

# Truth To Wonder

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**A Healing At Bethesda**

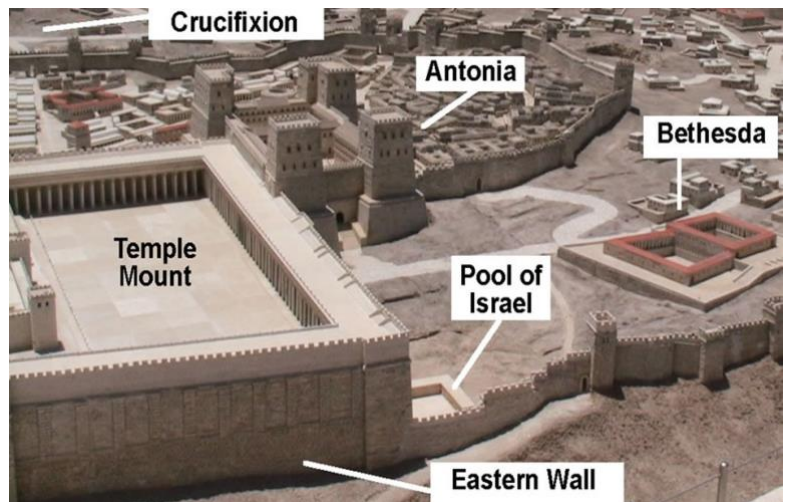


**John 5:5 - And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.<sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?<sup>7</sup> The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.<sup>8</sup> Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.<sup>9</sup> And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.**

This passage marks the third great miracle of creation that Christ Jesus performed as recorded in the Gospels. The pool of Bethesda was a meeting point of God's healing mercy, and man's desperate need for divine aid for many, many years. At certain points of time ordained by God, He would send an angel to stir up the waters so that whoever bathed in them first, would be healed of any disease from which they were suffering. This act itself spoke of the cleansing manner of God's healing, and further pointed to the one who is able to cleanse both body and soul fully, that being the Lord Jesus.

Though this provision was a mighty work of God's mercy, we read of a certain man who had been tremendously suffering with an ailment for 38 long years. Each time the angel stirred the waters up so that whoever bathed in them was healed, he was not able to immerse himself in the waters in time as he had no person to help him in his seeking of healing.

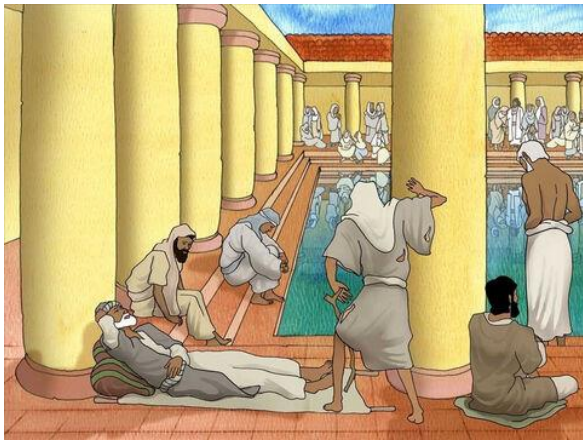
One can imagine the excited and rushed press of a great gathering of the sick and suffering around the small pool, when it became evident God's healing had been sent to them by the work of the obedient angel. Now picture this poor man, alone in his long misery, looking upon others being healed, year after year, and yet he had no one to help him slip his broken body into the gentle waters and thereby find longed after relief. The crushing disappointment felt over and over again by this poor soul, few can even come close to imagining. Yet whilst the crowds looked past him constantly, there was one who saw him in his quiet despair.



The compassion of the Lord shone brightly by the twinkling waters of the pool of Bethesda that day, for Christ Jesus looked upon that poor frail man not moving to access the blessed waters, and asked him a simple question of did he want to be made whole and healed? Of course, Jesus knew the man's heart, but the heartbroken words that fell out that weary man's mouth revealed a heart shattered and in search of restoration. He had no strength to rely upon to help himself, and he had no friend to call upon, he was alone. Here was a heart ready to receive a mighty blessing, not only a blessing of healing, but a provision from the very mouth of the Creator God Himself!

In this miracle, Christ Jesus revealed Himself as the Creator once more, for who else could give full healing to such a badly stricken man as was this poor individual?! Even the finest of modern surgeons, with all the aids of modern technology, could not perform such an astonishing feat! And so it was with a simple yet mighty command to the poor man to rise up, pick up his bed that had supported his weakened body for 38 long years, and walk, that full healing was given that happy day!

The compassion of the Lord moved and so a broken man was healed after so, so many years of unrealised hope. But those years of waiting were not wasted, as the Lord is not slack in His promises. Consider the immensity of astonishment this healing would have caused in the grounds of the pool of Bethesda. For here was a man of great length of suffering healed without even needing to enter the waters of the pool. For the glory of Christ is seen in the text, as we are told the healing waters were stirred up by an angel fulfilling the command of God. Yet here was one in Christ Jesus, who is so much greater than even the mightiest of angels, and so performed this amazing miracle purely by the power of His word. This would've been a living witness to all that day and throughout history as to the fact that Jesus Christ is the Creator God and uniquely worthy of praise.



Consider also, how many lives that have been stricken with long years of physical suffering, have found hope in the recording of these events. Though that poor man beside the pool of Bethesda laid there for 38 years in great sadness of suffering, he did not know that he was going to be part of a ministry that would bring light and life to countless lives for millennia to come!

It is a marvel of God, that this wondrous miracle took place on the Sabbath. The Sabbath day is there as a holy day reserved unto the Lord so that we may find rest in His loving provision. How good it is that this poor man that Christ healed, was

brought to wholeness of body on the day that has been ordained by God to come to Him in study, fellowship and prayer, so that we find rest and be restored in His goodness and mercy. This great miracle reminds us to treasure the Sabbath as the blessing of God for our days that it has been divinely decreed to be.

So if you are suffering in such a manner, wait on the Lord's mercy and trust that though you may even be alone in your miseries, with no soul to help you in your struggles, the eye of the Lord is on you. He will bring you fulness of healing, that is His promise to you. Though it may not come in this life, it will come! You will be given a glorified body that will know such wonders that you will not be able to contain your joy and excitement as you sing the praises of the Lord God forevermore! Wait on the Lord my friend, He is with you, and His compassion He moves towards you this day and always. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

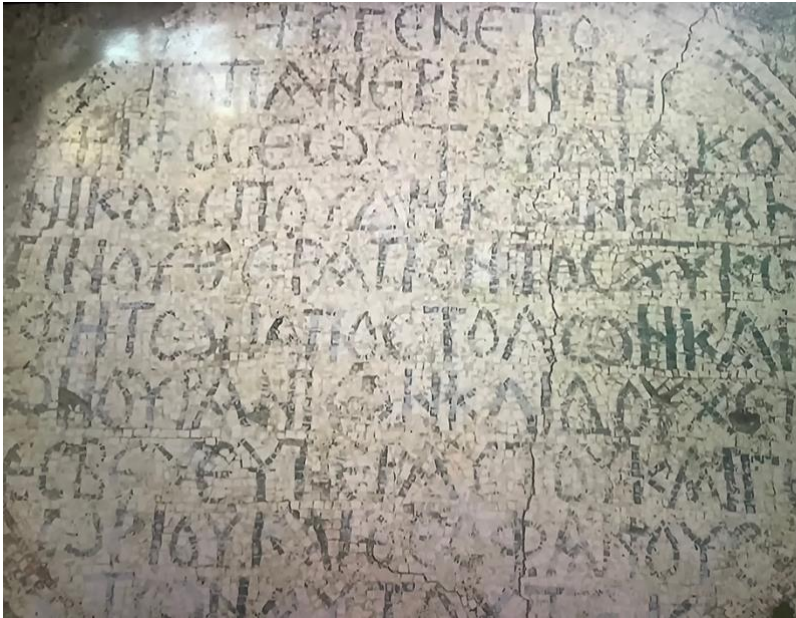
## Bethsaida Found?

The small fishing village of Bethsaida, is famous in the Bible for being the hometown of the disciples Peter and his brother Andrew, along with Philip. At this site and it's surroundings, Jesus healed a blind man, walked on water and fed the 5000. It's an important site in New Testament history, causing many deniers of the validity of Biblical history to attack its claim to be a real historical location.

Recent archaeological discoveries at a site known as El Araj, is challenging these sceptical arguments of Bible critics with some very interesting findings. This site of El Araj is located on the coastline of the Sea of Galilee, and archaeologists have found significant amounts of 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D. fishing weights, heavily indicating that this settlement was primarily a fishing village (hence Peter and Andrew's occupation as fisherman).







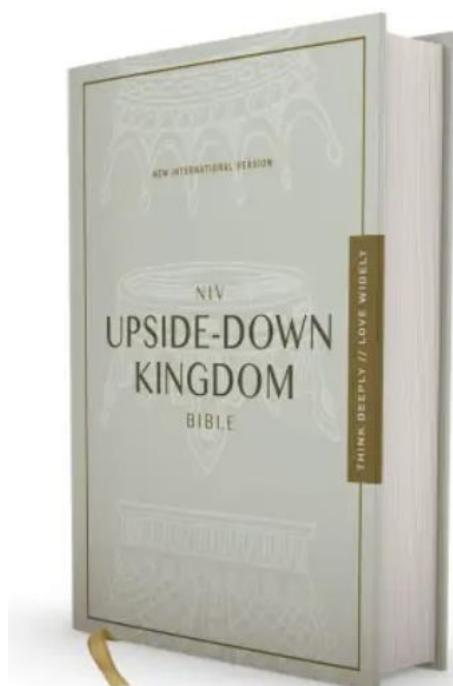
Yet a more striking discovery was made of a 6<sup>th</sup> century A.D basilica on the site of El Araj. The eastward facing basilica has a very rare treasure laying deep within the ground, that being a perfectly preserved mosaic floor that holds the inscription of ‘chief of the apostles’ (see picture). Many historians suggest that this points towards an honouring of the Apostle Peter, and that the basilica was built in this area to mark the birthplace of the Apostle. As archaeologists working at El Araj have noted, there is no other known site in the world that has such an inscription, which in itself points towards this being a viable contender for the possible site of the Biblical location of Bethsaida.

Further investigations of the surrounding area of the ancient ruins of the basilica at El Araj, have revealed a settlement of at least 15 acres in size. Such a size would allow it to be designated a Roman *polis* or town, as it is recorded to be in the Holy Bible. Ongoing studies of the site are being conducted in the hope of finding more evidence that may continue to build to the case that this location could very well be the site of Bethsaida, thus making it another addition to the real world sites that corroborate the Biblical historical narrative.

By Jonathan Badger

## NIV Upside Down Kingdom Bible

Another new Bible version has hit the shelves, this one entitled the *NIV Upside Down Kingdom Bible*. Utilising the flawed NIV bible as it's launchpad into dubious bible translation, this new work from the money chasing Zondervan Publishing Company has its own USP or unique selling point to attract customers. This being that this new version has additional ‘insights’ from liberal preachers such as Francis Chan and Ron Sider.



The additions of the thoughts of editors such as those listed above is designed to give ‘new and fresh insights’ (the usual justification for every new bible version) on topics such as social justice, race relations, gender and sexuality, etc. In other words, this new version holds the musings of liberal Christian minds on liberal topics that have caused immense damage to western society in less than a decade of action.

In TV interviews promoting this translation, the editors have made deeply troubling assertions such as that the ‘evidence for the old age of the earth is overwhelming’, and some of the footnotes in this version encourage the reader to challenge that the Book of Genesis should be read as literal history.

Furthermore, another of the editors commented that certain books of the Bible, such as Ecclesiastes, have nothing to offer modern women and so should not be read by women. If anyone can hear and read such comments from the **editors** of this Bible and not see that this work has been corrupted by doctrines of seducing spirits, then they are sadly blind to what is staring them in the face.

Such a premise of offering ‘new and fresh insights’ into Holy Scripture is nothing new as previously noted. It has been creeping further and further into Christendom for decades, as preachers encourage congregants at Bible studies, church services, book/leaflet publications and online media, to read the Scriptures with a mind of ‘what does it say to you.’ This deeply flawed approach to the reading and study of the Holy Bible (hermeneutics) was popularised by men such as Martin Heidegger and Rudolf Bultman in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (not long after the RSV bible came out interestingly!). They wrongly contended that the Bible should not be read with a view of seeking after the authorial intent (what the writer wanted to convey to the reader) but rather what the reader ‘experienced’ as they read the Bible.

The ‘experiential’ hermeneutic is open to all manner of mis-readings, personal interpretations and false teachings, proving a worryingly rich and fertile ground for discord amongst Christians. Furthermore, it breeds enormous doubt into the doctrine of Biblical authority, as if the Scriptures are read with disregard to what the author wanted us to understand, and instead read with the extremely narrow lens of personal preference. In such an approach, who is to say who is right in how Biblical doctrine is to be applied and lived?! The Spirit grieving impact of such an approach is a deeply divided and damagingly diluted Christendom that has no spine of true faith by which to stand in defence of the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are seeing the effect of this being lived out each week as society is increasingly viewing Christianity as weak, irrelevant and pointless. The many mainstream newspaper articles bewailing this sad decline highlights this as a heavy truth and not a personal gripe of the writer of this article.

This new bible should be left on the shop shelves so that money orientated publishing houses such as Zondervan, learn that the Word of God is not a plaything to chop and change according to the ever changing whims of the consumer. Instead it is to be guarded as the words of eternal life that they truly are! We should hold to a version that God graciously moved to bring about that had been stripped of the musings of men and relied solely upon the revealed Word of God, that being the most effective and celebrated of Bible versions that is the A.V/KJV Bible. If you do not own one then I encourage you to buy one and study it earnestly. Ask the Lord to teach you as you go through its pages, and you will read exactly what He intended for you to read, in all it’s eternal glory. You will have the assurance of heart that what you are learning and treasuring is not based upon the ever shifting sands of personal interpretation. It is instead based upon the rock of authority that is the Pure Word of God. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

## **A Pagan Inspiration For Representations of Jesus In Art**

The issue of how or if at all the likeness of Jesus in the flesh of man is to be depicted in various mediums such as Art and Cinema, has been a divisive topic for many years amongst Christians. Many have no issue with the commonplace rendering of Jesus that most will be familiar of, a light skinned male, quite handsome, with shoulder length brown hair and mid-length beard. Yet to others, this image causes irritation for likely historical inaccuracy as to His real appearance. As a Jew living in Israel, the likelihood of having light coloured skin is remote, and Scripture describes Jesus as a distinctly average looking man, having no beauty (Isaiah 53:2).

So where does this commonplace image of Jesus that the majority have in our minds (thanks to artworks, movies etc) actually come from if it is not historically accurate? Does it even matter if we continue to use this likely inaccurate image of Jesus to represent Him? Well, if we investigate the origins of this image of Jesus that is often used in art, movies etc, we come to some surprising and alarming conclusions.

It is well known, that as Emperor Constantine politicised Christianity to gain and maintain power and control over the Roman Empire, he encouraged the ‘rebranding’ of well known Greco/Roman gods to more Christian subjects such as the disciples. The idea was that all the traits of paganism that were so entrenched in Greco/Roman culture, such as idol worship, could continue unabated (as it was a huge source of tax revenue – the love of money is the root of all evil after all) by assigning old statues of pagan gods to figures seen in Holy Scripture. This way the lucrative idol making industry could continue unhindered, and many reluctant ‘converts’ to Christianity could maintain their old pagan practices under the guise of ‘Christian’ worship.



One such ‘rebranding’ of a Greco/Roman god was seen in the renaming of statues to the god Ascepius to Jesus Christ. Ascepius was the god of medicine, son of Apollo, god of healing, truth and prophecy. He was always depicted as a rather handsome man, complete with flowing brown locks of hair, mid-length beard and a lighter shade of skin. In other words, exactly how many artists, movie producers etc depict Jesus to be to this day. Ascepius would carry a staff with a snake wrapped around it as the sign of his provision for medicinal care. This is reminiscent of the truth of the brass snake lifted up by Moses to heal the rebellious Israelites from the poison of the snake bites in the wilderness still comes through in this pagan god.

According to Greco/Roman mythology, Ascepius was taught the art of healing by the centaur Chiron, and so Ascepius became a master of his craft. So much so that Zeus feared that Ascepius would make all men immortal (interesting remnants of the Gospel leaking through) and so killed Ascepius with a thunderbolt (again, one who would give healing to mankind was struck down in his prime – who does that sound like?).

As you can see from the wooden carving shown in the picture, this image dating back to the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD, one could easily think they were looking at an old depiction of Jesus, such is the common conception we have of what Jesus looked like thanks to many artworks and movie depictions. It all comes from this rebranding of the god Ascepius! This repurposing of pagan gods, to suit Constantine and later Emperors (Popes as well) political aspirations, by ‘Christianising’ them could be a very powerful answer as to why so many Bible fed Christians are uncomfortable with the commonplace rendering of the appearance of Jesus Christ. Furthermore, this repurposing of ancient gods to Christian subjects is a widely accepted truth amongst even secular historians, and so cannot be dismissed as the musings of Bible traditionalists and fanatics.

Scholars also note how Constantine and later the Popes, encouraged the rebranding of the Greco/Roman god Saturn to the Apostle Peter. Many historians draw attention to how often in ancient statues of ‘Peter’ are seen with a moon and stars around his head (see picture below of statue to ‘St Peter’ found within the Vatican!). This is because this was how Saturn was depicted in pagan worship, as all such statues were originally carved for the worship of this false god. They had nothing to do with Peter, and their repurposing was again just a means of ensuring the continuation of a lucrative idol industry and breaking of God’s first commandment.

Saturn was a foul god whose rule was believed to be over agriculture and prosperity, equated by the Romans with the equally horrible Greek Titan Chronos. This god believed in by both Greeks and Romans, was a tyrannical despot who happily ate his own children to ensure the continuation of his rule over the universe. The false god Saturn inspired the pagan festival of Saturnalia, celebrated by Romans on December 17<sup>th</sup> with often wild parties and debauched behaviours. Knowing all this, why on earth would the Papacy give any room to the housing let alone adoration of such a wicked false god within the Vatican?! Clearly they have no issue with the repurposing of such an evil icon, one that drags down the names of those who served the Lord Jesus with such humble zeal and steadfastness of faith!



So now being armed with this knowledge, we have an answer as to why many Christians dislike the popular renderings of Jesus and the disciples as seen in much of western media. This is because what we are so used to seeing as depictions of such figures, are actually based upon extremely depraved and wicked false gods.

By Jonathan Badger



## Building A Quiet Witness

The city of Jerusalem is a unique one. An ancient city of approximately 3500 years old, this dwelling place enables those familiar with its history and layout, to call buildings that are 1000 years 'modern' given its immense history amongst the hills of Israel. You would imagine that a city whose existence spans thousands of years, resembles a strange mix of building materials and styles, all cobbled together in an awkward 'hodgepodge' of architectural creations. Unlike cities such as New York, where gothic style buildings from the late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century sit right next to towering steel and glass monoliths of office blocks, Jerusalem has retained an interesting uniformity in its appearance.

A main reason for this remarkable consistency of building appearances in Jerusalem, even when taking into account the enormous time differences between some of these constructions, is the requirement for all new builds in the city to use Jerusalem stone. Furthermore, all new constructions within the city must adhere to the traditional building aesthetics seen throughout the ancient settlement. This has meant that new shopping centres in Jerusalem, such as the Mamilla Mall (see picture) do not look out of place when viewed as part of the ancient city. As Jewish American journalist and political commentator Ben Shapiro noted, Jerusalem is a city that looks to bring the old and the new together into one continual dwelling.

When this is all viewed with an eye of faith, we see a quiet witness emanating from the very native rocks of Jerusalem of the one who is the bringing together of all the faithful in God. It is the Lord Jesus that brings together in uniqueness of bond the freeman and the slave; the Jew and the Gentile; male and female, for all are humble servants of the Son of God, all throughout the generations of mankind.

Each member is hewn from the same rock that is faith in Christ Jesus, much like how all buildings in Jerusalem use the same native stone. As such, each building may hold a different function, whether that be an office, a home, a school, a library etc, etc, yet all bear the same essential manner to the eye as each other. It is much the same in each believer in Christ Jesus, for though we have been made for a different purpose in how we are to serve the Lord (some may be teachers, some doctors, some preachers, some shop keepers, etc), we all should be a faithful reflection of the one we live to serve in joyful humility.



Furthermore, just as the new buildings of Jerusalem use the same material of Jerusalem stone as the ancient ones do, so too do we believers in Christ Jesus today believe in the same Gospel that gave eternal life to those thousands of years ago. Thereby through faith in Jesus Christ, the old in faith and the new in faith find their continual dwelling place, the presence of God as revealed in His only begotten Son Jesus Christ. It should be no surprise therefore to find such a quiet but powerful testimony of this Biblical truth within the very walls of the city of peace that is Jerusalem. It is here that Christ shall rule from the throne of David, and at long last Zion shall be the seat of peace and blessing that God has ordained it to be in Christ's Millennial rule.

As always, if you seek after righteousness, you will find Jesus. When you find Him, you will see His loving and faithful witness to the world of His mercy and grace in so, so many areas of life. What you once walked past with no regard, will begin to speak softly but mightily of the eternal grace that you know to be true in your own heart. So ask the Lord to open your eyes, and await the wonders of how you will see His grace witnessed to the world in many incredible, awe-inspiring ways. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger



## Finish the course

Fight the good fight. Finish the course. Keep the faith. This is what the Apostle Paul implores us to do in 2 Timothy 4:7. This steadfast directive was given by a life-weary Paul to the young minister that was Timothy, as Paul sought to prepare the promising servant of God for the hardships and sufferings that come with being a true believer in Jesus Christ.

Whilst these words are wonderfully inspirational, many an experienced believer will acknowledge that the intensity of spiritual war they endure in the name of Christ Jesus and the Gospel, can be so severe and prolonged, that our weak human natures can still feel downcast and dejected in our labours for Christ. Sadly, many weaker souls have laid down their arms for Christ, as they have been unwilling to accept the cost of suffering that comes from following the One whom the world hated before them. They turn away from the promised rewards for servitude to Christ Jesus, as they seem too far away to be grasped. The fight is too intense; the threats too severe; the cost too heavy; the reward too distant.

Yet to those who hold firm and fight the good fight, staying the course and holding to the faith, their days of labouring through the storms of life do come to an end, and then wonderful rewards and blessings are given to them in the abundance of God's grace. One recent example of the reward that comes from staying the course and fighting the good fight has come from American shores, as the swimmer turned activist Riley Gaines (see picture) has once again made news headlines in America.



After years of being on the receiving end of transgender activist's threats to her life, along with consistent public ridicule, mockery, abuse and persecution, Riley has received the reward for her steadfast stand against transgender 'women' taking part in American sporting competitions. At a Presidential address given by President Trump recently, where he announced the banning of transgender athletes from taking part in women's sports, Riley Gaines could be seen stood behind the President as he gave his speech. As he was making his public address, President Trump turned back and looked towards Riley, and thanked her publicly for her brave stand

against the militant transgender activists who had made her life a misery every day for years.

After years of attack and suffering in standing for her faith in Christ and His Word, Riley was publicly thanked before the assembled media of the world, by the 'leader of the free world', for her defence of truth, God's truth no less. Her faith in the promises of God, that those who stand firm and fight the good fight of faith, shall be rewarded, whether in this life or in Heaven, led her to this happy day.

Let this very recent example of God's blessing of those that bless Him and His Word, reignite our passion to live by the words given by God through the Apostle Paul. Though they are two thousand years old, they are still fresh and true this very day, and so is the reward that awaits those who live by the words given by God. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

# The Deception Of The Charismatic Supernaturalism And The So-Called Second Pentecost

Every week countless people pass through doors to worship, to worship what?, that is the problem; don't know. They would call themselves believers, but in what? One thing is clear they are not New Testament Biblical believers. Many would use the label followers of the 'second pentecost'. From those places of 'praise and worship' masses of false teaching spues forth, often the teaching and doctrine of devils. A lot of this 'ministry' comes from women and should be exposed and refuted. Things are happening which are referred to as a 'second pentecost'. Many are told that these events are nothing ever seen before while at the same time calling it a 'second pentecost'. They can't make their minds up.

However, in Church History the Charismatic Movement has been seen before under different names for centuries. It is also important to note that many believers rejected it as false. Further, there is also NO 'Second Pentecost', neither will there be. There is however a Great Delusion that masquerades as a work of the Holy Ghost. Countless pastors are deceived and have no knowledge of the road to falsehood they are guiding people along. To them it is all about the spirit but it is not the Holy Spirit.

Now, it may be that you have already been under the 'ministry' (probably still are), of so-called 'gifted men' and indeed women that are everywhere 'telling forth' new revelations, the problem is they are lies based on delusions, false doctrines and devilish theology. Some claim to be seers, prophets and apostles. These souls are deceived. Today it is very easy to lay aside the Bible and give prominence to so-called 'the gifted'. Those who call themselves apostles are false. They are not New Testament Biblical Apostles. They are deceivers. Today, countless souls listen to teaching only on the basis of personal experience, doctrine is thrown out and experience is exalted. But, that is not building solidly on God's

Word. Many are speaking of listening to the spirit, been guided by the spirit, following the spirit, being in the moment by the spirit, but what spirit? It is not the Third Person of the Trinity. One hears of those seeking tongue speaking to give deeper devotion to Mary and some to the Pope. Absolute doctrine of devils. Read Matt 7v15, 22-23.



Christianity today is like looking for the latest entertainment. Today 'believers' move freely from Church to Church because some place has supposedly more 'prophecies', more 'miracles', more 'apostles'. I mean why stay if another place has more 'prophecies', more 'miracles', more 'apostles' etc. Why don't you join Rome? There isn't a church on earth with a greater claim as such. She is also a Liar and Deceiver. Think about that, Rev 2v2. Now read Matt 10v8. Do your apostles do these deeds? No. Have you ever been at a gathering where someone suddenly collapses and the apostle is replaced with 999? Use your head. Look, we have 'miracles' all over the place supposedly. Rubbish. True some are subtle and misleading, there are counterfeit miracles, at 2 Thess 2v9-11. Look as someone refers to water being turned into wine in one book we ask, why should water ever be turned again. The Gospel can only be inaugurated once.

Let's take Dance, Plays, Musicals etc. that have invaded the church over the decades. They are full of this ungodly rubbish. When the book, 'If My People' came out, which became a major musical in the 1970's the whole idea began in a 'prophecy' given on April 30th 1974 which was a hotchpotch of mainly unbiblical concepts. Again dance and drama groups exploded onto the christian scene in recent decades. Very important biblical teaching is at stake. Dance and drama are regularly approved of as a good teaching aid. Yes, and they also lead into sin, lust and temptation. It was the argument from evangelicals like John Wycliffe that miracle plays, far from confirming and illuminating the gospel, obscure it. In the interest of entertainment fidelity to and reverence for God's Word are often given for humour.

In recent decades the likes of the play *Godspell* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* have presented total ignorance on the most basic Christian Truths. Much 'Christian' drama introduces new elements and often confuses. We have the likes of actors dressed as clowns prancing around the service in 'worship'. We saw in past decades Christ in *Godspell* performing as a clown. What kind of blasphemous garbage is this? In *Godspell*, instead of Christ coming in Glory to sort out the sheep and goats we have a bumbling clown. Often the bible is twisted and told wrongly, this often happened in miracle plays. One pastor said about an evening of drama, dance, comedy and conversation, 'it will take your breath away'. But will it take one's sin away?

Have you seen some of today's christian visual aids? The girl flaunts in front of them to the delight of the group, are they all so pure and spirit-filled as to disdain feelings of that sort? What about the whirling group of women representing the Holy Spirit coming at Pentecost? Although a Person the Holy Spirit is represented by oil, a dove, water and wind. He is never symbolised by a man or woman. Throughout the New Testament there is an emphasis on the silence of women in worship and the need for modesty in dress and behaviours.

By contrast man needs to make a covenant with his eyes. See Job 31v1. Man looks and lusts. Half the time as the women prance and dance you could see the colour of their underwear. The praying knee and the dancing foot don't belong together. Many writers refer to people being emotionally moved at watching or participating in some scene, as though this gives some conclusive proof of the rightness of the thing. Listen, there were women who were emotionally moved at the sight of the Lord heading for His crucifixion. They shed real tears and showed forth real sympathy. Yet the Lord told them not to weep for Him. He was never, and is never, to be an object of our pity. He does not need our tears and these are emotions which will not meet with approval. John Owen who wrote frequently on this kind of theme, addressing himself to those who thought they were Christians because they were moved by some picture or representation of Christ, warned, 'An imaginary Christ will effect in the minds of men but an imaginary grace'.

But what now of what lies ahead? The Church in Britain is fading fast and apart from small groups it will be gone soon. There is an enemy at work right now that is undermining the foundations of British Society at every level and in every sphere of life. Throughout schools, universities, churches and other institutions there are what our grandparents in the War Years would have called Fifth Columnists at work, working to destroy the foundations of Christian society. In your churches there are unbelieving institutions/bodies/groups who are there to destroy faith and remove the foundations of all belief. It is happening now. One of the vehicles most useful is the Charismatic 'if you believe anything gospel', it ranges so widely in belief it can incorporate from sodomites to atheists. It also has endless other sub-sections e.g. saving the earth, plants, animals and other reaches of space etc. etc.

Soon state education will be compulsory, no more acceptable home schooling, the plans are being worked on now. Save the earth pastors will peddle their save the earth climate change gospel. Anyone teaching their children the gospel will be charged with child abuse.

An elite university body of scholars, so-called the 'Brights', an atheistic, godless, hell-bound body of intellectuals are currently working constantly to wipe-out all scientific knowledge that points to Creation. They are die hard preachers of the gospel of hell. They are supreme haters of God. These men/women are the most educated, stupid, lost souls to have ever been given breath. They are consummate fools. 'The fool has said in his heart there is no God'. Such are you also if through education or lack of it you reject the revelation of God.

By Dr David Badger

## **All The World's A Stage**

World events are moving at an incredible pace with new political, societal, economic and religious developments unfolding every day. The election of President Trump has sent shockwaves through the world as 'woke' liberals are panicking at the swift reemergence of the political right on the global scene. President Trump's entry into office has not been a quiet one, as he has made many bold executive decisions that have dramatically reshaped both domestic politics in America, and political moves on the international scene.



Most striking of all has been President Trump's involvement with the ongoing political crisis of the Israel/Hamas war. President Trump has been unequivocal of his support for the Jewish people and their fight for freedom and security against Islamic terrorists seen in the utterly abhorrent actions of the groups known as Hamas and Hezbollah. This strong defence of the Israeli nation has created a great surge of support for the construction of the Third Temple in Jerusalem. This project is viewed by the Sanhedrin (Jewish religious leaders) as a vital part of the Jewish nation's identity and its construction is of the utmost significance and urgency in solidifying the Jewish people within their rightful homeland.

As the call from the Sanhedrin has gone out once more to Jews all across the globe to return to Israel as part of their duty to God, members of the same Sanhedrin have met with both President Trump and President Putin to gain support for the construction of the Third Temple.

The preparation for the construction of the Third Temple is reportedly already underway, with many of the golden vessels used in the Temple sacrifices already prepared, along with a Biblically accurate replica of the Ark of the Covenant, made of gofer wood and overlaid with gold. Furthermore, the red heifers that were brought over from Texas in 2022 in preparation for the purification ceremony at the commencement of the Temple building works, have reached three years of age, making them of the right age to be used as a suitable sacrifice for the purification ceremony. Some are

even predicting a sacrifice date of April 2025 in line with Passover (at time of writing in late February 2025).



Some are claiming that the construction of the Temple itself (not its contents) is already underway in secret in the caves under the Temple Mount. Such a notion is not wildly absurd, as any building work on the Temple Mount itself would be politically controversial at best due to its housing of the Dome of the Rock mosque, a key religious site for the Islamic peoples. Therefore, any obvious construction work being made on the site itself would be violently opposed, making a secret commencement of the works a wiser option. Furthermore, let it be noted that the construction of the first

Temple under the rule of Solomon, was conducted in a similar manner. As we read in 1Kings 6:7, no hammer or chisel or iron tool was heard on the Temple grounds as all the stones were brought onto the site already expertly cut and suitably prepared/shaped for building. This shaping of the stone was done in the caves directly underneath the Temple Mount, with many of the prepared stones hoisted up through a hole made in the ground and thus lifted directly into the Temple Mount grounds, thereby eliminating the need for any tools to be further used on the site itself. As to whether this claim in regards to the Third Temple's construction being underway in secret is true or not is up for debate, but the similarities to Biblical precedence of such a feat are intriguing to consider.

The construction of the Third Temple would be a powerful witness to the unshakable and undeniable accuracy of the prophetic Word of God in its fulfilment of Biblical passages such as Isaiah 2:2-3, regarding the building of the Third Temple. This construction would pave the way further still for the rise of the AntiChrist, as it will be in the Third Temple that the AntiChrist will desecrate the Holy site and set himself up as a god to be worshipped (Daniel 9:27) under his mark of 666 being placed on the right hand or the forehead (Revelation 13:16).

As a result of these developments and the continual gathering of pace towards the 'latter days' of which Isaiah spoke of, sober minded Christians are to be busy about their Masters work in spreading the good news of the Gospel, for the hour of His return is drawing ever nearer. Whether you believe in a pre-tribulation, a mid-tribulation or post-tribulation rapture, the end result is the same, that we are to be ready and watching for Our Lord's return, so that we receive Him without shame and fullness of joy. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

**Forgetting The Empty Tomb**

In 1 Corinthians 15:12-19, we read the Apostle Paul highlighting that if the resurrection of Jesus Christ never took place or was not an actual physical bodily resurrection, then we above all people are 'most pitiable.' All Christians would immediately find themselves in a terrible predicament of holding a completely pointless faith if Jesus did not rise again from the tomb. As philosopher Douglas Groothuis observes, 'The resurrection of Jesus is at the centre of the Christian worldview and Christian devotion. The Gospels do not end with the death of Jesus but speak of an empty tomb, of his appearances and of a commission by the risen Jesus.'

Yet there seems to be an ever-increasing trend of solely fixating on the death of Christ Jesus on the cross in much of modern preaching, as many sermons and messages neglect the immensity of importance that hangs upon the truth of Christ's physical, bodily resurrection. As Pinchas Lapide (an orthodox Jew who accepts the death and resurrection of Jesus, but denies His deity, holding that God brought Jesus back to life due to the fact that He was a good person) shrewdly noted, 'Resurrection is by far the more important of these two pillars of the Christian faith (referring to the Crucifixion and the Resurrection)...Without the experience of the resurrection, the crucifixion would have remained without consequences and forgotten, just as were the innumerable crucifixions of pious Jews which the Romans carried out before Jesus, during the lifetime of Jesus, and up until the destruction of Jerusalem in the year 70 AD...thus the Christian faith stands and falls not with Golgotha, the infamous 'place of the skull', where thousands of Jesus' brothers were murdered cruelly by Roman mercenaries, but with the experience 'on the third day' after the crucifixion, an experience which was able to defuse, refute, and even to make meaningful this death on the cross for the community of the disciples.'



Even those of no religious affinity are sharper than many Christians in their esteeming of the truth of Christ Jesus' bodily resurrection as the pinnacle of Christianity. The atheist German New Testament scholar (just because someone studies the Bible, doesn't make them a believer!!!) Gerd Ludemann wrote, '(Arguments) from fellow theologians along with further work of my own on the subject have convinced me that disproving the historicity of the resurrection of Jesus ultimately annuls the Christian heritage as error.'

Why then do so many preachers today focus on the sacrifice of Christ Jesus on the cross, but then neglect His victory over death as witnessed in His resurrection from the empty tomb? As a pastor, I am familiar with the heart felt desire to reach others often cold hearts towards God so that they might find salvation through repentance of sin and the placing of faith in the risen Lord Jesus. It is an easy trap for the preacher/pastor to fall into then to seek to overly appeal to the emotions of the congregation by exclusively aiming at their sensibilities over the very real suffering and agony that Christ Jesus experienced on the cross. The potential pitfall in this emotion led appeal is that it creates a sense of pity within the congregation towards Christ Jesus, and not reverential awe. It is essentially a shortcut to hopefully, potentially leading a soul to true redemption in Christ Jesus.

Pity makes us feel sad over the plight of the other, making us feel as though we can/must do something to remedy the situation. The truth however is that we cannot do a thing to make what Christ endured in our place better. He needed no help from any man, woman or child to fulfil His work at Calvary, and He obeyed the will of the Father in the immensity of His power and righteousness. We must remember keenly that Jesus is the King of kings, the Creator God and Lord Almighty, He needs no assistance from any created being in any capacity, and so requires no pity at all. The applying of pity towards Jesus takes up the room in our hearts that should be reserved for awe, awe that the Lord God Almighty came in the flesh of man to willingly take upon Himself the sins of the world and thereby receive the just wrath of the Father, all in our place.

Where there is suitable awe in the triumph of Christ Jesus rising again from the grave, there comes with this good and Godly reverence a wisdom to see how climatic the Resurrection is to so many key doctrines of the Christian faith. As church leader, author and clinical psychologist Adrian Warnock noted, all of the following tenets of our faith in Christ Jesus would've never come to be if the Resurrection never took place. These key areas include:

- Salvation by union with Jesus (Acts 4:11-12)

- Sending of the Spirit (Acts 2:33)
- Physical healings (Acts 3:15-16)
- Conversion of sinners (Acts 3:26)
- Jesus' role as leader of the Church (Acts 5:30-31; 9)
- Forgiveness of sins (Acts 5:30-31)
- Comfort for the dying (Acts 7)
- Commissioning of the Gospel messengers (Acts 9; 10:42)
- Freedom from the penalty and power of sin (Acts 13:37-39)
- Assurance that the Gospel is true (Acts 17:31)
- Our own resurrection (Acts 17:31)
- Jesus' future judgment of this world (Acts 17:31)

(list referenced from *Evidence That Demands A Verdict*, pg 238)

As you will have no doubt noticed, all these crucial points of the Christian faith are all established in the earliest days of the Church, as all are recorded in the Book of Acts, which details the birth of the Church and its spreading of the Gospel. This massive, rapid and richly blessed expansion of the Christian faith was only possible due to the determined and pointed defence and delivery of the truth of Christ Jesus' physical resurrection. The Gospel was so eagerly received by many because it spoke and centred on Christ's victory over sin and death; not a singular fixation on His suffering and Crucifixion.

Let's be clear, preaching on the suffering and agony that Christ Jesus endured for us at Calvary is to be done, that is not up for debate. But when it is delivered without the preaching of the triumph of the Resurrection, it is message devoid of hope. It is like reading a story to a class of children and then declaring the story has ended right at the moment the hero of the tale is at his lowest ebb. Why should we be surprised to find many of the class distressed, confused and frustrated, making them reluctant to join us in our request that they should still find the hero mighty, able and strong, thus a worthy recipient of our praise? It would be nonsensical to do such a thing. Yet many Christian leaders today are doing this very thing (often times well-meaningly), and they are perplexed as to why people have a low view over Jesus Christ.

Many times, we as Christians assume the person we're witnessing to for Christ, knows the basic framework of the Gospel. The sad truth in our modern society is that the only familiarity many have today with Jesus is using His name as a cuss word! We can never assume that when we appeal to others to come to saving faith in Christ Jesus, by pointing out His atoning for our sins at the Cross, that they are fully aware of the triumph of His resurrection three days later. By drawing the non-believing eye to Christ's victory over sin and death in His resurrection, then we can begin to highlight the significance of just **who** Jesus is, not what **He** can do for us. We can instruct the non-believer that we should be seeking Christ's forgiveness for our sins because it was **He** who paid the debt of our sins. Not only that, but that **He** was pure and powerful enough to conquer death and rise again from the tomb, and that by His victory and through faith in Him, we too have no reason to fear death.

The Resurrection clarifies to the non-believer that Jesus is the Son of God, and that because **He** is alive today, **He** is able to hold each of us to account for our sins. It places the good and correct fear of God upon our hearts that concerning the sacrifice **He** made for us, **He** will require an account from the non-believer as to why they thought this same sacrifice for their sins wasn't good enough or even necessary. The preaching of the Resurrection is the lifeblood of the Gospel, for it brings the awesome fear of God upon a proud heart; but then offers hope that the Judge of all Creation loved us enough to take the penalty we incurred for our sins, so that we might be returned to the eternal loving embrace of God.

I pray this piece is an encouragement to all Christians to never sideline or neglect the preaching of the Resurrection. When we place it at its correct point in our faith, at the pinnacle of our hopes, thoughts and deeds, then we are strengthened daily with a deep reverence and remembrance of just how gracious and glorious our Risen Lord Jesus is truly. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

## An Ancient Giant Serpent

Vasuki Indicus is the name given to a recently discovered fossilised snake uncovered in India. Measuring 50 feet long, this massive serpent was the same length as a full sized basketball court or a four storey building, making it a truly gigantic creature! The Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, came across a sizeable section of the massive snakes vertebral column (27 vertebrae in total), and were stunned by the excellent condition of the fossil. This would've made it



approximately 2,200 pounds in weight, outstripping the previously thought largest snake to ever exist being the Titanboa, which measured in at around 45 feet in length.

The name refers to Hindu mythology, and points to many Indian folklore tales of gigantic serpents afflicting their homelands as being based on actual interactions with these terrifying beasts. The enormous size of the snake leads many scientists to believe that it held a limited body speed, and so relied on ambushing its prey, rather than being an active hunter. Whether or not this is true is completely unknown and is based purely upon conceptions founded on what we observe in today's serpent kind.



What has also surprised scientists, well those who believe in Evolution anyway, is that the climate of ancient India was able to support such a gigantic creature. The Vasuki Indicus fossil shows a fully developed and robust body (no signs of being any 'intermediate' evolutionary creature) akin to any modern-day python today, thus meaning it had clearly been able to be fully nourished by the ancient climate. This should not surprise any Bible believer, as the Book of Genesis makes it clear that the Pre-Flood world was a very different world with a lush and fertile earth easily capable of supporting the many giant species of animals and plants that have been discovered all over the globe, even Antarctica! Such an environment not only explains the undeniable presence of such monster sized beasts as the Vasuti Indicus, but also of how the Book of Genesis (chapter 6 verse 4) records there being giant men existing in the Pre-Flood world (and indeed in Canaan after the Flood when the Israelites were conquering the Promised Land – Numbers 13:33).

Once again, scientific discoveries are uncovering amazing finds that the Bible told us long ago were waiting to be unearthed. For all the decades where true Bible believers were mocked for being foolish and uneducated for believing in a literal interpretation of the Book of Genesis, we are the ones who are being shown to be correct based upon the actual evidence. So if you doubt or deny the veracity of Holy Scripture, then by all means test it, test it thoroughly. I promise you what you'll find will change your mind.

By Jonathan Badger

## John Alexander Dowie – A Pentecostal Forerunner

John Alexander Dowie (1847-1907, pictured on the next page) is rightly viewed as one of the forerunners of the Pentecostal movement. Born in Scotland before moving to Australia and then the United States, John formed the International Divine Healing Association in San Francisco. He then went on to form the Zion Tabernacle in Chicago, then finally founded an entire movement known as the City of Zion.

John held a money worshipping approach to prayers for his followers, as he would only pray for healing for those who were fully paid up members of his 'church', refusing to pray for anyone who did not give significant amounts of money to support his lavish lifestyle. This demanding of money for healing prayers and his undelivered claims of being able to heal ailments led to him being tried for fraud by women of his congregation. None of this matches well with a man who claimed he was Elijah returned.



John was a firm advocate of what many hold to today within the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement, that ill health is due to a lack of faith. Furthermore, John (as many false teachers do to this day) taught that seeking medical care for any ailment or condition was evil, as he often preached against calling upon the skills of a doctor during times of illness.

His City of Zion movement set up 'healing rooms' as an alternative to medical care (a practice utilised by Charismatic mega churches today such as Bethel Church – so avoid anything to do with Bethel Church, including Bethel music as royalties fund this organisation). However, many lives were tragically lost because of John's non-Scriptural stance on medical care, including many young children and babies. Such was his determination to ensure his followers did not receive anything close to caring treatment during illness, he once denied a dying woman's request for a bowl of broth as it would amount to not having faith that God would heal her. Not long later, the poor woman died.

John's greed for money was obvious in his opulent lifestyle, as he frequently demanded that his followers and church congregants donated huge sums of money, whilst many of them lived in poverty (another sad marker met by many Pentecostal/Charismatic churches today). Indeed, John was quoted in a Chicago newspaper in 1899 as saying, "Don't be stingy with your money. If you do, the Lord may be stingy with His cures." What devilish words of deception! Yet awfully, many false preachers/teachers are peddling the same lies in many Pentecostal/Charismatic churches today.

John's complete lack of care and compassion for his own congregants was recorded by the same newspaper reporter, when on instances John would rail against one of his followers who were often in great pain with advanced cancer or other severe conditions, he would often say, "No better today, sir? Well if you are not better it is your own fault. You either don't trust in the Lord or you are concealing some infamous crime." Such wicked words speak of a false teacher being used by a spirit of deception, and have no correlation with any Biblical truth! Yet such similar words are regularly peddled by false teachers in the Pentecostal and Charismatic movements today by men such as Ken Copeland, Benny Hinn, Joyce Meyer, etc.

The demise of John came in a heavy manner, as he died in 1907 from a massive stroke. His faith was evidently not strong enough to ward off such a weakness of the body, and so he failed by his own, self deceived measure. Such a blind and wicked man claimed to be a servant of God, and is still highly regarded by many in the Pentecostal/Charismatic community. When anyone studies the lives of such pioneers of this deceptive movement, how can anyone hold to the following of this movement?! If you are part of such a group, then heed the warning being given you by the Lord God right now! Come out of that world of deception and spiritual darkness, and seek a true, Bible believing church that will nourish you with true Bible based preaching and teaching!

By Jonathan Badger

## No Place For Racism

Evolutionary Theory gives racism an ever ready platform for its violent and discriminatory evil to continue to move through societies all across the globe. Evolution dictates that as mankind evolved from its supposed primate ancestors, the earliest stage of monkey to man was to be found in Africa due to incorrectly compared facial features, skin colour and tribal behaviours. Therefore, many western evolutionary scientists/academics viewed Africans as 'further down the evolutionary scale' of humanity, thus prompting another surge of racism in western society (let the reader be reminded however of the massive slave trade led by Islamic forces over many African peoples long before the European slave trade).

Yet what if Caucasian (white, western peoples) are not that far removed from the African relations in regards to that ever divisive issue of skin colour? The latest scientific studies of DNA samples from 348 ancient bodies of people living in Europe thousands of years ago, have revealed that the predominant skin colour was not white but actually a darker skin colour closer to mid/light brown. Approximately 65 per cent of the ancient individuals studied had darker than expected skin colouration, with the researchers suggesting that paler skin tones only became the predominant tone in Europe around 3000 years ago.

Whilst this discovery has shocked evolutionary scientists, given the 'late stage' divergence of human skin tone in the evolutionary timeline, the news fits very nicely with the Biblical narrative of human history. After the Flood, Noah's three

sons of Shem, Ham and Japheth became the fathers of the three main races of humanity. Shem became the father of the Semitic and Asian peoples; Ham the father of the dark skinned peoples such as Africans and Aborigines, and Japheth the father of the Caucasian peoples. As a result of all today's world population coming from this one family after the Flood, would mean that similar genetic traits such as skin colour, would have been shared within this small group. The likelihood would've been that again, Noah and his family were a mid-brown skin colour, as within this colouration lies all the genetic variation required to bring about both light skinned offspring and dark skinned offspring.

As the nations emerged from the fallout of the Tower of Babel, this caused a separation of family groups to be spread out across the world as people looked for new lands to settle and make their own. This saw the families of Shem move predominantly eastward; the families of Ham move predominantly southward into Africa, and the families of Japheth move predominantly westward (Europe and beyond).



As the new nations began to settle in their respective regions, the genetic variations to be found within the mid-brown skin colouration began to become more prominent, bringing about the differences we still see today. Given that many of the European nations can trace their ancestry back to settlers from the Mesopotamian region some four thousand years ago, we would not be surprised to see a similar converging of skin colour and indeed facial features the further back we go to this point in history. For an example of this, see the picture opposite depicting a recreation of Cheddar

Man, an ancient dweller of Britain who was likely of mid-brown colouration.

All these points being discovered in research of ancient genetics are revealing surprise after surprise for evolutionary theory adherents. However, each new discovery is continuing to uphold the Biblical timeline as seen in the Book of Genesis, to the surprise of no one who holds a literal interpretation of Genesis.

By Jonathan Badger

## Christian Worship Music From A Islamic Source

Music artist Nouri has recently been enjoying great success in the iTunes Gospel Music charts and the Billboard Gospel Chart in America with her hit worship song, *Change In Your Name*. Nouri is of Kurdish origin, having spent her early life in a Syrian refugee camp. Herself and her family moved to New Zealand when she was 3 years old, before she left to move to Los Angeles to pursue a music career.

Initially living in poverty out of the back of her car, her time in LA was not an initial success. So Nouri took to TikTok to show her musical abilities by singing cover versions of well known contemporary Christian worship songs. After being discovered on this platform, Nouri began her music career which has brought her to this recent success in the Christian worship music scene.

Commenting on how her hit worship song came to be, Nouri recounted, "I was talking to God one night and I was praying, and this song – I swear – it just comes out of nowhere. It was: you give me purpose. That's how it started. After two hours, the song was kind of written. I wanted to write a worship song, and I would say that God helped me write that song, because I was really looking for an answer."

Ok, what's the big deal you ask? Well, Nouri is a Muslim, not a Christian. The God that moved her is not the God of the Holy Bible, but Allah, a false and violent god. Even though this track has been heavily marketed and accepted as a 'Christian' worship song, Nouri made it very clear on her TikTok profile, that she had no desire to write a song worshipping the one true God of the Holy Bible. Instead she commented, "I wrote (*Change In Your Name*) in a way where anybody could listen to the song and worship to it. I do believe there is one God, and that's who I'm singing to, but whether you're Muslim, Christian, the song was written in a way where you could all listen to it."

This song (and many other modern 'worship' songs) are written not to bring singular glory and praise to the God of the Bible, but an ecumenical movement designed to bring all the religions of the world under the worship of a false god. As the American preacher Spencer Smith has wisely noted recently, the contemporary Christian music scene will and is already, play a leading part in bringing together the world's religions under the goal of a singular world uniting faith, where a god will be worshipped (Bible believers know this to be the impending AntiChrist) in the place of Jesus Christ.



**billboard**

**Gospel Digital Song Sales**  
WEEK OF AUGUST 31, 2024

THIS WEEK	AWARD	LAST WEEK	PEAK POS.	WKS ON CHART
				
<b>1</b>				
<b>Goodness Of God</b>				
CeCe Winans				
		1	1	176
				
<b>2</b>				
<b>Come Jesus Come</b>				
CeCe Winans				
		2	1	23
				
<b>3</b>				
<b>That's My King</b>				
CeCe Winans				
		3	1	29
				
<b>4</b>				
<b>Change In Your Name</b>				
NOURI				



Many modern Christians will criticise me for having no time for much of modern 'Christian' music, especially much of what is marketed as 'worship' music. I have this viewpoint because so, so much of it has no substantive Biblical doctrine contained within their lyrics (unlike the great traditional hymns, which are mini-sermons such is their sound theological content), and can thus be adopted by anyone without paying even the slightest attention to worshipping Christ Jesus (which is the whole point of the music existing isn't it?).

I found it a marker of the lack of truly Scriptural content found within music put out by many Christian bands/artists today, when a family relation of ours, who has no faith whatsoever and regularly seeks to shut down any conversation on Christ Jesus, asked us to get

them a *Casting Crowns* CD. *Casting Crowns* are considered by many as one of the leading lights of the modern Christian music scene, and so I was surprised to hear of this relations request for one of their albums. Never would that same family relation ask for a CD of any traditional, Bible based hymns to be bought for them, so why was a band such as *Casting Crowns* acceptable? Could it be that the content of their music makes no impact for Christ Jesus upon the unbelieving ear? Now there will be many Christians who will take offence at this and say that they enjoy the music of such bands and it brings them to think of God when they hear it. But they are forgetting that they already know the Lord as their Saviour, and so they happily assume the lyrics are written for Christ's glory and praise, or they simply fill in the theological blanks left by such music groups.

I have known several people listen happily to modern 'worship' music, only for them to swallow hard and shift awkwardly in the seats when they are asked to listen or sing along with traditional hymns. Why is that? Is it because that awkwardness speaks of a far more accurate and powerful Gospel message is being conveyed in the great hymns of the past? Is it because it was never in doubt as to what God the lyrics of the great hymns are speaking of? It could well be.

As a result, we should be very careful what music we listen to, especially what music we sing in praise and worship of God. We must be diligent in our studies (that dirty word *study* again that's removed from many modern bibles for some strange reason) to ensure that what we are singing has been crafted by a heart that adores and treasures the same Lord Jesus Christ that we know and love. If we do not, we could find ourselves blindly singing a song of worship that was never written for Christ Jesus, but for another god. A sobering thought indeed!

By Jonathan Badger

## Martyrdom In DRC & Syria

Shocking news reports have barely troubled western media in the recent weeks, of a horrific massacre of 70 Christians in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). On February 13<sup>th</sup> 2025, suspected members of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), an organisation with known ties to the Islamic State terror group, approached some homes in Mayba, part of the Lubero territory in the DRC. 20 Christian men and women of the settlement, went out to meet the group and were subsequently captured, before the ADF surrounded the village and took hold of the remaining 50 Christian inhabitants.

After capturing the entirety of this Christian village, the vile ADF then took the 70 Christians to a Protestant church in Kasanga, and beheaded them all, men, women and children. The details of this murderous act of the Islamic militant group the ADF, against this unarmed and peaceful Christian community has gone largely unmentioned in the world media. A small article can be found on the horrific events on the UK Parliament website, where a paltry three MP's (all of them members of the Ulster Unionist Party) have signed a motion for the ADF to be held accountable for their heinous crimes. Where are our nations leaders in vocally condemning such an abhorrent act, and where is the pursuit of justice against these terrorists?!

It is sadly estimated that at least 13 Christians a day lose their life for their steadfast defence of the faith. Those who think that the age of martyrdom for Christ is long over, are completely blind to the truth that our brothers and sisters in Christ are still paying the ultimate cost for their love of Jesus Christ, and the defence of the Gospel. This has been further seen in the horrors witnessed in Syria also. A country blighted by civil war since 2011, the Christian population of Syria has

## 70 CHRISTIANS FOUND BEHEADED IN DRC'S CHURCH



decreased by 90 per cent since the beginning of the war! Yes, many have been displaced as have other peoples by this terrible war, but the truth is that a jihad has been waged by the Islamic militants that have filled the political void in Syria. This deliberate move to try to eradicate the Christian faith in Syria has been noted by many Muslim terrorists who have gone online to tell the world that this is exactly their goal. Let it be remembered that Syria is where Christians were first so called (Antioch), and has been a home for believers in Christ since the very earliest days of the Church.

Such tragic news should move comfortable and safe Christians as we to stir up the faith, and rise from our spiritual slumber, and see that the peace and safety we have enjoyed for generations is fast being eroded. We need to wake up and realise that we have become complacent, weak and lazy in the living of our faith, as we complain and moan about the 'hardship' of our lives. Such awful news of those bonded to us in Christ Jesus, should make us hang our heads in shame, as what do we have to complain over? How mightily blessed we have been in this land to know such wonderful freedoms to serve the Lord Jesus. Yet because of the weakness of much of Christendom, we are seeing more and more servants of Christ being arrested and detained in the UK for even simply praying in public!

We must remember as true believers in Christ Jesus, that the world hates us, because it hated our Lord long before we took our place on the world stage. The hushing up of such horrific crimes against our brothers and sisters in Christ, are the blood stained proof that the Word of God can never be made acceptable to the world. The Gospel is an offence to the foolish and proud of heart, and we are engaged in great spiritual warfare everyday.

So as soldiers of Christ, let's be stirred up from our spiritual slumber and be alert and ready for the darkening days that are coming fast to our own shores. But let us not fear the fight, for the Good Captain of our faith that is Christ Jesus goes before us, assured in His victory over sin and death, and that by following Him, we shall share in His triumph forever. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

## Rosary Revived

The use of the rosary is fast gaining traction in the ecumenical movement. Thanks to its usage being peddled by famous ecumenical Catholics such as Jonathan Roumie (plays Jesus in the wildly ecumenical and regularly unscriptural series *The Chosen*), the rosary is seeing a resurgence of interest amongst many lapsed Catholics and liberal Christians today. This worrying trend is evidenced by a podcast that dislodged the *Joe Rogan Experience* as the worlds most streamed podcast. The name of this upstart podcast is *The Rosary In A Year* and is hosted by Friar Mark-Mary Ames.

Friar Ames has stated that 'there's something particular that God wants to do through Mary that also continues now. So it's interesting that even Mary's the one who continues to come.' This blatantly anti-Biblical declaration was furthered when Friar Ames continued, 'I think the number one thing is that there seems to be some sort of special grace given by God to the rosary, where he wants to do some special work, and the rosary is the thing that unlocks it. It opens the door to grace.' This is nothing but Gnosticism (belief of secret knowledge to be gained from God) wrapped up in idolatry, as no little strap of beads, no matter how enthusiastically clutched and prayed over, has ever opened the doors of grace! Nowhere does it say such a thing in Holy Scripture, as it is clear that grace from God is given through faith in Jesus Christ alone, not Mary or any other means!

Catholics cite the wedding at Cana in John 2 as the basis of the erroneous belief that Mary intercedes for us, as she 'interceded' for the wedding guests by seeking Jesus' aid and He relented and performed the miracle of turning the water to wine, at the behest of Mary. This however, is what's known as *eisegesis*, or reading into the text what you want it to say

rather than reading what the text **actually says** and teaching that, which is known as *exegesis*. Catholic teachers are rather adept at *eisegesis* to support their non-Scriptural teachings on matters such as the Mass, confession, purgatory, veneration of the saints, etc, etc. It is unsurprising therefore to note how comfortable and widespread eisegetical teaching and preaching of the Bible has become amongst much of Christendom, and how Rome has been very supportive of this shift in how the Bible is to be read and understood. No longer do many preachers and teachers instruct their flock to read the Bible to learn of God's **intent** and how this is conveyed and understood through the text, but rather what the text means to you. Such an approach defies the glory of God as it makes His Word subject to our personal whims and sensibilities. God becomes conformed to our image, which is in direct contrast to what exegetical preaching/teaching and good Bible study reveals time and time again throughout all Scripture, that we are to be conformed to Christ's image. This ecumenical ideology of *eisegesis* is the reason why this podcast is so popular amongst liberal Christians, as they blindly think that there aren't many differences between Christianity and Catholicism.

Mary worship has a dark and sinister history that can be traced back to the mystery religions of ancient Babylon, where the goddess Semiramis was worshipped as the Mother of God, who many believe to have been the real life wife of Nimrod. Nimrod, a cruel and mighty hunter who used his power to assert himself over the people of Babel and thereby lead them in rebellion against God. In many ancient histories, Nimrod and Semiramis are recorded as having a son called Tammuz, and these three would be lifted up as a counterfeit trinity amongst many ancient pagan peoples. This mystery religion was deeply ingrained in Babylonian culture, hence the consistent referencing to Babylon and Mystery Babylon in the Book of Revelation, as the world uniting religion ushered in by the AntiChrist. One must consider, that the creation, implementation and acceptance of a completely new religion upon a global audience will be a difficult feat to achieve. However, a reemergence of a religion that has very similar guises seen in existing world religions (this mystery religion of a counterfeit trinity, with a Mother god bringing about a son can be seen in many eastern religions), would be far more easily accomplished, and the one who has the most established dogma on this issue is Rome.



Rome's fascination with Mary and her usage as a repackaged lead for the continuation of the mystery religions, has been seen and further entrenched throughout the Papacy's history. In 649 AD, the Lateran Council declared Mary a perpetual virgin, giving her god-like status. The fact that Mary and Joseph had children together completely naturally after the birth of Christ Jesus, seems to be conveniently forgotten by this Council.

In 1854, it was pronounced by Rome that Mary was immaculately conceived, again elevating her to the status only Christ Jesus inhabits. Not too long after that in 1950, the Pope declared the Assumption of Mary was church dogma, and that once again, Mary was being elevated alongside Jesus as she was taken up directly to heaven on her death, with Google AI even recognising the significance of this non-Biblical teaching, as it states the Assumption of Mary is a 'way of honouring Mary and raises her to a position similar to her Son, Jesus.' What blasphemy! Yet this is what Rome teaches and what more and more of Christendom is sleep walking into acceptance of. Then in 1954, the year was declared by the Pope to be the 'Marian Year' and it was dedicated to the veneration of Mary as the 'Queen of Heaven'. When Rome pushes a false doctrine it does so with purpose and gusto! At least they're consistent.

The Rosary itself has a rather murky history. Some believe it began as a chain of beads used by monks to keep track of which psalm they were singing, and then somehow prayers to Mary found their way into the practice between 800 to 1200 AD (interestingly during the Dark Ages, when true Biblical teaching was cruelly persecuted by Rome). After this, Saint Dominic De Guzman, who would found the Dominican Monk order, popularised the use of the Rosary as a guard against 'heresy' (real Biblical based faith in other words). Following this, the Rosary became widely used in 15<sup>th</sup> century within Catholicism, before fading in popularity after the Reformation, only to find a resurgence of promotion and use in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It doesn't take a genius of Church history to notice that this resurgence times exquisitely with the promotion of both Evolutionary Theory and German Higher Criticism as immense weapons of attack against the authority of the Word of God. The devil often uses multiple sources of attack, and so the true Church experienced this



significantly in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, along with the publishing of Westcott and Hort's Revised Standard Version of the Bible in 1881, which became the starting point of the confusion that reigns today in the world of Bible translations!

At Vatican Council II in 1962-65, a great focus was placed on a renewed energy of directing prayers and devotion to Mary. As Rome continued its Mary idolatry in this very recent push, the Papacy attempted to gently convince doubters of this idolatrous practice that it isn't idolatry but 'veneration'. They argued, and still do, that veneration is not the same as worship and therefore is permissible. What they are missing however is that they are **praying** to Mary (which is already idolatry as we are to pray only to God) and that they believe Mary is the one who **intercedes** for them before God, as they teach that Mary is more compassionate, as a woman, to mankind's sufferings than Jesus Christ. This is blatant idolatry, as Jesus Christ alone is the mediator between man and God, acting as the Great High Priest, not Mary! Then to teach that Mary is more compassionate than Jesus is just disgusting, as who has ever been more compassionate to mankind than He who endured such immeasurable sufferings as were experienced on the Cross, so that we could be delivered from our pitiful state of eternal damnation and separation from God! It is unavoidable and not no matter what term you use to describe it, the adoration, veneration, worship of Mary **is idolatry**.

Yet we will not end on a sad note. There is some small speck of hope in all these developments. For as one preacher noted on this rising tide in interest in the Rosary (heavily promoted further remember by the main star of *The Chosen* TV show), the hunger for spiritual nourishment is growing rapidly amongst the young in particular. As believers in Christ Jesus, we cannot become dejected by the heavy events unfolding around us, but we must be busy about our Masters work and seek to satisfy this growing spiritual hunger with the Bread of Life that is Jesus Christ. We must feed the sheep of God, as Jesus instructed Peter to do. Because if we are lazy, hide from the fight or wash our hands of them, we are leaving them to be swallowed up by the deception of eager false teachers such as the Pope and his happy supporters, many of whom are found within pulpits in ecumenical churches today.

By Jonathan Badger

## Quickened From The Depths Of The Earth

**Psalm 71:20 *Thou, which hast showed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again, and shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth.***

Many a believer in Christ will know the heaviness and the hope which the psalmist speaks of in this verse. When times of testing and trial come to our days, we feel the weight of the troubles upon us, yet the trusting heart in God knows that these troubles are there for our good, for they strip away the sinful lusts of the flesh, and build us up ever more into the image of our precious Saviour Jesus Christ.

This powerful verse, richly imbued with the fullness of human experience, speaks of the Messiah, the one who would know these words spoken by the psalmist in a deeper manner than even the one who first penned them. For our Lord felt the full wrath of God poured out on Him as He who knew no sin, became sin, as He took the weight of our transgressions upon His righteous shoulders at the Cross of Calvary. What immensity of troubles He knew those grief stricken hours, from the heaviness of spirit in Gethsemane, all the way through to the agony of Golgotha, our Lord knew troubles unlike any man has ever known. He took that suffering so that we could be spared from the just judgement of God, if we but repent of our sins and place our faith in Him.

Yet all heaviness and troubles pass, and so the hope pierces through the blackened skies anew. This the psalmist speaks of as though one being restored to life from the very deepest depths of the earth. For every true Christian's hope is that we shall be quickened and raised to life again, brought out from the depths of the earth that is the grave, and taste life eternal.

This hope is not based upon our merits or righteousness, but upon the one whom the psalmist points to, the Lord Jesus, the first fruits of the resurrection, the one whose bloodied body was placed in the tomb, having laid down His life willingly for His friends. Yet greater love hath no man than this, to give his life for a friend, and so the Friend of sinners lived the eternal love of God for the sinner, and gave Himself as a full and final atonement for our sins. He did this knowing the love of the Father, and that death had no hold over Him, for

He was without spot or blemish of any sin, thereby His life was His to give, and to take up again. So He did that blessed Easter morning, as He took up life again, though this time in glory, having been raised the conqueror and vanquisher of death!

Thus the psalmist speaks to God, as he communes with Him through the adoring and reverential addressing of *thou* at the commencement of the verse. He speaks to God in honesty of his sufferings and troubles, trusting that God is compassionate and merciful to his pleadings. In this trust, his heart is strengthened. Strengthened with a fixed and certain hope that he shall rise again from the grave, because his Saviour has conquered death and stepped forth from the depths of the earth, taking up glory forevermore.

Let's set our hearts daily on this certain hope in our risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. For this is the will of God, to live in joy and thanksgiving in all things, each and every day we are blessed with by the graciousness of God. What sweeter reason is there to be joyful and thankful unto God, than to know that He loves us so deeply, that He gave His only begotten Son for us, so that through repentance of sin and the placing of faith in the risen Lord Jesus, we are assured of utter peace, provision and unending joy forevermore. This all secured, through the precious blood of the Lamb of God, that is our souls delight, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

## With Meekness And Fear

I recently saw an exert from an interview of an experienced pastor and preacher in America. He spoke of one interaction that weighed heavily on him, even years down the line. He recounted having a discussion on the existence of God with a non-believer, and the non-believer asked him whether God sent people who committed suicide to hell or not? The pastor and preacher relayed how he identified that this question was not relevant to the topic of debate and was a 'red herring' designed to lure him away from the issue at hand. The pastor and preacher went away assured that he had won the debate and was in the right.

However, later on, another party who was present during this interaction between the pastor/preacher and the non-believer, spoke to him and said, 'Do you know why he asked that?' The pastor/preacher responded that he didn't know why, to which the other person informed him, 'Because his wife committed suicide.' As the pastor/preacher recounted this point, his eyes began to fill up as he identified that at a moment when he could've asked the non-believer, 'Why do you ask that?', he instead chased after an intellectual victory. The pastor/preacher spoke how he forgot to live the words of 1 Peter 3:15, which states:

**But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:**

The pastor/preacher noted with great heaviness of spirit that his desire to win an argument blinded him to the need of answering every man for the reason of our hope with meekness and fear. That non-believer was looking for a reason of the hope which the preacher was speaking of, possibly hoping that the words might offer some hope for his own great pain and sadness. Instead, he was offered only an argument that won the head, but left the heart in despair.

I know this pastor/preachers heaviness. Such moments of pride filled argument chasing has left others estranged from the hope that lies within us. This is why to follow and live the Lord's Word is crucial in all evangelism, whether great or small. We are to sanctify the Lord God in our hearts, so that our message is absolutely anchored in the authority of Scripture. Yet we are to apply that power with meekness, that heavenly gentleness that knows how each life is filled with hidden pains and sorrows, often buried very deep in a person, so that the words we speak reflect the tenderness of Christ Jesus, not the arrogance of man.

By Jonathan Badger

<https://youtu.be/pqnZQti2bpY?si=Jr2ZOt-NwLahAKNs>

## A Brief History Of The Pentecostal/Charismatic Movement – Justin Peters Ministries (YouTube)



A very informative presentation given by Justin Peters detailing the deceptive ministries of some the pioneers of the Pentecostal/Charismatic church.

Discover how the unscriptural teachings of these often deluded souls has greatly impacted much of modern Christendom, all for its detriment and weakening.

<https://youtu.be/dZ-pTm1znQE?si=x0VkJDTcqYOx4DzE>

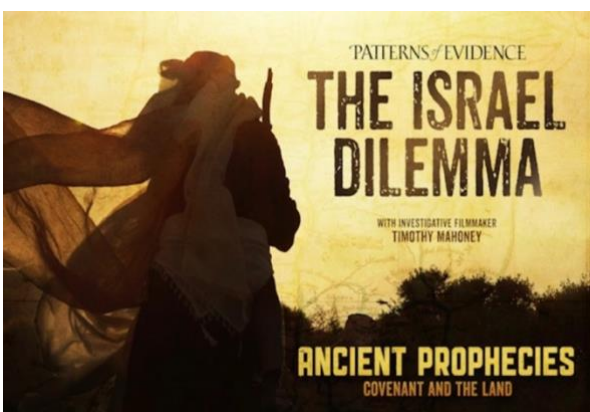
## 5 Morning Habits That Anger God



A powerful reminder of how Christians are to greet each new morning, so that we are rightly prepared for the day and are ready to be worthy vessels of the Word of God.

Click on the link above or search the *Heavenly Sermon* channel on YouTube

## Patterns of Evidence: The Israel Dilemma



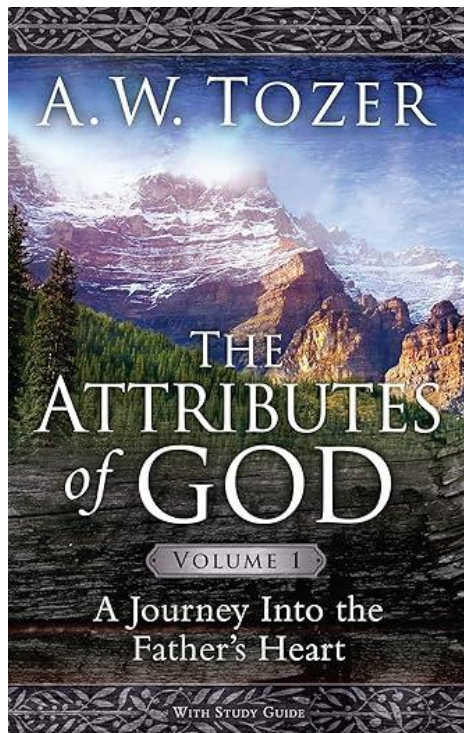
The conflict in Israel today is often linked to the belief that the Bible serves as the Israeli's claim to the land, based on God's covenant with Abraham, Moses, and the Israelites. Filmmaker Timothy Mahoney investigates this by exploring ancient prophecies made by Moses, which predicted Israel's rise as a kingdom, its fall due to breaking the covenant, the scattering of its people, their persecution, and eventual return to the land. Using archeological evidence and expert insights, Mahoney delves into these events, raising deeper questions about Israel's suffering, their chosen status, and it's relevance today.

Available by streaming through AnswersTV app (Answers in Genesis)

## The Attributes of God Volume 1: A Journey Into the Father's Heart

For A. W. Tozer, no question is more important than, "What is God like?" The desire to know God consumed his entire life and ministry. That's why those who read him come to know God more intimately.



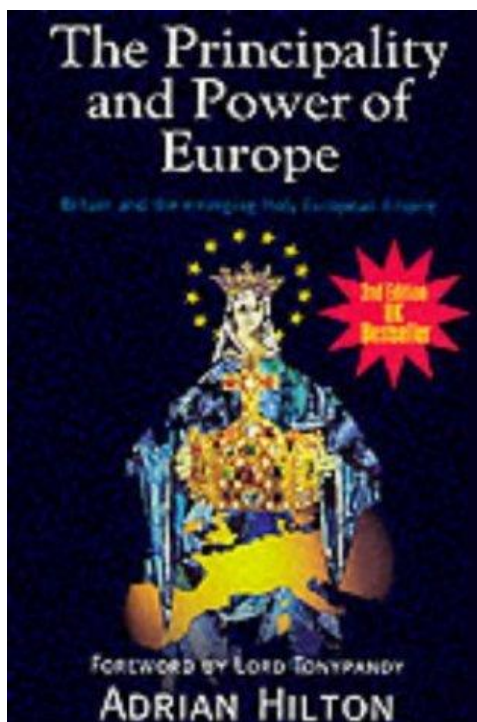


Originally preached as sermons at Southside Alliance Church in Chicago, this first volume of *The Attributes of God* examines ten attributes of God. It also includes a study guide for an in-depth look at each attribute:

- Infinite
- Immense
- Good
- Just
- Merciful
- Gracious
- Omnipresent
- Immanent
- Holy
- Perfect

Steeped in Scripture and filled with the Spirit, Tozer preached with striking clarity and power. The sense of his sermons comes through on every page, bringing the Word of God to bear upon you.

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## The Principality and Power of Europe

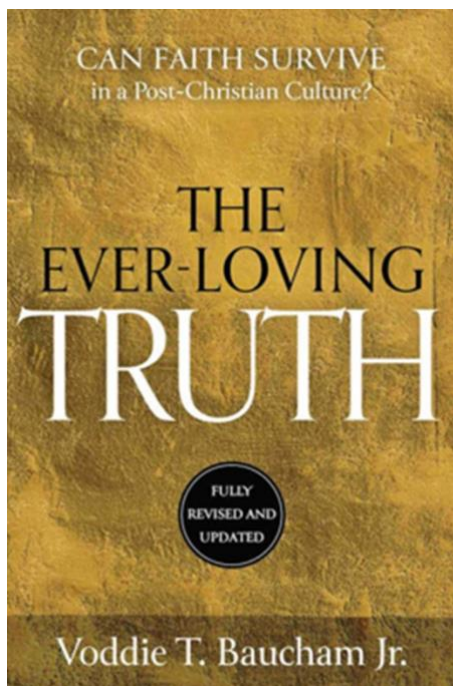
(Content from back page of book in bold) **The right of the United Kingdom to remain independent politically, economically and religiously has been surrendered to Brussels without understanding or consent. The blind are leading the blind into an irreversible and irrevocable 'ever closer union'. This timely and lucid book throws light on the spiritual and political powers at work throughout Europe: it examines:**

- The importance of sovereignty
- The role of the Vatican and the political nature of the papacy
- The threat to the monarchy and the throne of the United Kingdom
- The nature of Biblical government
- The supremacy of the European courts over British acts of parliament
- The implications of monetary union
- The European propaganda machine
- The potential consequences for evangelical Christians of a European parliamentary directive on cults and sects

Whilst Brexit may have occurred since the publishing of this book, many of its assertions remain pertinent, especially given the current political climate in

Europe in 2025.

Available from Amazon



## The Ever-Loving Truth: Can Faith Thrive in a Post-Christian Culture?

Truth is under attack. The gospel is under attack. We must be aware and equipped if we are going to respond. Voddie Baucham has a message for Christians in today's culture—it's time to take a stand for the truth.

In *The Ever-Loving Truth*, this powerful preacher and teacher addresses the cost of being a twenty-first-century Christian and helps readers apply the unchanging truth of God's Word to contemporary life issues. The book draws parallels between committed Christians in our society and the New Testament writers, Peter and John, as followers of Christ who proclaimed and stood for truth in their non-Christian environment. You will find this compelling study leads you to evaluate what it means to be a Christian today and how to apply God's unchanging truth to a variety of circumstances.

"This book asks and answers a critical question, 'Can faith thrive in a post-Christian culture?' There is no doubt that our culture is post-Christian. We

have run far and fast from our Christian roots. There is also no doubt that faith can and will survive, nonetheless. This is our great hope." —Voddie Baucham, Author

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## Ark Encounter Mini Building Blocks



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1:500 scale reconstruction of Noah's Ark. Over 1,200 pieces.  
Assembled size: 3 × 6½ × 12½ inches

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