



“I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I will answer when I am reproved.” Hab. 2:1

February 17, 2012

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Feature Article -
Independent Baptists Playing With Fire
by David Cloud

“Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils” (1 Corinthians 10:21).

Fundamental Baptist churches that are playing around with contemporary worship music have no idea what they are doing.



They can mock the “critics” and label them “extremists”; they can hide behind shallow arguments to justify their actions; they can point to their bigness and success; they can profess their conservativeness and trot out their fundamentalist credentials.

But that doesn't change the fact that they are playing with fire and multitudes of souls are going to be injured by their folly.

Contemporary worship music represents end-time apostasy as nothing else does. It is “another spirit” and it has transformative power.

We have documented this extensively in the new eBook The Directory of Contemporary Worship Musicians, which is available for free from the Way of Life web site -- www.wayoflife.org.

Denying the power of arsenic doesn't change the power of arsenic.

Lancaster Baptist Church, Lancaster, California, is one of the prominent IFB churches leading the way in the adaptation of contemporary Christian worship music by toning down the rhythm. This has been a long-standing, wide-ranging practice.

Following are some examples of CCM songs that have been covered by Lancaster and West Coast:

- "Hallelujah to the Lamb" by Don Moen (who thinks God is the author of the weird charismatic "laughing revival")
- "In Christ Alone" by Getty/Townend
- "Stronger" and "Shout to the Lord" by Zschech/Hillsong (Hillsong performed for Catholic Youth Day and Pope Benedict)
- "Word of God Speak" by MercyMe (the "word of God" is a mystical feeling rather than the Bible)
- "Majesty, Worship His Majesty" by Jack Hayford (a Pentecostal Kingdom Now anthem; Hayford says God told him not to preach against the Roman Catholic church)
- "Great Is the Lord" and "How Majestic Is Your Name" by Michael W. Smith (who has been "slain in the Spirit" and "laughed uncontrollably, "rolling on the floor ... hyperventilating")
- "Faithful Men" by Twila Paris (who works with the Roman Catholic Kathy Troccoli and with ecumenist Robert Webber, who promotes unity between evangelicals and Catholics)
- "In Christ Alone" by Michael English (who spent the 1990s and early 2000s committing adultery with another man's wife, bar hopping, dating a stripper, and undergoing "rehab" for drug addiction)
- Songs by Steven Curtis Chapman (the most honored "high energy Christian rocker" of the 1990s who says he doesn't preach "fire and brimstone" and describes God as "Lord of the Dance")
- Songs by Geron Davis ("Jesus Only" Pentecostal who denies the Trinity)
- "I Will Rise" by Chris Tomlin (a member of an emerging church that seeks to build the kingdom in this present world)
- Songs by Graham Kendrick (charismatic founder of the radically ecumenical Jesus March that includes Catholics and Mormons)
- "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" by Chris Tomlin was performed at Lancaster Sunday morning, Oct. 9, 2011
- "Not Guilty" by the jazz CCM artist Mandisa was performed at the 2011 Leadership Conference

Rebecca St. James's contemporary song "Above All Things" (written by Eddie DeGarmo) was covered by West Coast Baptist College on their "For the Faith of the Gospel" CD (2009).

St. James is a hard-rocking contemporary Christian musician who rose to fame in the 1990s. She has sold two million albums and has further influence through movies and books.

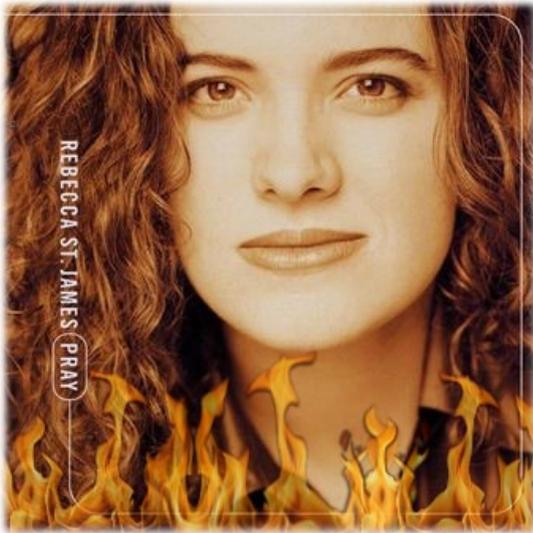
She sings of Jesus and God, but her god is the god of The Shack. She is following a deceiving spirit, as are all of the Christian rockers.

The reason why it is so dangerous for Bible-believers to use contemporary Christian music is that it is the music of the one-world church. Contemporary Christian Music is the mystical soundtrack for end-time apostasy. The contemporary musicians are not "merely" committed to doctrinal error, they are following "another spirit."

St. James says, "I've always liked rock music. ... I feel very called and passionate for a rock/pop audience" ("Rebecca Gets Real," Christianity Today, 2005).

St. James starred as Mary Magdalene in !Hero, the musical rock opera. !Hero depicts Jesus as a cool black man. The Last Supper is a barbecue party and "Jesus" is crucified on a city street sign.

When Pope John Paul II visited the United States in January 1999, St. James was one of the CCM musicians who joined hands with hundreds of thousands of Catholics to welcome him at a Catholic youth rally (CCM Magazine, April 1999, p. 12).



In a 2008 interview St. James recommended *The Road Less Travelled* by New Ager M. Scott Peck ("Rebecca St. James Goes Back to Work," Jesusfreakhideout.com, April 22, 2008).

Peck says "God wants us to become Himself (or Herself or Itself). We are growing toward God. God is the ultimate goal of evolution" (*The Road Less Traveled*, 1978, p. 270).

It is unconscionable that a Christian would recommend such an author and such a book in any sense whatsoever. Obviously Rebecca St. James doesn't recognize the demonic spirit of the New Age for the simple but shocking reason that she is unwittingly following the same spirit.

In the same interview, St. James called *The Shack* "absolutely extraordinary." She resonated with the false god depicted in *The Shack*, a god who is female, cool, non-judgmental, does not exercise wrath toward sin, does not send unbelievers to an eternal fiery hell, does not require repentance and the new birth, and puts no obligations on people.

See "The Shack and Other CCM Gods" in the Directory of Contemporary Worship Musicians, which is a free eBook available from the Way of Life web site -- www.wayoflife.org.

Fundamental Baptist churches that are playing around with contemporary worship music have no idea what they are doing. They are playing with fire. Contemporary worship music represents end-time apostasy as nothing else does. It is "another spirit" and it has transformative power.

"Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils" (1 Corinthians 10:21).

by David Cloud

(http://www.wayoflife.org/index_files/5937c6735e927b0a2a40a3a822e592cb-964.html)

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Proverbs 6:27-28

"Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?"

Harnessing Up With Warhorses -

by Joye Binstead

Rehoboam's Need For Counsel -

In 1 Kings 12:1-15 we read the account of Rehoboam, and his folly. He ascended to the throne of Solomon, and during his transitioning to power a delegation came to him. A very large delegation, as this was an important matter! Jeroboam and all the congregation of Israel came with a request. They asked for a lessening of their taxes, "Make our heavy yoke lighter." If he would agree to their petition, they would serve him gladly. Shrewdly, Rehoboam asked for time to consider their appeal.



During this three days, Rehoboam consulted with two divergent groups of people. First, he approached his father's counsellors, and asked for their advice. They wisely told him to be a servant to the people. "Answer them with good words and gain their allegiance for ever." Rehoboam was unimpressed, so he shrugged off their counsel and went instead to his contemporaries. These untried men, wise in their own eyes, quickly perceived what Rehoboam wanted to hear. I expect they knew which side of the bread would get the butter, so they did a little politicking. They proposed, contrary to the old men's advice, that the way to success was to exhibit the king's supremacy, and advised him to make the yoke heavier, to threaten the people with worse chastisements and punishments for disobedience. We can almost hear them sniggering, "Old fashioned views, ha!"

Not surprisingly - there was a revolt and the kingdom was divided.

Seeking Wisdom From Our Youth? -

There is a lesson here for us. Sure, we hear it said that the youth in our churches are the leaders of the future. That is true. But in this popular maxim there is so much more truth to ponder than the fact that our teens will someday be our pastors and missionaries.

- There is the promise of growth and blessing, and we do rejoice in the young people who are surging forward and seeking after God.
- There is also a warning to be heeded.

What we must remember is that our youth are largely untried, untested. They haven't been on the anvil or under the hammer yet, or in the heat of the battle. So is it wise to follow the advice of the untested? We hear some (many?) of our leaders saying we must encourage, and even pander to the desires of our youth because if we can gain their interest now, they will take us into the future. I think we need to keep Rehoboam's example in the forefront of our minds. We have a great wealth of experience in the older believers in our churches and their wisdom, to some degree, is largely 'untapped' and ignored.

The Warhorses Among Us -

I like to think of them as 'warhorses', a seemingly defunct creature, made obsolete by the forward march of contemporary battle strategy. There is not much hand to hand combat these days, is there? There was a day not so long ago when men and women of God grappled with the Enemy in mortal combat and their victories were widely known. History speaks eloquently of their steadfastness in times of persecution, when arenas ran with the blood of the saints. Historians tell of dewy youth and gnarled ancients who held their faith fast to the death. There have been heroes of faith living out their lives serving God unnoticed in

pockets and corners of the world, content to be ignored in earthly circles, that they might be known in Heavenly ones. They were the faithful who followed hard after God.

Hebrews 11:33-38 gives a picture of the victory and battles experienced by many of them. *"Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth."*

And today we still have access to some of these saintly old 'war-horses' that have fought in fierce battles for righteousness. They've had the scent of war in their nostrils, they still wear the scars and infirmities of ancient skirmishes. They are not necessarily beautiful to look upon. They may have traits and quirks which we 'youthful ones' find hard to endure. But we need to remember that it is these old warhorses that have looked the enemy in the eye and that they have wisdom to impart to those of us still prancing around on the edge of the fray.

The Training of Warhorses -

History tells us that discipline is an essential part in the training of a warhorse . Whether horses were trained to pull chariots, to be ridden as light or heavy cavalry, or to carry the armoured knight, much training was required to overcome the horse's natural instinct to flee from the noise of battle, the smell of blood, and the confusion of combat. We need today to get into harness with these tested old 'war horses' and learn from them. All around us in this world, there is noise and battle and combat. As the younger generation, we are often tempted to flee from confrontation, to smooth ruffled feathers and backpeddle and apply soft soap (we have come up with a plethora of new terms to describe our ineptitude in boldly speaking the truth in love.) We need to listen to the wisdom of the old warhorses, that wisdom which is borne of experience in the fight for righteousness. We need to be the Elisha to somebody's Elijah.

The importance of wise counsel is so evident in the passage in 1 Kings. What is also evident is our propensity to shrug off advice we don't like. Those ancients had served before Solomon! Think of it - they gave counsel and advice to one acknowledged as the wisest man that ever lived! How could Rehoboam have behaved so foolishly and think that someone untried, untested and without life experience would be able to supply the answers that he needed? He did get the answer that he desired - which is another thing entirely!

We need to heed the words of those older Christians, those war-horses who understand the wiles of the devil, who have seen the consequences of the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, who already know where a certain path will lead. They have seen it, they may have experienced it, they know! A word of warning - our old nature very likely will not appreciate their counsel, we will find them hard-nosed and uncompromising. Tried and tested saints may give us unpalatable advice, it will probably be against popular opinion and the status quo, it may seem old fashioned but it will be for our benefit. This is where we have the choice, do I forsake the counsel of the old and godly men, and seek out my contemporaries, or do I take note of the grey muzzles and wise eyes of the old warhorses?

Warhorses harnessed for chariot warfare were not only trained for combat conditions, but because chariots were pulled by a team of two to four horses, they also had to learn to work together with other animals in close quarters under chaotic conditions. God trains us to work with others in harmony . We find this difficult in our natural state, which is why the training must take place if we are to be useful. We are

experiencing chaotic conditions in the world and the church in these days. There are wars and rumours of wars, fightings without and within, there are winds of doctrine blowing from every direction. We need to identify some of God's tried and tested saints, and get in harness with them, that we may learn from them what they learned from others.

What Are Some Identifying Marks of a Wise Saint of God?

- Look for someone who loves his Bible. Hudson Taylor was one of God's battle scarred warhorses, and this is what he said about God's Word, "If we can judge God's Word, instead of being judged by it, if we can give God as much, or as little as we like, then we are lords and He the indebted one, to be grateful for our dole and obliged by our compliance with His wishes. If on the other hand He is Lord, let us treat Him as such. 'Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?'" Hudson Taylor loved his Bible, he committed himself to be judged by it.



So, the identifying marks of a lover of the Bible will be someone who reads God's Word, and goes beyond the reading to being scrutinized by it - never seeking a loophole, but putting into practice every day what the Holy Spirit is teaching him.

Psalm 90:8 says, "*Thou hast set our iniquities before Thee, our secret sins in the light of Thy countenance.*" God's Word will have a cleansing effect on our lives. Job says in Chapter 23 verse 12, "*I have esteemed the words of Thy mouth more than my necessary food.*" David created the longest song in the Bible as a hymn of thankfulness for God's Word – Psalm 119:160, 164 "*Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of Thy righteous judgments endureth forever. Seven times a day do I praise Thee because of Thy righteous judgments.*"

- Find a seasoned prayer warrior. A man or woman of prayer is not like the Pharisees who loved to stand on street corners, praying self-glorifying prayers for the praise of men. Watch carefully and see the evidence of their prayer life. They will spend time with God, alone. A young man's testimony of meeting Hudson Taylor exhibits this, "His appearance did not impress me. Like most young men, I suppose I associated power with noise, and looked for physical presence in a leader. But when he said, 'Let us pray,' and proceeded to lead the meeting in prayer, my ideas underwent a change. I had never heard anyone pray like that. There was a simplicity, a tenderness, a boldness, a power that hushed and subdued me, and made it clear that God had admitted him to the inner circle of His friendship. Such praying was evidently the outcome of long tarrying in the secret place, and was as dew from the Lord."

Mary Slessor lived out most of her life as a pioneer missionary in Calabar, or Nigeria as we now know it. Daunting problems and upheavals were her daily fare but she was brought through it all victoriously. She said that her life was one long prayer. We also need the empowering that comes through "Praying without ceasing." (1 Thess 5:17)

- Search for those with a sincere love for others. It exhibits itself in many ways, according to the gifting of the Holy Spirit, but it will always be evident. If we do not see in someone a compassion for others, a longing for their souls, a desire to serve like our Master served - then we must look elsewhere for wisdom. Love is not a hidden characteristic, it will always be visible.

Stephen Grellet, a relatively unknown missionary, wished that he could live to be as old as Methuselah, and if this had been granted, he would have made good use of every minute. He lived to 82, and in this time he was nearly hanged from a lamp post by revolutionaries in Paris, he was twice almost drowned; twice he fell into the hands of pirates, and in his tireless travels was laid low by sickness again and

again. More than once he gave instruction for his burial, only to be raised up again. He passed from country to country, learned language after language, in order that he might preach the Word in every hole and corner of the earth. He stood before Emperors and Kings, he found his way into prisons and workhouses, into slave camps and thieves' kitchens; he lost no opportunity of preaching to all kinds and conditions of men the words of everlasting life. Thus was evidenced his love and compassion for others through his concern for their souls.

Be discerning in this regard, these souls brought to the Lord were counted as beloved brothers and sisters in Christ but never as notches on his Bible. *"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."* (Galatians 6:10) *"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another."* (1 John 4:10,11)

- Watch for someone who exhibits forgiveness. Forgiveness is a vital part of learning in the Christian life. If we forgive others when we are wronged, not just in our hidden selves but in obvious attitude and action, then God is able to use us more completely. An unforgiving spirit is a bitter and burdensome thing. It twists and taints us, and will always affects those around us.

As the book of Job comes to its conclusion, in Job 42:8, God rebukes Job's friends for their sin, and follows it up by delegating Job to pray for their restoration. I don't think this was just because Job was righteous and they were not, but rather, Job also had to deal with how he was feeling after the harsh things they'd said to him, and the best way to do that was to pray for the ones who had injured him. In doing so, Job restored them to God, and restored his relationship with them.

I have noticed in a lot of Christians the tendency to have a bitter spot about a person, or a nationality or an event, and the list goes on. Conversation becomes a mine-field as you try to avoid that spot, or your eyes begin to glaze over as they mount their hobby horse once again. This is a fine example of someone who hasn't been able to forgive. Look for someone who doesn't dish the dirt on whoever or whatever, someone who exhibits grace in their relationships.

There are so many good examples of 'forgivers' in the Bible, not least the Lord Jesus Christ who, even as He was mocked and wounded, granted forgiveness to those who didn't ask for it, and didn't want it. Nevertheless, they were forgiven. *"But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses."* (Mark 11:26)

We Need The Old Warhorses for the Battle We Are in -

We are in the battle for right. There are always going to be things to learn. We shouldn't be so foolish as to believe that in and of ourselves we have all wisdom for life. Get into the Word, and start looking for someone who will encourage and teach you in righteousness. If you feel that godly mentors are light on the ground where you are, remember that there are plenty of good biographies of saints who have gone before. Dig into them, and absorb all you can, and God will add to your list of necessary requirements for righteous living.

The world will never applaud or honour one of the true saints of God. If they are appearing on popular talk shows, and having their books touted as bestsellers, you can pretty much cross them off your list. They are seeking something that God isn't interested in giving. Look for the little man with a heart for God. One day it could be you or me who is strapped into harness to help train a novice warhorse. We need the old warhorses to help us to prepare for that time.

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Notable Quotes and Quotable Notes -

- Where are the men? Are there no heroes in the making among us? No hearts beating high with the enthusiasm of the Gospel? Men smile nowadays at the old-fashioned idea of sin and hell and broken law and a perishing world, but these made men – men of purpose, of power and achievement, and self-denying devotion to the highest ideals the earth has known." - *Mary Slessor, missionary to Calabar*
- Complacency is the deadly enemy of spiritual progress. The contented soul is the stagnant soul." - *A.W. Tozer*
- Has it ever occurred to you that nothing has ever occurred to God?" - *Harold Sightler*
- Get books into your houses, when you have not the spring near you, then get water into your cisterns; so when you have not that wholesome preaching that you desire, good books are cisterns that hold the water of life in them to refresh you. ... So when you find a chillness upon your souls, and that your former heat begins to abate, ply yourselves with warm clothes, get those good books that may acquaint you with such truths as may warm and affect your hearts. - *Thomas Watson, 1662.*

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Without Covetousness -

"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have..." (Hebrews 13:5).

Is it not deeply humiliating, beloved friends, that the best of Christians should need to be cautioned against the worst of sins? May the consecrated become covetous? Is it possible that the regenerate may drift into misers? Alas, what perils surround us, what tendencies are within us!...

Covetousness is a vice of a very degrading kind, and it is therefore the more surprising that those who have a renewed nature, and in whom the Spirit of God dwells, should require to be warned against bowing down their souls before it, and yet...once and again the saints are warned against covetousness, which is idolatry. As long as Israel is in the wilderness she is not out of danger from the golden calf. There is no superfluous text in the Bible....alas, the best of saints may be betrayed into the basest of sins....

It appears from our text that the children of God need also to be exhorted to cherish that most simple and natural of virtues— contentment....O Lord, thou knowest us better than we know ourselves, for thou understandest what poor, faulty things even thine own children are. The best of men are men at best. Unless the grace of God keep us every moment, and defend us from the temptations of our many foes, we would utterly perish from the way. Great need have we to say, the Lord is my helper, for if He be not so, we will fall a prey to covetousness and discontent.

C.H. Spurgeon

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What's Wrong With You, Brother John?

It is a bit strange that most fundamentalist Baptists feel a close kinship with John the Baptist. Pastors often assume that they are just like John, or that he would be perfectly at home in their pulpits. Are you sure about that?

We ought to re-think his ministry. It is one of the great mysteries of all time how he ever drew a crowd. All Israel went out to hear him preach, but we wonder why? He had no formal training. He did no advertising. He ran no attendance campaigns. He performed no miracles and flaunted no "signs and wonders." He avoided the population centres and held no crusades. He used no musical instruments to attract people to his meetings, and hired no professional CCM musicians to entertain the multitudes. He insulted the modernistic clergy when he exposed their kinship to poisonous reptiles. He proved he had the victory over public opinion when he told king Herod he had no business stealing his brother's wife. He predicted accurately that God would judge their nation. He had only one sermon topic and that was Christ. He never aspired to be an apostle, but was content to play a lesser role. He never read 40 Days of Purpose and never attended a Leadership Conference. He'd never even been to Starbucks to hobnob with the elite after a big meeting. Oh yes, I should mention that he didn't even own any Hawaiian shirts.

What's wrong with you, Brother John?

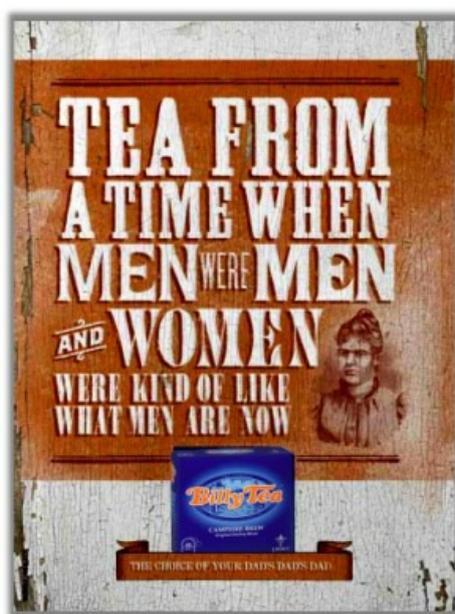
We need to stop and think about John every once in a while. Our Lord said there was no greater prophet than John. And we say Amen to that. He confronted his world by simply preaching Christ to the people God sent his way in the place God put him. Though the Holy Spirit has recorded the fact that he preached to multitudes, John never mentions how big the multitude was. He had no interest in compiling a large mailing list. He never counted noses or confused noses with hearts. Somehow, I get the impression that John would have despised surfing the waves of modern culture. But he did care about being God's prophet to His people. And he did tell the truth about Christ.

In the long run, that is what counts.

Buddy Smith

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The Kind of Ads We Ought to Have -



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Evil Effects of Wine

- Impairs the Health---I Sam. 25:36, 37
- Leads to Violence---Prov. 4:17
- Enrages a Man---Prov. 20:1
- Makes Poor---Prov. 23:20,21
- Bites Like a Serpent---Prov. 23:31,32
- Impairs the Judgment---Prov. 31:4,5
- Inflames the Passions---Isa. 5:11
- Produces Looseness---Hos. 4:1 1

“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging. And whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.”
(Proverbs 20:1).

Dencil Preast

(contributed by Evangelist Warren Roy)

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A Heads Up regarding the Iranian pastor, Yousef Nadarkhani -



(A few weeks ago in Heads Up! we included a photo of Yousef Nadarkhani and his family to accompany the mention of him in the Muslim Persecution Of Christians article. However, while listening to Ralph Ovadal's "Heart of the Matter" program yesterday I heard him interviewing an Iranian pastor by the name of Pooyan Mehrshahi. He reckons Yousef is a Oneness Pentecostal, or Jesus Only pastor. Pooyan recently wrote the following to Jim Schnieder who broadcast a session on VCY America supporting Yousef - Hughie Seaborn)

QUOTE regarding Iranian Pastor Yousef Nadarkhani from Pooyan Mehrshahi (10/10/2011) from Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England.

"I know that most believers depend upon the news that is received by the various organisation to inform them about persecutions. In these circumstances it is very difficult to discern what is true and genuine, or incorrect information. In your broadcast you mentioned about an Iranian pastor who has been in the news in the recent weeks. As an Evangelical Iranian pastor, I wanted to say a few things about Youcef Nadarkhani, which is not reported by most news organisations. Yousef Nadarkhani has been given death sentence, and it is something that is being broadcasted all over the world. However, one thing that most media do not say is that he has been one of the chief leaders of a growing cult in Iran, which is known as, the Jesus Only (Oneness Pentecostal) cult. They totally deny the doctrine of the Trinity and teach the Sebalian (Modalism) heresy. They believe in Baptismal regeneration and many other man made heresies (works salvation). Youcef Nadarkhani and other leaders in that cult have been rejected by the evangelical churches and pastors in Iran. I have spoken to friends of Yousef Nadarkhani and also an evangelical pastor in the city of Rasht. They all confirm the same things. We must pray for his genuine conversion in the person and finished work of Christ."

END QUOTE.

(I did a bit of further research about Yousef's involvement with the Jesus Only cult. There is a video of Yousef where he can be seen declaring that he does not believe in the Trinity but he also claims not to be Oneness Pentecostal or Jesus Only. When asked to reveal where he gained his theological qualifications to be a priest he was unable to do so, saying that it was with some college or uni in Canada, but he didn't know which one.

This Pooyan Mehrshahi is not a newcomer to Ralph Ovadal and has been on his program previously. Probably a reformed Presbyterian but one who is apparently in touch with the church scene in Iran.

Not to say that the Iranian Muslims have any right to execute anyone because of their beliefs, but I reckon genuine Christians need to be made aware that Yousef is not really a Christian according to Scripture, and we need to stop from presenting him as though he is one. It probably needs a bit more research to get at the facts, but by his own confession which I viewed Yousef does not hold to a belief in the Trinity.

An article on this subject, completed with a video clip which includes Yousef's (Yousef ???) testimony of his disbelief in the Trinity, is linked below:

<http://blog.godreports.com/2011/12/imprisoned-pastor-in-iran-not-an-evangelical-iranian-pastor-alleges/>

Hughie Seaborn)

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Deacon True Sez -

Old brother Charlie caught one of his boys smokin' behind the barn t'other day. So he told him he would roll him a cigarette that would cure him of his cravin' for tobacco.

He chopped up a bit of rope and a bit of horse hair and added a bit of cow dung, mixed in a pinch of tobacco and rolled that, lit 'er up, and told the boy to smoke as much of that as he liked. He took one or two drags on it, and lost everythin' he ever ate in his whole life. Surprisingly, he hasn't wanted any since.

Maybe we oughta make a bunch of them kind of cigarettes up and sell 'em door to door. Maybe even hand 'em out to the deacons that smoke outside some Baptist churches. Waddya reckon?

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1 Timothy 3:1-7

"This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil."

Therapy For The Funny Bone -

A young boy enters a barber shop and the barber whispers to his customer, 'This is the dumbest kid in the world. Watch while I prove it to you.' The barber puts a dollar bill in one hand and two quarters in the other, then calls the boy over and asks, 'Which do you want, son?'

The boy takes the quarters and leaves the dollar. 'What did I tell you?' said the barber. 'That kid never learns!'

Later, when the customer leaves, he sees the same young boy coming out of the ice cream store & says ; 'Hey, son! May I ask you a question? Why did you take the quarters instead of the dollar bill?'

The boy licked his cone and replied, 'Because the day I take the dollar, the game's over!'

Down in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana, Boudreaux gets a job with BP helping with the cleanup gulf oil spill. He reports for work and is told to speak to a supervisor about his assignment.

He finds the man and asks, "What it is I supposed to do?"

The supervisor tells him to go to the animal shelter and clean the pelicans.

Two hours later, Boudreaux comes up to the supervisor and says, "Okay, dey all cleaned. You want me to cook some rice ????"

Sunday morning, a preacher said, "Anyone with 'special needs' who wants to be prayed over, please come forward to the front by the altar."

With that, Leroy got in line, and when it was his turn, the Preacher asked, "Leroy, what do you want me to pray about for you?"

Leroy replied, "Preacher, I need you to pray for help with my hearing." The preacher put one finger of one hand in Leroy's ear, placed his other hand on top of Leroy's head, and then prayed and prayed and prayed. He prayed a "blue streak" for Leroy, and the whole congregation joined in with great enthusiasm.

After a few minutes, the preacher removed his hands, stood back and asked, "Leroy, how is your hearing now?"

Leroy answered, "I don't know. It ain't 'til next Thursday."

Johnny asked his grandpa, "Grandpa, how is it you've lived such a long time? You're a hundred and three and still full of beans."

Grandpa replied, "Sonny, I learned a long time ago that if I wanted live to a great old age, I needed to eat a teaspoon of gunpowder on top of my cornflakes every mornin'. So I did."

Well, Johnny thought that was a pretty good idea, so he started eating his cornflakes with a teaspoon of gunpowder, too.

He lived to be a hundred and twelve and left behind 35 kids, 178 grandkids, and a forty foot hole where the crematorium used to be.

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Pinnacles of Prophecy -

IF there is no millennial kingdom...

If there is no millennial kingdom on earth why didn't Jesus say so when the Pharisees asked Him, *"When the kingdom of God should come?"* (Luke 17:20).

If there is no millennial kingdom on earth why did Jesus promise His disciples *"ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel"* (Matt. 19:28).

If there is no millennial kingdom on earth why did Jesus say to His disciples: *"I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come"* (Luke 22:18).

If there is no millennial kingdom on earth why didn't Jesus say so when the disciples asked, *"Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?"* (Acts 1:6).

If there is no millennial kingdom on earth why did the Apostles tell the early Church that after Christ returned He would *"build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up"*? (Acts 15:16).

If there is no millennial kingdom on earth why do the redeemed in heaven sing, *"we shall reign on the earth"* (Rev. 5:10).

If there is no millennial kingdom on earth why does the Bible say that Tribulation martyrs will live and *"reign with Christ 1,000 years"* after He returns (Rev. 4,6).

"Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven"(Matt. 6:10).

(from *Herald of Hope* magazine)

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Quotes from CCM Musicians -

Kevin Prosch

The fact that "another spirit" controls the contemporary praise music movement is nowhere more evident than in the "ministry" of Kevin Prosch, whose praise songs include "Harp in My Heart," "Show Your Power," and "Love Is All You Need." Some of Prosch's music is published by Integrity.

Prosch is said to have "influenced more worship artists than any other leader in this decade," including Martin Smith of Delirious, Matt Redman, and Darrell Evans." He lives in Amarillo, Texas, owns a recording studio, is associate senior pastor at More Church, and pursues hobbies that include "fishing, lots of camping, and a good glass of Lagavulin" (Scotch whiskey).



Prosch breaks down the walls between the holy and unholy in a shocking way. His former band the Black Peppercorns is described as “a group that played in pubs and bars and sang songs that blurred the lines between sacred and secular and saw folks in those bars have genuine encounters with the Spirit” (“Kevin Prosch, the Black Peppercorns, and Emergent Charismatics,” jonathanstegall.com).

Prosch sings the Wailers’ very sensual “Stir It Up” as if the Lord is singing it to His people. They sing the Beatles’ songs “I want to Hold Your Hand” and “Come Together” in the same foolish way. Prosch’s band plays Van Morrison’s “Brown Eyed Girl” in the context of “worship.” The words are about a man and a “brown eyed girl” who seek out places to be alone to play “a new game” with their hearts “a-thumping.” It doesn’t take a rocket scientist to figure that out. True, it’s pretty “innocent” for rock and roll, but it is blasphemy to mix sensual songs like this with the worship of a holy God.

In 2002, Prosch was “restored to public ministry three years after admitting to a string of affairs” (Charisma News Service, April 18, 2002). Prosch lived an adulterous lie for years. He sinned grievously against his wife and destroyed his marriage and has multiplied his adultery even farther by remarrying (Matthew 19:9). Apparently, the songs “Stir It Up” and “Brown Eyed Girl” are the man’s personal biography. Prosch’s spiritual roots go back to the Vineyard movement where he was nurtured for his career as a contemporary musician.

The false spirit of the latter rain praise music was evident in the 1996 Heart of David Conference on Worship & Warfare, sponsored by Rick Joyner’s Morning Star ministries. It concluded with the praise team singing the sensual Beatles song “I Want to Hold Your Hand” as if God were singing to believers. Joining Kevin Prosch as worship leaders were Leonard Jones and Suzy Wills. They claim that when they sang the Beatles song, God signified His pleasure with miraculous signs. Here is Prosch’s description:

“Then, on a ‘Holy Ghost whim,’ I asked Leonard Jones to lead an old Beatles’ song, ‘I Want To Hold Your Hand,’ in which he had changed some of the words to make it like a message from the Lord. As soon as he started, it seemed like the roof would come off of the building. When he finished, ‘the sound of many waters’ again filled the hall, but it was even louder than before. A holy fear began to fill the place. There was a presence of the Lord like I had never felt in a meeting before. I looked at Christine Potter and Susy Wills, who were dancing near the center of the stage, and I have never seen such a look of terror on the faces of anyone. An intense burning, like a nuclear fire that burns from the inside out, seemed to be on the stage. Christine started pulling at her clothes as if she were on fire, and Susy dove behind the drums. Then a cloud appeared in the center of the stage, visible to everyone, and a sweet smell like flowers filled the arena. When the cloud had moved away (it seemed to move to the rear of the stage as it disappeared), some of the children who had been dancing at the front began to pull up tiles from the floor to see if there was a fire under it. Some asked if we had a smoke machine. We did not, and we did not do anything to cause that cloud of smoke. As Ray Hughes explained later, when the Lord received an offering He would often consume it with fire, and then it would go up in smoke. We believe that this was just a token of encouragement from the Lord that the offering of worship had been received. ... I confess that I love the kind of supernatural manifestations that we have been having. I often pray that we will see His glory visibly manifested in our meetings. ... We must go higher. Until we look like Jesus and do the works He did, we still have not arrived. ... ”

Consider Prosch’s song “Love Is All You Need” --

“I went to the place where dead men pray/
Love forsaken, I was so afraid/
When suddenly the leaves were around/
She said where is hope? What is truth? And do you know peace?
As we walked through the graveyard of needles on the street/
Lord they wouldn’t need this if only they could see/
Tell them love, love, love is, love is the key, baby/
Love is all you need/ All you need is love/
Love is all you need/ All you need is love. ... I met a man who walked alone/
He wept upon those public roads/
He placed his eyes upon

my heart/ Saw that I had missed the stirring of the water/ He looked into my childhood scars/ Like a candle on a written page/ And from your guilt he said I could be free/ Maybe my love is all you need..."

What does that mean? Anything and nothing. It is a vague "spirituality." It is meaningless emotional mysticism. The important questions aren't answered. What love? Whose love? What hope? What peace? What man? What type of guilt? Free in what way? If you believe the gospel of Jesus Christ, you can insert the gospel into these words, but if you are a westernized Hindu or Buddhist, you can insert your fanciful New Age beliefs into the same words. Further, the song contains the pop psychology mumbo jumbo of healing of "childhood scars."

It appears that Prosch is singing about the same love that the Beatles sang about in their 1967 hit "All You Need is Love." He uses the same phrases ("love is all you need" and "all you need is love"), but he even out does the Beatles in vain, hypnotic repetition. The Beatles repeated this phrase 15 times whereas Prosch repeats it 32 times.

This is the type of music that is building the one-world church with all of its ancient and end-times heresies. The powerful and very sensual music--with its endless variety of addictive dance syncopations, its unresolving chords, its repetition, its electronic modulation, and its sensual vocal stylings--creates a mystical atmosphere in which people are carried along by their emotions, ungrounded and untested by Scripture. It is a recipe for spiritual delusion (2 Cor. 11:4, 14-15; 1 Pet. 5:8), and we believe it is one of the devil's most effect tools in building the end-time one world church.

(See "Transformative Power of Contemporary Praise Music" under the Articles Database at the Way of Life web site -- wayoflife.org.)

Excerpted from http://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/downloads/Directory_of_CWM.pdf

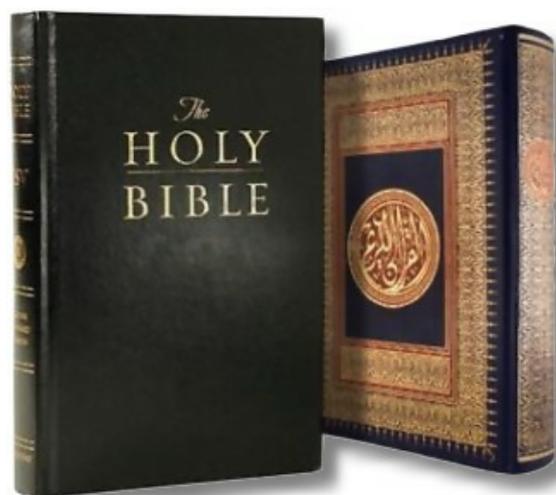
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Blinded Minds -

Wycliffe's new Bible to please Muslims

(For many years Wycliffe has been training Roman Catholic priests and nuns, as well as Mormons, to produce translations of the Bible that they would be happy with. So for them to accommodate Muslims comes as no great surprise. This is another of the wormy fruits of New Evangelicalism. - Ed)

A controversy is brewing over three reputable Christian organisations, which are based in North America, whose efforts have ousted the words "Father" and "Son" from new Bibles. Wycliffe Bible Translators, Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) and Frontiers are under fire for "producing Bibles that remove "Father," "Son" and "Son of God" because these terms are offensive to Muslims." Concerned Christian missionaries, Bible translators, pastors, and national church leaders have come together with a public petition to stop these



organisations. They claim a public petition is their last recourse because meetings with these organisations' leaders, staff resignations over this issue and criticism and appeals from native national Christians concerned about the translations "have failed to persuade these agencies to retain "Father" and "Son" in the text of all their translations." Biblical Missiology, a ministry of Boulder, Colorado-based Horizon International, is sponsoring the petition. The main issues of this controversy surround new Arabic and Turkish translations. Here are three examples native speakers give: First, Wycliffe and SIL have produced Stories of the Prophets, an Arabic Bible that uses an Arabic equivalent of "Lord" instead of "Father" and "Messiah" instead of "Son." Second, Frontiers and SIL have produced Meaning of the Gospel of Christ , an Arabic translation which removes "Father" in reference to God and replaces it with "Allah," and removes or redefines "Son."

For example, the verse which Christians use to justify going all over the world to make disciples, thus fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19) reads, "Cleanse them by water in the name of Allah, his Messiah and his Holy Spirit" instead of "baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Rev. Bassam Madany, an Arab American who runs Middle East Resources, terms these organisation's efforts as "a western imperialistic attempt that's inspired by cultural anthropology, and not by biblical theology." Third, Frontiers and SIL have produced a new Turkish translation of the Gospel of Matthew that uses Turkish equivalents of "guardian" for "Father" and "representative" or "proxy" for "Son." To Turkish church leader Rev. Fikret Bocek, "This translation is 'an all-American idea' with absolutely no respect for the 'sacredness' of Scripture, or even of the growing Turkish church."

SIL has issued a public response stating "all personnel subscribe to a statement of faith which affirms the Trinity, Christ's deity, and the inspiration of Scripture." However, in the same statement, which is similar to Wycliffe's, it claims "word-for-word translation of these titles would communicate an incorrect meaning (i.e. that God had physical, sexual relationships with Mary) [sic]," thus justifying substituting "Father" and "Son" in new translations. Calls and emails to Wycliffe and SIL to clarify their positions were not returned. Frontiers responded to calls with articles that critics have already dismissed as skirting omissions of "Father" and "Son" in new Bible translations.

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Links in the Media Chain -

- A neat design for bikes - <http://www.dump.com/2012/02/05/physics-and-biking-video/>
- Another push to make the spanking of children illegal - <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/push-to-make-smacking-of-children-illegal/story-e6freuy9-1226261323795>
- And we thought a swarm of mosquitos was bad - <http://wimp.com/futurehere/>
- A better solution for nuclear power plants? - <http://wimp.com/thoriumcrisis/> and <http://energyfromthorium.com/>

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Eddy-Torial - A New Dictionary for Christians

I collect dictionaries. I have Samuel Johnson's 1755 dictionary of the English language, an abridged edition. I have Webster's unabridged dictionary, and his Synonyms, Antonyms, and Homonyms. I have the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations, the Online Etymology Dictionary, and Flavell's Dictionary of Word Origins.

Of Course, there's the old standby, Roget's Thesaurus. I own a dictionary that is called The Encyclopaedia of Dictionaries. I own Hebrew dictionaries and Greek dictionaries, and once owned Spanish and Pidgin dictionaries. And I must confess to coveting the complete (22 Volumes!)

Oxford English Dictionary that ranges from \$1200 in hardback to \$200 in Cd-ROM. Someday!



There is one dictionary I absolutely loathe. Sadly, it is now the default dictionary for most of God's people. Though it has no official title (that I can find) it could be called The Cool Wordbook for Contemporary Christians. Why am I so sure it exists? Well, there are five reasons.

First, lots of good words, good Bible words, have just about totally disappeared from Christians' vocabularies, and I suspect it is because God's people are using the minimalist vocabulary of the Cool Wordbook. Words like "justification", and "sanctification" and "glorification" have just up and gone! Almost no one uses them any more. I used the word "mortify" in a sermon the other day and half the congregation fainted, two old maids put their hands over their mouths and a visitor ran out the door and did a burnout trying to get away before I said something else strange (like maybe, "holiness"?)

One of my elderly pastor friends told me he'd received a threatening letter from a denominational lawyer telling him that, if he keeps on saying "repent" he will be excommunicated and could lose his ordination papers. A magazine article I read the other day told of an Emerging Church pastor's efforts to have the word "rapture" banned from public use. Now that I think of it, I can't remember the last time I heard the words "gospel" or "salvation." And whatever happened to "Amen" or "Praise the Lord" or "Hallelujah!?" I never hear anyone say those in church any more. I suspect it is because they are among the words that are left out of the new dictionary.

Second, I have to tell you, it's not just the missing words that prove that there's a new dictionary in use. It's also the NEW words I hear our folks using when they speak of spiritual things, words like "COOL!" and "GROOVY!" and "AWESOME!" As far as I can tell, these words are always pronounced like they were capitalised and with an exclamation point after them. If you read pastors magazines or attend Leadership Conferences you will hear words like "CEO" (spoken in hushed and reverential tones), and "UNITY!" (always spoken with a beaming countenance.) If you want to sample the "COOL!" vocabulary that is in vogue this week, just see if you can sneak up on the teens in your church and eavesdrop for a few minutes. Of course, it's not likely you will understand what they are saying, unless you've been watching MTV or Hillsong, but you can try.

Third, we are not only hearing new words from the "COOL! Wordbook", but we are hearing a number of new phrases, like "PRAISE BAND!" and "theologically conservative and culturally relevant" and "THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX!" You may even hear someone use the phrase "Ecumenical Fundamentalists."

Fourth, I notice that the meanings of words are often reversed. Take, for instance, the word "wicked." Our teens often use it as a term of admiration. Isaiah described this word usage in Isa. 5:20, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

Fifth, We see the shortening of the great godly words down to abbreviated, less descriptive words. It seems that the modern church cannot grasp anything much beyond two syllables. "Sanctification" and "glorification" and "Incarnation" are way too hard to say. They strain the mind. Even the term, "Christian Hedonism" (John Piper's favourite doctrine), has grown whiskers and is being replaced by two-syllable words (Thinking, Feeling, Living, and Doing). "Purpose, passion, faith and love" rule the day but without the older, longer words the meanings of short Bible words have become far less distinct and quite elastic. When the new words are used to enlist adherents, they are called "Evangelastic." The old paper books that felt and read and endured like steel and stone have been replaced by the lighter, fluffier and much more malleable foam rubber editions.

So where did this new dictionary come from? And where can I obtain a copy for reference?

I looked for The Cool Wordbook at the library, but didn't find it there. As a pastor, I try to be observant without being a stickybeak (good Aussie word!). I have (sort of) kept a lookout when I visited with my church members in their homes, but it's not there either. I recently browsed in vain the bookshelves at the local Christian school. I checked our church library and it's not there, not in our members' homes, not in any Internet bookshop, not advertised by any Christian bookshop anywhere I can find. So, I'm stumped. Either my eyes are failing me or the Lord's people are learning their words from an invisible dictionary. I'm sure it exists, I just can't lay my hands on it. So I wrote to a cluey brother in Christ and asked him if he knew where I could find a copy.

Here is what he said, "We will find that the new dictionary is not being published as a single volume. For one thing, it would be overpowering, and look way too daunting to the casual reader, but mostly it wouldn't be carried by the bookstores as it would date so quickly. They would have to print a new edition every few minutes.

No, the Cool Wordbook for Contemporary Christians will not be bound as a single volume. And it will not be found in any one particular place in a Christian bookshop. It is being sowed amongst the myriad paperbacks and DVDs and is being updated with every new fad. New entries are blogged or tweeted. It would seem the biggest problem faced by its readers is keeping up with the changes, but keeping up is essential. One option would be to make it available online and call it Wiki-Cool (?). That way the reader could rewrite every definition after he reads it. After all, what self-respecting churchgoer wants to sound less than authentic during testimony time? Thankfully, some words have a longer life and at a pinch will cover all the bases. 'Awesome' will satisfy both young and old and 'awesomeness' will add a touch of genuine scholarliness.

My take on this, if it's helpful, is that the wordbook is crafted in lofty (or perhaps low) places and then distributed mostly via movies, TV, radio and the Internet. Most of the 'new fangled' and recycled words are used because someone spoke it in a hit movie or TV show. It then gets repeated ad infinitum across the Interwebs and soon everyone's using it. Facebook, Twitter and whatever else is the 'social tech du jour' are repeater stations for the Cool Wordbook. Despite not being labelled so clearly, you will find the Wordbook lurking on most shelves at Koorong Books, Word Books, or Christianbook.com. It's mostly found in the 'Christian Living' section, which is probably the largest section on the store, apart from the music section. Just as in the music section the hymns are squished into a corner to make way for the huge Hillsong collection (the stuff everyone actually wants to buy), so the Christian Living shelves have spilled over into the Theology section and the Naves, Strongs and Scroggies have been replaced by the Warrens, Pipers and Macarthurs."



So what we are seeing is the wholesale adoption of a Postmodern vocabulary, as it is found in the Cool Wordbook.

What can we do to lift the quality of our words? I suggest we stop buying new evangelical books and music Cd's and DVD's. Buy books written by real Bible believing fundamentalists.

And go back to reading our Bibles. Out Loud!

Otherwise, we may soon find the great old Bible words and definitions banned once and for all.

Bro. Buddy Smith (with much assistance from Bro. Kevin Wyatt)

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Welcome to the Website of Grace Baptist Church - Malanda, North Queensland, Australia

Grace
Baptist Church
MALANDA

On the Atherton Tablelands in Tropical North Queensland - Australia

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