus Christ our true Sabbath.

Come unto me, all ye that labor (are striving) and are heavy laden (stressed) and I will give you rest. (Matt 11:28) (Why? He is our Sabbath).

This is why the Apostle Paul told us not judge one another when it came to keeping the Sabbath or any of the Old Testament feasts.

So don't let anyone condemn you for what you eat or drink, or for not celebrating certain holy days or new moon ceremonies or Sabbaths... For these laws are only shadows of the reality that was yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality... Don't let anyone condemn you by insisting on pious self-denial... (i.e. those who do) Their sinful (i.e. erroneous) minds have made them proud... and they are not connected to Christ, the head of the body. For he holds the whole body together with its joints and ligaments, and it grows as God nourishes it... You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from the spiritual powers of this world. So why do you keep on following the laws and ways of the world... They are mere human teachings ... These laws and ways may seem wise because they require strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily discipline. But they provide no help in (holiness or) conquering a person's evil (carnal) desires. (Col 2:16-22) (Parenthesis mine) †

May this season be a true time of SABBATH rest, peace and joy, as you truly make Jesus Christ the Lord and Savior over all areas of your life! †

1 REMEMBER OT:2142 *zakar* (zaw-kar') CWSD: the act of acknowledging, bringing to the memory or to the attention of, to make something known, by means of a memorial sign or symbol.

2 SABBATH OT:7673 *shabath* (shaw-bath') to cease, celebrate, leave, put away (down), rest, get rid of.

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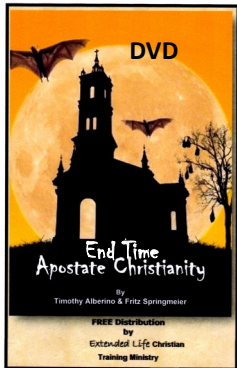
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