

CULTIVATE MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER...June...2009

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Greetings in Jesus!

First and foremost I must start out by saying how much I really do appreciate you guys! Those of you who help support this ministry through your prayers and gifts of support are the same ones I'm really looking forward to meeting personally in heaven and spending the best time in fellowship ever! For all eternity! Again, thank you so much!

The Dangers of the Emergent Church...

The what? The who? What is the emergent church? As King Solomon said, "There is nothing new under the sun." However, there are new names all the time. When I think of this name, I think of another word close to it. **EMERGENCY!** This really needs to get out because it's sweeping the Church! Not as in "cleaning" but just the opposite! So many Christians haven't even heard about this and many others simply don't want to.

So, just what is the emergent church? It's a part of the prophesied Great Apostasy. Satan is still up to his same old tactics of mixing truth with error. This is what he did in the early Church by mixing Christianity with paganism which created the Roman Catholic church, the largest church that goes under the name of Christian, yet is nothing less than that great harlot of Revelation chapter 13 who deceives the nations (or peoples). Well, he's up to his same old tactics again but this time he's really attacking the Christian Church, and he's being more subtle than ever before!

The following is taken from one of many articles written by Roger Oakland.

Emerging into What?

Rick Warren and others say we need to pay attention to the emerging church. Things are changing, they say and the "emerging church" has the answers for our generation. But what will the emerging church emerge into? Could it be a form of Christianity that embraces experience rather than God's Word?

Dan Kimball is the author of *The Emerging Church: Vintage Christianity for New Generations*. He is also launching a church called Vintage Faith Church in Santa Cruz, California. Kimball makes the following statement in the introduction of his book:

I believe with all my heart that this discussion about the fast-changing culture and the emerging church must take place. While many of us have been preparing sermons and keeping busy with the internal affairs of our churches, something alarming has been happening on the outside. What once was a Christian nation with a Judeo-Christian worldview is quickly becoming a post Christian, unchurched, unreached nation. New generations are arising all around us without any Christian influence. So we must rethink virtually everything we are doing in our ministries.

Certainly the spiritual climate in North America has changed radically over the past number of years just as Dan Kimball has stated. Many, including Rick Warren and Dan Kimball use the term "post-Christian era" to describe the days in which we are living. They say, while the seeker-friendly era was successful in bringing a generation of "baby-boomers" to Jesus, that time is past. Now we need to find new innovative methods that will reach this new generation for Jesus.

Kimball's book, *The Emerging Church: Vintage Christianity for New Generations*, is written for this purpose. He not only identifies the problems he believes the church is now facing, he provides the answers and the solutions. The church for the future, he believes, must be more sensual and experience-based. He calls this church "Vintage Christianity".

Perhaps the term "Vintage Christianity" is new to you. While it is not my intention to describe all that it means in this commentary, a few chapter titles from Kimball's book under a heading called "Reconstructing Vintage Christianity in the Emerging Church" will be helpful for us to understand where the emerging church is headed. These are: "Overcoming the Fear of Multisensory Worship and Teaching", "Creating a Sacred Space for Vintage Worship", "Expecting the Spiritual", "Creating Experiential Multisensory Worship Gatherings", "Becoming Story Tellers Again" and "Preaching Without Words".

Now, I ask you, this question. What does the Bible say about Vintage Christianity and the so-called emerging church? Is the goal of Christianity experience-based or Bible-based? Jesus said: "If ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Further He stated: "Why do ye not understand My speech? even because ye cannot hear My word."

Less Word, More Worship

It should be apparent by now that the emerging church is more experience-based than Bible-based. Further, in the emerging church the Word of God takes a secondary position to the worship of God.

While Dan Kimball and other promoters of the emerging church may be sincere in their efforts to evangelize the postmodern generation and believe they are genuinely representing the scriptures, there are some real concerns that need to be addressed. Deviating from the Word of God for extrabiblical experience can open the door to deception. While worshipping God is a very important part of the Christian faith there are problems that can occur if worship supersedes the word.

However, Dan Kimball sees a new worship generation in the making based on experience that is essential to the emerging church. In a section of his book subtitled "Truly worshipping in a worship gathering," he writes:

We should be returning to a no-holds-barred approach to worship and teaching so that when we gather, there is no doubt we are in the presence of God. I believe that both believers and unbelievers in our emerging culture are hungry for this. It isn't about clever apologetics or careful exegetical and expository preaching or great worship bands. ... Emerging generations are hungry to experience God in worship.

Obviously, in order for this to happen, changes would have to be incorporated. Kimball has thought this through and offers a number of suggestions which he lists in a chart that shows how the "modern church" must adjust and move towards a "no-holds-barred approach" to worship. Some of these are:

- Services designed to be user-friendly and contemporary must change to services that are designed to be experiential and spiritual-mystical.
- Stained-glass that was taken out of churches and replaced with video screens should now be brought back into the church on video screens.

- Lit up and cheery sanctuaries need to be darkened because darkness is valued and displays a sense of spirituality.
- The focal point of the service that was the sermon must be changed so that the focal point of the service is a holistic experience.
- Use of modern technology that was used to communicate with a contemporary flare must change so that church attendees can experience the ancient and mystical (and use technology to do so).

While I realize we are living at a period of time where technology is the key to entertainment and visual stimulation is a necessary tool required for capturing the attention of this generation, I ask you to consider what the Bible teaches. What about less Word and more experience? Could someone quote the chapter and verse to justify that? What about the idea that visual stimulation is the formula for inducing a spiritual atmosphere that will draw seekers to Jesus? Where is that found in the Bible?

I don't know about you, but my when I hear about the emerging-church-methodology to forsake "apologetics" and "careful exegetical and expository preaching" for the sake of a generation that is "hungry to experience God", I have some concerns. Could this be another avenue to "dumb-down" Christianity so that we no longer know what God has said? How effective can experiential Christianity be when it comes to knowing who we are, where we are in time, and where we are headed?

Jesus said He is coming again? How many professing Christians will be ready when He returns?

Roger also has a DVD on this subject that will better give you an understanding of just how big this deception is and will help you to determine if any aspects of this part of "The Great Apostasy" is taking place within your church. If you would like a copy, it's available for a gift of any amount this month. Simply ask for the DVD entitled: **The Emerging Church...Revival or Return to Darkness.**

Angels & Demons...

As many of you know, there's a new film coming out with Tom Hanks, entitled "Angels and Demons". This is about a secret plot to destroy the Roman Catholic church. It seems that people today are seeking information from everywhere except the Bible. Bible prophecy does indeed tell us that the Roman Catholic church will be destroyed! And guess who destroys it? Satan destroys the Catholic church!

Well, why not? He made it to begin with!

We have a 3 CD set entitled: **How Satan Destroys World Religion**, by John MacArthur. If you would like to know the truth concerning this so-called mystery, these are available this month for a gift of any amount.

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince...

This is yet another new film in the series coming out July 15th. If you're one of those who think this Harry Potter thing is just innocent and fun for children to watch, read, and mimic, think again! This is a carefully orchestrated attack by Satan to cause more and more to fall into that prophesied event taking place in the latter times concerning the many that shall give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils.

When I was a kid, I watched Casper the Friendly Ghost and Bewitched on TV. Later on, I became intrigued with the supernatural and began to experiment myself. I was only about 12 years old! Found that things worked! But had no idea the forces behind these things were demonic. That was then but this is now, and Satan has more of a stronghold with both the youth and even adults now as never before!

Perhaps you're one of those Christians that have never experienced the supernatural before, from God or the enemy. Then again, perhaps you have. Or perhaps you know someone who has been deceived into thinking this whole Harry Potter thing is just innocent entertainment. So, do we as Christians have a tool to reach out to them? Absolutely! We have a great DVD entitled: **Harry Potter: Witchcraft Repackaged...Making Evil Look Innocent.** Here's what's written about this DVD...

Does witchcraft actually have power? If so, what is its source? Does the Harry Potter series' presentation of Witchcraft make it any more acceptable just because it is packaged as "children's fantasy literature"?

Best selling authors Robert S. McGee and Caryl Matrisciana answer these questions and draw parallels between Harry Potter and true Witchcraft as practiced today, with actual footage of witches, their rituals, spells and interviews. Viewers will discover similarities, with Harry Potter and Witchcraft in Mother Goddess, Meditation, Black Magic, Curses and Spells, Divination & Sorcery, Occult symbology, Evolution & Reincarnation, Demon possession, Seasonal/nature celebrations, Communing with the dead & spirit world, "Dark" aspects of Witchcraft, and more.

Young readers today, more than any other time in history, have an abundance of occult resources easily available to them. Get information on how you can protect your family from access to occult infiltration on the internet. Learn how to answer difficult questions, and clearly explain the symbols in the Harry Potter series to your children, grandchildren, and concerned friends.

If you would like a copy of this DVD, it's available for a gift of any amount this month. Simply ask for the DVD entitled: **Harry Potter: Witchcraft Repackaged...Making Evil Look Innocent.**

Life Without People...

What's with The History Channel! Recently, The History Channel has been doing a series entitled: Life Without People where they show us what would happen to this planet if all of a sudden everyone vanished off the face of the Earth. They show things in increments of after 1 hour, after 2 hours, after 6 hours, after 12 hours. After 24 hours, after 3 days, 7 days, a month, two months, 6 months, a year, two years and so on. I found it fascinating to see just how fast things change with no people on the planet. After only 5 years, there's so much unkept plant growth, you can hardly find many smaller man-made structures as homes. Tall buildings become homes for birds, mice and cats. Dogs run wild in packs through city streets. Dams burst creating new landscapes. The power grids all shut down so there's no light anywhere except from the sun, moon and stars as in the beginning.

I thought to myself, this is the history channel. This has absolutely nothing to do with history at all! This is a futuristic look at things. This is the opposite of history! What are they doing! Of course, I couldn't help to think about the rapture of

the Church but even after the rapture there would still be multitudes of people who have been left behind all over the planet. But then it dawned on me... Just after the catching up of the Church, people aren't going to be thinking about mowing their lawns, trimming hedges or anything else like this. It's going to be mass hysteria! Christians hold vital positions all over this world. We're even called the light of the world. I began to realize The History Channel may have portrayed this scenario rather well! Especially when you take into account that the rapture is not only the removal of the Church from the world, it's also coupled along with God's wrath being poured out upon a Christ rejecting planet.

Sometimes I wonder if there's some kind of Christian influence working in Research, Development and Programming on The History Channel.

The third week of May I aired the film, **Left Behind: Where's Everybody Go?**, a great DVD to show people what it really will be like just after the rapture of the Church. It's also a great DVD to have in your home to leave behind so after the rapture, people who have been left behind will discover it and know what really took place. I always have one around for people to find. It also has a great salvation message. If you would like a copy, it's available for a gift of any amount again this month.

When Will the Rapture Take Place...?

It seems that some are wondering why the Rapture hasn't happened yet, and they are beginning to wonder if it's not a pre-tribulation Rapture at all, and that we're going to suffer through God's wrath.

You're going to need a Bible for this; best to use a King James. Please read Revelation Chapter 4. Then Revelation Chapter 5 starting at verse 8 and down to verse 14. Done that? If not, do that first.

Now we'll go back to Rev 4:1. The phrase "after this" is "meta tauta" in the Greek, and means "after these things". Note this ... you will not see the church mentioned again after chapter 4. You will find tribulation saints but not the church, because this marks the end of the Church Age. Also in verse 1 you'll see the phrase "come up hither". This is the Rapture, at which point the Lord shows John what will be taking place "hereafter", "meta tauta" again.

You'll also see the word "trumpet", which represents the "trump of God" found in 1st Thessalonians chapter 4. Note also the word "throne". It appears many times in the book of Revelation. In fact, it's mentioned 58 times in the entire New Testament, 43 times in the book of Revelation, and 14 of them are in Chapter 4. In Psalms 11:4, it says "THE LORD is in his holy temple, THE LORD's throne is in Heaven"! Same thing is mentioned in Psalm 103:19. In the book of Revelation, the tribulation begins **after** Chapter 5. It begins at the beginning of Chapter 6. Note that John is brought into heaven **before** the Tribulation begins.

This picture is not the only picture of such escaping of judgement in the Bible. The two greatest illustrations of this are Noah and the Flood, and Lot and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Now go to Matthew 24:36. "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." What are we talking about here that we don't know? We're talking about the coming of the Lord to the earth at the end of the tribulation. Let's be clear here what Matthew 24 and 25 are about. Look at verse 24:29-30 for a clear answer.

"Immediately **after** the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: and **then** shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and **then** shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." That's Revelation Ch 1, verse 7.

This is not the Rapture! This is the unveiling of the glory of Jesus to the entire world. Not just believers, but also unbelievers. In fact, especially unbelievers! We don't hear this often, but when you think about it, all those who believe the Bible are post-tribulation in one sense. Whether they're pre-, mid-, post-, or partial- about the Rapture, they all believe the Lord is coming after the tribulation. Why? Because it clearly states that in verse 29.

The question is, what about the Rapture of the church? These are believers. We're not dealing with unbelievers knowing His coming.

Let's look at the illustration in Matthew 24:37-38, "But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage..." Now some people think this was normal activity. No, it wasn't. If you read the book of Genesis Ch 6, you will find the earth was filled with violence, immorality was everywhere, and God judged the world for its wickedness.

The obvious implication here is that Noah escaped the judgement. 1 Peter 3 says eight souls were saved. Why? Because they were in the Ark, in the place of God's safety! By the basis of that picture alone we will not be going through the Tribulation!

Now let's look at Lot. 2 Peter 2:5-9 says "And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an example unto those that after should live ungodly; and delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (for that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) the Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:"

Note verse 7 "and delivered just Lot". Just? Just as in "justified". We are justified by faith. And look at verse 9. "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgement to be punished." The Lord knows how to do this, and He will!

Now Lot had his own problems. Maybe you do, too. Maybe you're not walking with the Lord like you know you should, but if you really know Him, you're going to be out of here just like righteous Lot. And God dragged him out! By the way, He's going to snatch you out.

There was no mention about the Rapture in the Old Testament. This is a direct revelation from Jesus Christ in 1 Thess Ch 4, though none of the Hebrew prophets who also spoke of the tribulation and the coming of the Lord ever spoke about the Rapture. So that in itself tells us the Rapture is different than the coming of the Lord at the end. The Rapture is also mentioned in 1 Corinthians Ch 15: 50-51. "flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God,... behold I show you a

mystery; We shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed."

What it means is that not all believers will die. Some of us will be alive at this event.

Now some skeptics say, "Well if this actually happens, I'll know, and then I'll believe afterwards." No they won't! In 2 Thess 2:9-11, it clearly says that to those who have received God's truth but not responded to it God will send a strong delusion, so that they will believe the lie of the antichrist and they will not believe what took place.

There are still many on earth who have not yet heard one Bible verse in their own language. It's worse now than it was 50 years ago. We live in a culture who has heard it over and over again. We have our Bibles and our bookstores, and our radios and TV, yet we forget that many still have not heard the gospel of Jesus Christ. But don't be too alarmed, because they're going to hear the gospel during the seven-year tribulation period.

But those who have heard the truth and rejected it, when the Rapture occurs will not be among those who will hear it during the tribulation according to 2 Thess Ch 2:9-11.

There is so much more on this that I can't cover here. But if you'd like to listen to a great expose on the subject, the first week of June I'm airing **When Will the Rapture Take Place**, by Dr. David Hocking. If you'd like a copy, this CD is available for a gift of any amount this month.

There Went General Motors! What does this really mean?

This is one of those news items that when it first came out it exploded. It was reported that hundreds of thousands of people would be losing their jobs over this. This includes Ma-and-Pa businesses going back to the 40's. If you've noticed, the news is no longer reporting on this. But what kind of an impact will this really have?

We have to look at the ripple effect. Auto workers will lose their jobs, so they will buy less, which means others will lose their jobs, so they will buy less, and so forth. Also, suppliers for auto makers will lose business, which will cause more layoffs. Can you see the picture here? This is one of those explosions that causes such a great ripple effect that it's not going to end anytime soon.

More one reason to be prepared for the hardest times you have ever experienced.

More Basic Survival News...!

If you've been reading this newsletter for a while, you already know many of the plans of the New World Order boys. The controlling of food to create a lack of it, plays no small part.

Perhaps you've seen one of those commercials about The Topsey Turvey planter where you can grow tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, etc. upside down or sideways out of a container at your home, apartment, or pretty much anywhere without much space and with no weeding necessary. Well apparently, this idea has been around for a while and has even won some awards. In fact, at Disney's Epcot Center, they've been doing this for a very long time.

But as I did further research of this, I realized something. While the Topsy Turvey planter you see on TV is a great idea,

it's rather cheaply made and may not even last one season. However, for less money you can make your own from some five gallon buckets with lids.

I found some at Walmart that were already black, which the sun keeps warm. All I had to do was drill a couple of holes on the sides big enough to put a couple of starter plants in, fill it with soil, and put a top on it. So that it doesn't get too warm inside, a couple of 1½ inch holes on top allow the heat to escape. And for proper drainage, I simply drilled a couple of ¼ inch holes about 1 inch from the bottom of the bucket on each side. This allows just enough moisture to be retained at the bottom of the bucket. Hang it up, keep it well watered, and that's it.

In order to keep the plants safe from hail, too much hot dry wind, or animals, simply take a sheet of clear plastic and form it into a cone shape, and hang it over each plant with a hole larger enough at the top for heat to escape.

Just be sure that if you are planning to save seeds from your plants for next year, don't plant hybrid seeds. Hybrids don't breed true the next generation; just like a horse and a donkey produce a mule, but the mule itself is sterile.

If you have any other questions, give me a call.

30 CLUB...

Maybe you're unable to catch the broadcast but would still like to keep up with what's going on.

Here's a great way to do that. We have what's called our 30 Club. Anyone wishing to help support this ministry with a monthly gift of \$30.00 or more each month, may upon request, start receiving everything I air throughout the entire month. Sometimes these are on a CD but most of the time these are DVDS. Normally, DVDS cost \$20.00 each and CDS are \$5.00 each so this is not only a great deal, but it also helps support this ministry. So just let me know when you write if you'd like to become a part of the 30 Club. Thanks!

Ending Note and Prayer Request...

I again just want to express my deepest thanks to those of you who have kept this ministry going for so many years through your prayers and gifts of support. It seems that now, in this late hour, the enemy has been creating more havoc for this ministry than ever before. This, along with the financial crisis in this country, has been a major one/two punch hurting many ministries. This one is not excluded. This is why I am more than just appreciative to those of you who understand the both battles and keep praying and supporting anyway! Thank you ever, ever so much!

Yours because His:



- Jim Zilonka