

From the National Coordinators

Dear friends,

One of the biggest debates today within the church is regarding evolution - the 'origin of man'. It's interesting that along with other marvellous scientific and engineering achievements over the last few hundred years, two very significant ogres have emerged from the pits of unbelief to pound our society with the enemy's message of "Has God said?" (Gen 3:1). The first is 'the enlightenment', and the second is the 'theory of evolution'.

'The enlightenment' challenged traditional ways of thinking and moralising - it sought to tear down the defences of our society which had unfortunately been turned into religious barriers enforced by power and fortune-seeking guard dogs. Following God's laws has to be a choice empowered from within or it will always be weak and easy to corrupt (ref. Ezk 36:25-27). Instead of freeing us, the enlightenment steadily wore down the God-given truths about ourselves so that we in the West would easily turn back to paganism, self-worship and "I believe only what I can see".

The 'theory of evolution' started innocently enough as a reasonable set of observations and hypothesis to discuss adaptation of species, but was quickly transformed into a 'scientific' mantra to remove the need for God and His almighty-ness. Apart from the serious lack of evidence for evolution (we should be neck-deep in fossil evidence) and arguments about Intelligent Design, there is a very clear piece of scripture from Genesis: "*When God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God. 2 He created them male and female and blessed them.*" (Gen 5:1-2, also Gen 1:27 & Matt 19:4). How can an 'image of God evolve? At what point did we become 'made in the image of God' and different from the animals that God calls us 'mankind' and gives us dominion? God is uncreated and is love - we should stop comparing Him to us.

Grace and peace,

Bjorn Schmid, Public Officer for Transforming Sydney

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PRAYING FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS

Compiled by Lilian Schmid

1. The healing miracles of Jesus

It appears in almost every case Jesus didn't pray for healing he just said the word, touched, spoke with authority, gave an order, etc.. (An exception: The raising of Lazarus)

2. Jesus prayed before important events

However, Jesus did pray before important events; e.g.

- The calling of the twelve apostles. Luke 6:12-13
- In the Garden of Gethsemane prior to his arrest. Luke 22:41-44
- The raising of Lazarus. John 11:41-43

3. Why didn't Jesus normally pray prior to ministering healing?

The healing miracles of Jesus occurred mostly spontaneously 'on the way'. i.e.. as he journeyed. An exception was the raising of Lazarus.

4. Did Jesus prepare for his ministry of healing?

Jesus most certainly prepared for his ministry. In Luke 5:16 we read, "*But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.*" There are many examples in the Gospels of Jesus withdrawing to spend time with his Father.

5. The ministry of Peter and Paul in the Acts of the Apostles

When we take a look at the ministry of Peter and Paul in the Acts of the Apostle we find examples showing that they prayed, and then gave an order for healing. i.e. the ministry was a combination of prayer, and a word of authority. See Acts 9:40-41, Acts 28:7-8.

6. How then should we pray for healing and wholeness?

- Importance of being led by the Spirit on all occasions - daily preparation is vital.
- Circumstances can dictate how we pray. E.g. ministry on the spot, spontaneous.
- A combination of prayer and a word of authority would seem appropriate in normal circumstances.

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PRAYING FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS (...continued)

THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS

Jesus' authority anticipated

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this. Isaiah 9:6-7

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. Zechariah 9:9-10

Jesus authority' demonstrated

When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law. Matthew 7:28-29

When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed and in terrible suffering." Jesus said to him, "I will go and heal him." The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it.".....Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! It will be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that very hour. Matthew 8:5-9, 13

Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. Without warning, a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!" Matthew 8:23-27

"All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him....." Matthew 11:27

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching - and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him." Mark 1:27

I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man. John 5:25-27

So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go." John 11:43-44

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way. Ephesians 1:21-22

.....and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also - not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand - with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him. 1 Peter 3:21-22

THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS' DISCIPLES

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out

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PRAYING FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS (...continued)

workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:35-38

He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. Matthew 10:1

".....And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Matthew 16:18-19

"I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:18-20

And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well." Mark 16:17-18

When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. Luke 9:1-2

The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. A man in the crowd called out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him. I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not." "O unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Bring your son here." Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the evil spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father. And they were all amazed at the greatness of God. Luke 9:37-43

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" Luke 11:9-13

Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. John 14:11-14

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. John 17:15-18

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." John 20:21-23

On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:4-8

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:1-4

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PRAYING FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS (...continued)

HEALING MIRACLES OF JESUS

Nobleman's son John 4:50
 Demoniac in synagogue Mark 1:26; Luke 4:35
 Peter's mother-in-law healed Matthew 8:14; Mark 1:31; Luke 4:39
 Cleansing the leper Matthew 8:3; Mark 1:41; Luke 5:13
 Paralytic Matthew 9:2; Mark 2:3; Luke 5:20,24-25
 Invalid healed John 5:8-9
 Shrivelled hand Matthew 12:10; Mark 3:1; Luke 6:10
 Centurion's servant Matthew 8:5; Luke 7:9
 Raising the widow's son Luke 7:14
 Demoniac Matthew 12:22; Luke 11:14
 Demoniacs of Gadara Matthew 8:28; Mark 5:1; Luke 8:30-33
 Raising of Jairus' daughter Matthew 9:18; Mark 5:42; Luke 8:54-55
 Bleeding healed Matthew 9:20; Mark 5:25; Luke 8:48
 Blind men Matthew 9:28-30
 Demoniac Matthew 9:32-33
 Daughter of Canaanite or Syrophenician woman Matthew 15:22; Mark 7:25
 Deaf and mute healed Matthew 7:33-35
 Blind man Mark 8:23-25
 Afflicted child Matthew 17:14; Mark 9:25-27; Luke 9:37
 Ten lepers Luke 17:14
 Man born blind John 9:6-7
 Raising of Lazarus John 11:43-44
 Woman with infirm spirit Luke 13:12-13
 Man with dropsy Luke 14:4
 Blind Men Matthew 9:29-30; Mark 10:46
 Malchus healed Luke 22:51

HEALING MIRACLES BY PETER

Lame man healed Acts 3:6
 Sick healed Acts 5:5,10
 Aeneas, a paralytic Acts 9:34
 Raising of Dorcas Acts 9:40

HEALING MIRACLES BY PAUL

Lame man cured Acts 14:10
 Girl with spirit of divination Acts 16:18
 Eutychus restored to life Acts 20:10
 Paul's viper's bite Acts 28:5
 Father of Publius healed Acts 28:8

EXAMPLES OF JESUS' PRAYER LIFE

Matthew 14:23, 15:29-30, 17:1-3
 Mark 6:30-34, 7:24-26
 Luke 5:15-16, 6:12-13, 9:10-11, 22:41-44
 John 17



Man's Search for Understanding and Wholeness

By Stephen Leslie

Humans have always been driven by a desire to know and understand their world and to achieve a level of wellbeing and fitness that enables them to thrive in their environment. In the distant past, these quests have been spiritually inspired. They were nurtured in the context of two powerful realities; i) the awareness of the divine in nature, the presence of a Being who expressed himself through the act of creation, and, ii) a conflicting awareness of fallen-ness, of having lost something precious that affected every aspect of human life and experience.

These days that quest to know and to understand is called Science – 'knowledge' - and it uses the same basic tools that served the ancients well – keen observation, classification according to observable differences, keeping of data, experiment and hypothesising. What has changed since 'the Enlightenment' (when people began to elevate human reason above godly revelation) is the presuppositions underlying the search for meaning and understanding. Many of the early scientists were Christian men who saw their intellectual endeavours as a natural extension of their desire to know, appreciate and celebrate God's immense power and creative genius better. Today, science has been proscribed – we must observe and interpret according to a presupposition that God does not exist, that everything that exists has come into being by random chance and unlimited time. By approaching knowledge in this way we have removed purpose, design and meaning from the universe. So, eat, drink and be merry – for tomorrow we die!

The quest for health has become a virtual religion in the western world. Doctors, dieticians and fitness coaches have become the new priests! This is the problem Paul identifies in Romans 1 – when we turn our backs on Deity we begin to deify other, lesser realities – such as human reason or medical knowledge. All of our senses are tuned to the material, the physical body and how it looks, how we meet its needs and drives, how we cope with its ills and eventual passing. Humans are not resigned to poor health, to the breakdown of body parts and systems. We hate disease and sickness, because at the back of our minds is the presumptuous thought that it should not be our lot! Despite 'scientific knowledge', we have discovered that health and recovery from illness is closely linked to non-physical aspects of our being – our peace of mind, our connection to nature, the health and strength of our relationships with one another and with God? Faith has an uncomfortable habit of intruding into the domain of physical health and healing, when a belief in a rational, material world says that it should not. Observed data that indicates a link between the spiritual and the physical does not fit with the presuppositions of modern science and medicine.

I want to pause here for a moment and reflect on the confusion and uncertainty that plagues many Christian these days. Our education and the barrage of input from every type of media presses our minds into accepting the presuppositions of our world, the prevailing mindset, which Paul describes as 'the vain philosophy of this world'. (Colossians 2.8 *'Don't let anyone lead you astray with empty philosophy and high sounding nonsense that comes from human reason and the evil powers of this world.'*) The problem is, many of us who claim to be followers of Christ **have** been lead astray. We've bought the philosophy and its presuppositions! This affects not just new and immature Christians, but many mature Christians who have been brought up in conservative evangelical or Pentecostal traditions. I see this as happening in the domains of both science and of health, when we try to interpret the bible or make it fit modern day thinking patterns and concepts.

Some Christians try to interpret the Bible as if it was a Science textbook. I love the book of Genesis. I think it is foundational to all the great themes and truths of God's creative power and desire for relationship, BUT – it does not describe creation in scientific terms. It is an ancient text that reflects the thinking of people who understood the spiritual nature of all life and who were passing on revelation about the nature of God to those who followed after them. Genesis is a theological book, and it is mirrored in the Gospel of John, which, of all the Gospels, is a theological treatise, not just an historical account of the life and work of Jesus.

The early chapters of Genesis describe a universe in which God is central. This is a God whose name is plural – Elohim, who expresses Himself as the Almighty, as the Word who brings into being

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Man's Search for Understanding and Wholeness (...continued)

everything that exists, seen and unseen. This is the God who is spirit (ruach), who hovers over the chaotic spinning planet and brings forth life in a myriad forms, who enters into the nostrils of man so that he becomes a living being, made in God's 'our' image, infused with the spiritual essence of the triune Creator Himself. The early chapters of Genesis describe the harmonious relationships that characterised the Creation – God with matter, God with living things, God with mankind; mankind with his environment, with living creatures and as a sexual beings, man with woman, who together can reproduce new living, spiritual beings. They describe the wonderful, unsullied relationship that Adam 'the Man' had with His God, how sin entered through temptation and confusion and pride and all the dreadful, heart-breaking consequences of disobedience. This is essential theology and it grieves me to see Christians fighting amongst themselves over 'scientific' interpretations – were they literal days, how long ago did this take place, how do we explain dinosaurs! Let's focus on theology and let God reveal His secrets in His own good time! In the meantime, as it says in Hebrews, "By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command."

The other evidence that we have fallen under the sway of 'vain philosophies' is the number of Christians who are just as obsessed with physical health and fitness as the Aussie next door. Listen to our prayers! How much of our prayer focus and time is spent on praying about people's health and healing – physical health, and how little on the healing of the brokenness and darkness of the soul. There is nothing wrong with being physically fit and being healthy, when this is the product of self-discipline and a balanced life. The danger is that we seek 'health' for the same wrong reasons that are so widely accepted in our society – because we are not happy with the way our bodies look or we want to retain our youth and fear growing older. A preoccupation with how we look and perform can become an idol that takes our attention off Christ, away from our neighbour's plight and causes us to neglect our inner, spiritual health and well-being.

Our nation needs spiritual healing and renewal, that comes from a vision of God in all His glory and righteousness. Our nation, just like you and me, needs to come to God in repentance, acknowledging that as a people we have taken our eyes off the real thing and tried to replace Him with counterfeit, powerless fakes, like possessions, power, sensual pleasure, Reason (Science) and even Health! Read Romans 1.10-25 for the full text!

When science returns to its true purpose, to discovering the mind of the Creator and the secrets of life in all its complexity and connection, then it draws out of us wonder, gratitude, awe and praise for our great, all-knowing, all-powerful God.

When we put health in its proper place and appreciate that God wants us to be whole, at peace, content and fit for abundant living, we are released from the bondage that forever striving to get fitter or lose weight or exercise more can be.

True health is found in resting in Jesus.

'Come unto me, all you who are weary and heavily burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle and you will find rest for your souls.' Matthew 11. 28,29.

Paul claims to have found a secret to wellbeing, in Philippians 4. 11,12.

'I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, (whatever the circumstances). I can do all this through Him who gives me strength.'

When we reflect on Science or health or any other field of human enquiry, for the Christian Christ is the starting point and the focus. Knowing Jesus, resting and being content in Him, drawing inspiration from the beauty of nature and from a sense of real relationship with the Creator God of the universe - this is the perspective that provides balance and joy in life, and frees us from bondage to false idols or the delusion of our own intellectual greatness. Knowing Jesus, as God the Son, as Saviour and Lord restores the purpose and meaning of life that was lost when mankind dismissed God as figment of the imagination, and gives us hope.

'Let us run with patience the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.' Hebrews 12.1b and 2a.



BIBLICOMEDIC perspective on LGBT

National Symposium PGLII I Jakarta, 29 July 2016

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FOREWORD:

Many people reason that the truth of science and the truth of the bible do not agree with one another, *science* cannot agree with *scripture*. They think that scientific matters cannot be biblical, and in the reverse biblical matters cannot be scientific. This Paradigm could not be separated from a conflict between *Nicolaus Copernicus* and *Galileo Galilei* with the leaders of the Church at that time, resulting in the 'separation' [of] science and scripture.

Around the year 1514 *Nicolaus Copernicus* published his findings in *Commentariolus*, and in the next more complete edition the publication of a book titled *De revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium* in the year 1543.

Paralel to that, in the year 1632 *Galileo Galilei* published *Dialogio*. *Nicolaus Copernicus* and *Galileo Galilei* based on their studies and research conducted stated in their publication that the Earth orbited around the Sun as the center of the solar system, yet the leaders of the Church stated that the Sun orbited around the earth.

The Leaders of the church forbid the distribution of the books written by *Nicolaus Copernicus* and *Galileo Galilei*, even passed a life sentence upon *Galileo Galilei* and placed him under house arrest until he died on January 8th 1642. *Nicolaus Copernicus* could not be sentenced, because he died the same year that his book was published.

As science blossomed, modern astronomy proved that the research and publication of *Nicolaus Copernicus* and *Galileo Galilei* was right and that the Earth orbited around the Sun. From that time on, as a result, many people reasoned that Science could not possibly agree with the scripture.

On October 1992, 350 years after the death of *Galileo Galilei*, *Pope John Paul II*, just stated that the Church leaders in the case of *Galileo Galilei* were wrong.

I believe that *All truth is God's truth*. This statement is in concordance with what was stated by *Augustine* in *On Christian Doctrine*: "... wherever truth may be found, it belongs to his Master". Concordant with that also *John Calvin* in his commentary about the book of *Titus*, stated that: "*All truth is from God*".

With that knowledge I developed *Biblicomedic Sexology*. Because I believe that *science* and *scripture* can go along together, and in reality have to go along together.

Biblicomedic Sexology is a science that integrates *biblical sexology* (*scripture-based sexology*) and *medical sexology* (*medical science sexology*).

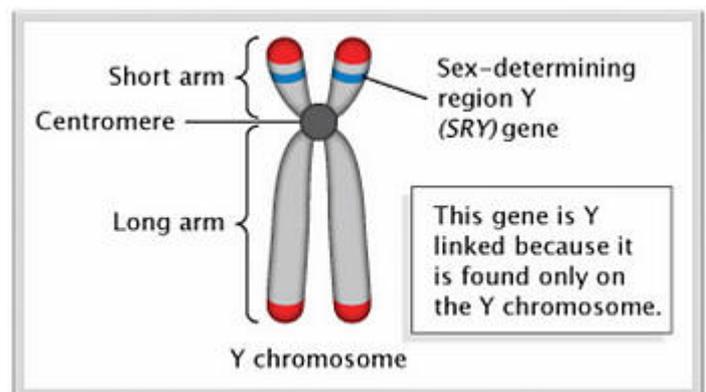
Biblicomedic Sexology is poured out into the books of *Sexual Holiness vol.1-6*, and is taught through the *leaders intensive course Biblicomedic Sexology module 1.2.3*. *Biblicomedic sexology 1* peels back the books *Sexual Holiness vol.1+3*, *Biblicomedic Sexology 2* peels back the books *Sexual Holiness vol.2+4*, *Biblicomedic Sexology 3* peels back the books *Sexual Holiness vol.5+6*.

Every module contains 12 topics for discussion with duration of @100 minutes, where each module is designed with an equivalent of 2 academic credits. So *Biblicomedic Sexology 1.2.3* that peels back the books *Sexual Holiness vol.1.2.3.4.5.6* in total contain about 6 academic credits, which are required for the Spiritual Leaders to respond to this generations challenge in the area of Sexual Holiness.

With the perspective of *Biblicomedic Sexology* I peeled back the issue of LGBT in this symposium.

A. GENDER:

A person's gender is determined at the time of fertilization. At the moment of fertilization *chromosomes* in the ova and sperm merge. If this merger involves *SRY* (*sex determining factor region Y*), the embryo will result in the male gender. And if this merger does not involve the *SRY*, the embryo that results will be female gender. *SRY* is found in the Spermatozoa

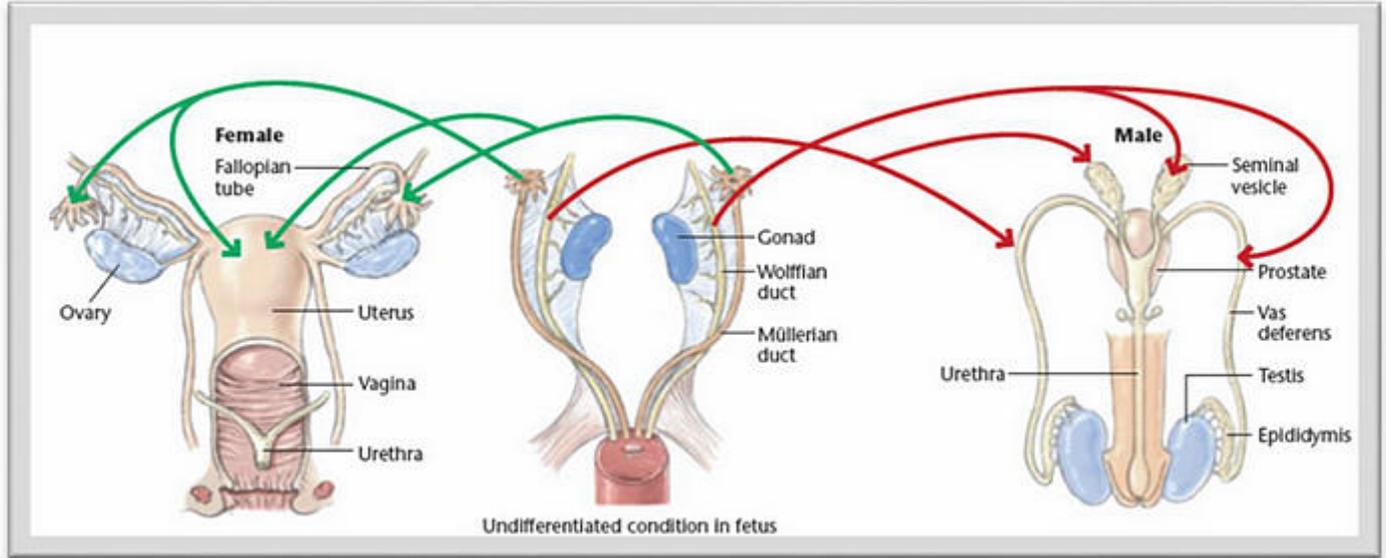


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BIBLICOMEDIC perspective on LGBT (...continued)

In the embryonic stage, YRS will determine which production organ will develop. If YRS is present than the male reproductive organs are developed, as in the illustration on the right of this illustration

below. And if YRS is not present the female reproductive organs are developed as in the illustration on the left of the picture below.



Science proves that there are only two types of gender in the human race that is either male or female, as what is stated in the scripture Genesis 1: 27.

Even when there is an abnormality in the chromosome, YRS still determines the gender of the individual. That is why *Klinefelter's syndrome* (XXY) is male. And *Turner's syndrome* (XO) is female.

different reproductive system.

With this purpose in general *organism* possesses *sexual attraction* for the *opposite*, where the *male* possesses attraction to the *female*, and vice versa the *female* possesses a sexual attraction to the *male*.

Sexual attraction sometimes called *sexual orientation* which is a type of sexual attraction of one individual towards another individual. With knowing the purpose of ensuring the continuing existence of the organism only *opposite sexual attraction* or *opposite sexual orientation* can ensure the continuing existence of the organism.

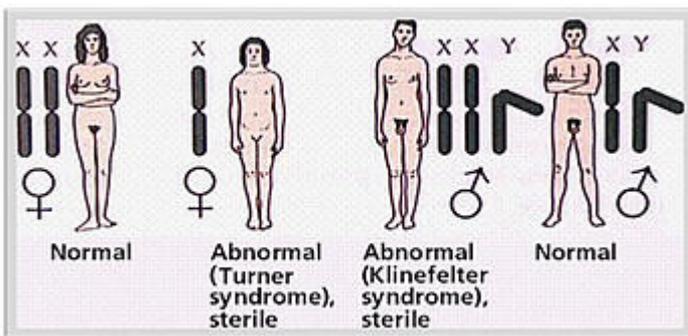
Opposite sexual orientation is known as *hetero sexual orientation*.

It is very clear that rational sexual orientation, in a normal way to ensure existence of the organism is Heterosexual orientation.

As we work towards healing all diseases that have the potential to eliminate the existence of the current generation, we also have to fight to restore *non opposite (homo) sexual orientation*, back to the *opposite (hetero) sexual orientation*, in order for the continuation of the lineage of the current generations existence.

In the *National Health Statistics Reports, number 77, July 15 2014*, which is published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

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B. SEXUAL ORIENTATION:

In general each *organism* has a strategy to ensure its existence. The Existence of one generation is made possible by its ability to withstand death threats, such as the immune system of the body fighting off illness and the need for food and water. The Existence ensuring further generations is made possible by a reproduction system that enables one *organism* to produce another organism with the same *genetic* characteristics, by a sexual relationship with an *organism* that has a

BIBLICOMEDIC perspective on LGBT (...continued)

National Center for Health Statistics, Brian W. Ward, Ph.D. et al report that: 96,6% adult Americans are straight, 1,6% gay and lesbian, 0,7% bisexual, and 1,1% something else. Thus the American's population's non hetero sexual orientation 'is only' 3,4%. In other countries that are not as liberal as America, that population might be smaller.

The demographic map above demonstrates that the sexual orientation from generation to generation is consistent with the purpose of maintaining the generations continuing existence. Sexual Orientation of 3,4% that are non hetero sexual orientation can be regarded as another health disturbance that is experienced by certain people, caused by a diversity of divergent causes

Then what is the cause of 3,4% of the American population that have the sexual orientation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and something else? This is an old question that has not been answered completely.

Physical Dimensions

In the attempt to find a reason and explain the occurrence of LGBT and its physical dimensions is the biological theory of LGBT. In this theory, LGBT is said to be because of the following factors; a. genetic, b. neurologic, and c. endocrine.

a. Genetic factor:

Researchers that claimed to have found the 'gay gene' are Dean Hamer et al. Hamer states that he has found a connection between homosexuality and a gene found in chromosome X which is obtained from the mother, and states that the 'location' of the said gene is Xq28 [Hamer DH, Hu S, Magnuson VL, Hu N, Pattatucci AML. 1993. A linkage between DNA markers on the X-chromosome and male sexual orientation. *Science* 261:321-7].

However in research with a different sample and much greater number Mustanski who involved Hamer found that the results are not consistent with Hamer earlier research, causing Hamer to admit that until today there is no gene that proves what causes a person to have same sex attraction. [Mustanski BS, DuPree MG, Nievergelt CM, Bocklandt S, Schork NJ, Hamer DH. 2005. A genome-wide scan of male sexual orientation. *Human Genetics* 116:272-8]

b. Neurologic factor:

Researchers postulate that same sex attraction is caused by a neurologic factor that is Simon LeVay. In his publication LeVay states that the male homosexual has INAH-3 (the third interstitial nucleus of the anterior hypothalamus) which is smaller than in the heterosexual male. LeVay states that INAH-3 in a male homosexual resembles INAH-3 that of a heterosexual female. [LeVay S. 1991. A difference in hypothalamus structure between heterosexual and homosexual men. *Science* 253:1034-7]

To test this statement of LeVay, William M Byne, MD, PhD et al, carried on similar research, with a much greater sample and a better method, and it turned out that there was found no difference between the INAH-3 of male homosexuals and male heterosexuals. Byne's findings nullified LeVay's findings. In conclusion there is no proof that same sex attraction is caused by a neurologic factor. [Byne W, Lasco MS, Kemether E, Shinwari A, Edgar MA, Morgello S, Jones LB, Tobet S. 2000. The interstitial nuclei of the human anterior hypothalamus: an investigation of sexual variation in volume and cell size, number and density. *Brain Research* 856:254-8]

c. Endocrine factor:

Researchers suspect that certain hormone release during pregnancy can affect the sexual orientation in adulthood. It turns out those male babies that are exposed to the female hormone diethylstilbestrol while in the womb do not become homosexuals. [Gooren L. 1990. Biomedical Theories of Sexual Orientation: A Critical Examination. In *Homosexuality/Heterosexuality*, ed. McWhirter DP, Sanders SA, Reinisch JM, 71-87pp. New York: Oxford University Press]

Until now there is no evidence from the research that supports this theory that there is a connection between hormones and a person's sexual orientation. [Banks A, Gartrell NK. 1995. Hormones and sexual orientation: a questionable link. *Journal of Homosexuality* 30:247-68]

In my clinical experience, the change of hormones in females during menopause or even the male's andropause and the hormonal therapies do not in the slightest effect the sexual orientation of a person. This

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BIBLICOMEDIC perspective on LGBT (...continued)

clinical fact is consistent with what is stated in many different publications. [Gooren L. 2006. *The biology of human psychosexual differentiation. Hormones and Behavior* 50:589-601]

So far there is no evidence that same sex attraction is caused by endocrine factors.

Until now it turns out that the *biological theory of LGBT* is not proven. There is no research or quality literature that shows that there are *genetic, neurologic, and endocrine* factors that are the cause of a person experiencing *same sex attraction*.

As a clinician, if indeed there is I wish that one day it can be identified which *genetic, neurologic, and endocrine* factor that can cause a person to experience *same sex attraction*. Because if there is a *genetic, neurologic, and endocrine* factor that causes a person to experience *same sex attraction* and is identified, than a medical treatment of *same sex attraction* can easily be carried out.

Psychological Dimension

In the *Reports of parental maltreatment during childhood in a United States population-based survey of homosexual, bisexual, and heterosexual adults; Child Abuse & Neglect* 26 (2002) 1165–1178, it is stated that physical and psychological violence experienced in childhood proved to be linked to the formation of same sex attraction.

Social Dimension

Albert Bandura teaches the concept *social learning theory*, which states that certain behaviors [are] learned from a person's social interaction with parents, peers and the media, as well as with sexual behavior. [A. Dean Byrd, *Homosexuality: Innate and Immutable? What Science Can and Cannot Say ; Liberty University Law Review: Vol. 4: Issue. 3, Article 4. 2010*]

Spiritual Dimension

The Bible reveals the relationship between the practices of idolatry with various forms of sexual immorality, including the formation of same sex attraction, as stated in Romans 1: 23 – 27.

From the explanations above it seems clear that *science* proves that normal sexual orientation is in line with purpose of continuing the existence of the organism by *hetero sexual orientation*. And *same*

sex attraction proves to be resulting from a process and Psycho-social interaction that is wrong.

The truth of *Science* runs parallel with the truth of the *Bible* that states from the beginning of life man was created *male* and *female* with a heterosexual orientation in order to multiply and propagate the existence of the generations. (Genesis 1: 26–28 ; Genesis 2 : 24-25; Genesis 4 : 1 ; Genesis 7 : 15–16).

C. THE IMPACT OF SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS:

Same sex relationships have an impact on health that is very bad. On June the 5th 1981, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, and CDC (*Center for Disease Control and Prevention*) reported a special case of *PCP (Pneumocystis Carinii)*, in 5 male homosexuals in Los Angeles. This was the first case of *AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes)*.

The population of LGBT in the USA is 3,4 %, yet from all the sufferers of HIV in the USA about 60 % are in *MSM (male who have sex with male)*, besides that 66% of new HIV infections that occur each year also are in. (*HIV among Gay and Bisexual Men, CDC Fact Sheet, September 2015*)

Since the first case in 1981, more than 360.000 homosexuals died because of *HIV-AIDS*. (*HIV among Gay and Bisexual Men, CDC Fact Sheet, September 2015*)

The infection rate of new *HIV* cases in the USA amongst homosexuals is 44 times compared to the heterosexual male population. (*HIV among Gay and Bisexual Men, CDC Fact Sheet, September 2015*)

Besides the various sexually transmitted diseases, male homosexuals who perform and practice *anal sex* or *anoreceptive intercourse (ARI)* exhibit evidence of a significant change of damaging the *anal sphincter* muscle. Damage to the *anal sphincter* muscle cause problems with bowel control and causes *anal incontinence*. [AJG Miles et al, *Effect of anoreceptive intercourse on anorectal function; Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine* V.86 March 1993]

Science clearly shows that same-sex relationships and various forms of adultery can have dire consequences for the health of the perpetrators, even at risk of causing death. Scientific facts are proven to be in line with the truth of Scripture

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BIBLICOMEDIC perspective on LGBT (...continued)

(Romans 1:27; Numbers 25:9)

D. SAME SEX MARRIAGES:

Marriage, even though it is in almost any human culture, yet marriage is not a product of their culture, for marriage existed before cultures existed. (Genesis 1 : 28; Genesis 2 : 24-25).

Marriage is the institution that ensures that children grow and develop into individuals who are healthy in physique, mentally, socially and spiritually.

For the growth and development that is healthy physically, mentality, socially and spiritually each child needs the presence of a father and a mother.

Research shows that children who are brought up by a father and a birth mother in marriage, grow and develop much better in all areas of life, compared to children who are reared by a single parent, step parents, or parents who live common law. [*Mary Parke, Are Married Parents Really Better for Children? What Research Says About the Effects of Family Structure on Child Well-Being, Center for Law and Social Policy, 2003*]

Same sex marriages potentially create the reality of a child being raised by two adult males or two adult females. Various studies have shown the negative effects on children raised by gay or lesbian parents.

D. Paul Sullins in Invisible Victims: Delayed Onset Depression among Adults with Treatment, Volume 2016, Article ID 2410392, 8 pages; 19 April 2016 states: that those who are brought up by *Same-Sex Parents* experience depression twice as often compared to those who are brought up by two heterosexual parents.

The group of supporters of same gender marriages state that children who are brought up

by same gender parents and children who are brought up father and a birth mother do not differ in their development.

Yet several research publications tend to differ.

George W. Dent Jr, Case Western Reserve University School of Law, in No Difference?: An Analysis of Same-Sex Parenting published in Scholarly Commons, Faculty Publications, 2011, states that those brought up by same-sex parents potentially experience growth and development that is not good, including the tendency to participate in homosexuality. This fact reinforces the previous description that the upbringing and social learning plays a major role in the formation of a person's sexual orientation.

Science proves that a good marriage, that ensures healthy growth and development of a child in the physical, mental, social and spiritual dimension is a marriage between a adult male and female, accordingly what is made clear in the Scripture (Genesis 1:28 ; Genesis 2:24-25 ; Genesis 4:1)

IN CLOSING:

Science and *Scripture* are proven to go hand in hand in looking at issues of gender, sexual orientation, sexually transmitted diseases and same-sex marriage. Because of that we have to continue to teach the right concept as it comes to gender, sexual orientation, Sexually transmitted diseases and same gender marriages.

Along with this, we must constantly guard against the efforts to spread coercive views on LGBT and same sex marriage which is contrary to the truth of science and scripture.

Because of that we have to constantly be equipped with the accurate science and scripture. We all need to study *Biblicomedic Sexology*, because *All truth is God's truth*.



For we ought not to refuse to learn letters because they say that Mercury discovered them; nor because they have dedicated temples to Justice and Virtue, and prefer to worship in the form of stones things that ought to have their place in the heart, ought we on that account to forsake justice and virtue. Nay, but let every good and true Christian understand that wherever truth may be found, it belongs to his Master; and while he recognizes and acknowledges the truth, even in their religious literature, let him reject the figments of superstition, and let him grieve over and avoid men who, "when they knew God, glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things."

St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, On Christian Doctrine II.18.28

Jesus Christ, Marriage, and Australia

From Pastor Jeffrey Daly, Founder/Director, National Day of Repentance - www.dayofrepentance.org

Dear Pastors, Church Leaders, and Prayer Intercessors,

As in other nations, Christians in Australia are facing a huge battle for marriage and families. It's now a key political topic. Godly roots of that nation are being attacked. Join me in prayer for Biblical marriage as they have asked us to pray with them this month of October.

The Bible could not be more clear on marriage. Jesus Christ Himself speaks of marriage twice in the gospels, each time citing the book of Genesis: Matthew 19: 4-6; Mark 10: 6-9. The Lord Himself said then, says to you and me and the planet today, and says forever and ever --- as His Word will always remain True: *"But from the beginning of the creation, God 'made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.'; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."* Mark 10:6-9.

What nation can survive if it explicitly--- as has happened now in the USA with last year's Supreme Court decision ---rebels against God's Word, redefining marriage? God is not mocked. How long will He stay His judgment?

As the salt and light of Christ let us pray, fast, and repent of our own apathy or apostasy. God knows I could have done so much more than I have done! Then, bearing fruit worthy of repentance, let us speak out in all our nations on Biblical marriage. In humility, gentle to all, let us *"correct those in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will."* (2 Timothy 2:25-26).

Let us defeat the opponents of Biblical marriage with Jesus' own words quoted above on marriage. *"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."* (Hebrews 4: 12-13).

Those opposing Biblical marriage in Australia and other nations, believing themselves to be politically correct, are deceived. God is not mocked. Those opposing Jesus Christ will someday kneel in front of Him and give an account: *"And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* Philippians 2: 8-11.

Those opposing Biblical marriage are a vessel for the antichrist spirit which seeks to kill, steal and destroy. No nation can long survive when sexual perversions such as same sex marriage are approved and publicly welcomed. Without the Wisdom of the Holy Spirit proponents of same sex marriage are a vessel for a demonic spirit, a perverse spirit, that causes destruction to families. *"There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death."* (Proverbs 14:12, 16:25). In some cases this is physical death; but spiritual death is eternal. The Lord Jesus Himself, the Risen Christ, tells us in Revelation 21:6-8: *"And He said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, SEXUALLY IMMORAL, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.'"*

Let's pull people out of that lake of fire with Jesus' own Words. The good news is that thanks to the conviction of the Holy Spirit and your prayers many are removing the perverse spirit that pulled them away from God in the first place. Though you won't see it on the news, many are coming out of the homosexual lifestyle, often choosing Biblical marriage and having children. Greater is the Holy Spirit than any spirit of the world.

Prayer leaders face a homosexual juggernaut of political elites seeking to redefine marriage. Christians in Australia are coming together this month of October for a month of Prayer and Fasting for Marriage and Families. For the last four years Australia has led a worldwide call for prayer and fasting for America. A spiritual "ANZUS" has been created. Let us return the favor. Sign up for prayer at www.nationaldayofprayer.com.au

God bless you, Pastor Jeff



All Things Work Together for Good

By Rev. Dr Jeffry David Camm JP, Christ to the Nations Bible College

<https://www.facebook.com/Christ-to-the-Nation-Bible-College-cttnbc-823441201035935/>

In Romans chapter one, [the] Apostle sets out his authority and direction for this Epistle.

“Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God, which He promised before, through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, and declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection of the dead, through whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, among whom you are also ‘the called of Jesus Christ’; to all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints; grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Paul makes no apology for being called to be an apostle, or for defining what that means.

To be an apostle means to be a called one, a person separated from worldly pleasures and temptations, a man separated and appointed by God (not man) for the work of the ministry, in a spirit of obedience and holiness, and under the power and the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

He later expounds on this in Romans 8:28 where he states that: *“And we know that all things work together for good, to those who love God, to those who are “the called” of His purpose”.*

Paul makes a statement of fact: All things work together for good; provided the following conditions are met.

1) To those who love God:

- a. We are ALL commanded to love God; with ALL of our hearts and ALL of our minds, and ALL of our strengths, and to love our neighbours (ALL of them) as ourselves.
- b. This means *we have to love people from other denominations*, because Christ died for them also.
- c. *We have to love people who are homeless, on drugs, or other addictions,*
- d. *We have to love the unlovable,*
- e. We even have to love our enemies;**
 - i. *Why? Because Jesus said so!!!*
 - ii. *To not do so, means we are in rebellion against Jesus Christ, which is in itself a sin.*
- f. *We have to love, people from other religions*, even though we don't agree with their theology,
- g. *We have to love those people who say: ‘there is no God’, just to prove to them (by our love) that He really does exist.*
- h. Why do we have to love them?
 - i. *Because while we were yet sinners (like them), Jesus Christ died for us. He loved us, before we even were born, before we even knew Him, or made a decision to accept Him as our personal saviour, or started to love Him.*

2) The next statement Paul makes is: **To all those who are “the called” of Jesus Christ.**

- a. John 15:16 is a clear indication of this: *“You did not choose Me, but I (Jesus Christ) chose you and (I, Jesus Christ) appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you”.*
- b. So we now have the clear priorities;
 - i. *Jesus chose us and*
 - ii. *He appointed us and*
 - iii. *He called us*
 - iv. *To go bear fruit*
 1. Not just ANY fruit, but these are fruit which must remain.
 2. These are fruit which have a definite impact upon their surroundings and the people who you come in

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All Things Work Together for Good (...continued)

contact with.

3. These are fruit, which because of their characteristics, bear more fruit.
4. These are multiplication fruit.
5. These are life-changing fruit.

3) **According to His purpose.** [In some translations it says: "according to His divine plans and His divine purposes"]

- a. We all know that Jesus commanded us to go out and "corporately fulfil the great commission" as defined in the gospels, but what about each and every one of us, as individuals?
- b. Do you realise that He has called us "individually"; yes Jesus Christ called you and me by name, and He called each one of us to do something especially for Him.
- c. It is part of His divine plan and it is part of His divine purpose for our lives.
- d. Do you know what he has called you to do?
- e. Have you recognised the special task that Jesus Christ has called you to do, so that the world can become a better place?
- f. Do you realise that even though some of the trials and tribulations you may have to go through, to achieve and complete your task may seem hard, tough and difficult, but that they ALL work together for your good; to bring you to a higher level of spiritual maturity, trust and knowledge of who Jesus Christ really is?

These things can only be accomplished if we follow some of the simple steps that Paul outlined in his opening statements in Romans chapter eight.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but (who walk) according to the Spirit"

We have to become separated from the things of this world and become obedient to the things of the spiritual world in which we have been transformed.

This means that we have to do regular audits of our spiritual households, to make sure that we have not allowed the things of this world to infiltrate into the places where the spiritual part of us dwells.

The prophecies of 2012 and 2013 indicate that the Holy Spirit will start a sifting and a shaking of the Body of Christ in this next season, so that the Body of Christ (like the head of Christ) is pure and holy. *"Be ye holy as I AM holy"*

We have been individually and corporately called to be holy. That is part of God's plans for us. Because God love us, He chastens us. Remember: judgement starts in the house of God.

Now what are some of these specific callings?

- 1) Some have been called to be (like Paul) an apostle; a separated one, a person who is called to be a church planter, a person who is called to listen to God's word and write it down, so that others may grow in their knowledge and understanding of who God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit really are.
- 2) Others are called to be prophets; people who are called (by God) and set aside (by God) to be the spiritual ears for the Body of Christ. People who know the voice of the Holy Spirit, who respond to it (not react to it) and who are obedient to its direction and instructions, without ever considering the consequences to themselves as individuals.
- 3) Some are called to be evangelists; people who have a burning desire inside of them to save souls. No matter what else they do, they have this compelling power and urge to tell people about Jesus Christ, His love for them, His salvation, and they only get peace in their hearts when this is what they are doing.
- 4) Many are called to be teachers, but few accept the calling, because it is so hard.
 - a. They recognise that God has set a higher standard for them and they will be judged by a higher standard as well, because EVERY teacher has a responsibility to make sure that what they teach

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All Things Work Together for Good (...continued)

lines up (at all times) with the Word of God.

- b. The scripture even says that if a teacher gives incorrect teaching to his congregation members, and they accept it and fall away because of it, then the blood of the person is on the teacher's head.
 - c. God holds each teacher responsible for the lives of those who are placed under his care and responsibility, to teach them only pure godly teaching.
5. Other people feel called to be pastors; they have a calling to care for the congregation members, not only in a teaching role, but also dealing with their emotional and physical well-being.
- a. Some of these people are very good with children, while others feel more comfortable teaching young adults, and others mature aged persons.
 - b. God calls you to be a shepherd to His flock (not YOUR flock); you are just a steward of the Master, and you are responsible back to the Master for every sheep He has placed into YOUR care.
6. But when one gets into these positions/callings they find that there are many other things which must be done in the church/organisation situation, which they are NOT called to do; yet they must get done to make the church function properly.

This is where other roles or callings come into play. They are listed right in alphabetical order, not in their order of priority:

Now when you look through this list, you will see some of the gifts that are available from the Holy Spirit and needed to be used within the Body of Christ. The main thing to focus on is to identify which gifts you believe you have as an individual.

This needs to be confirmed by speaking to other people, after some prayer and fasting.

Others will look at this list and say: "I have none of these gifts." Then you have to pray for the Holy Spirit to remind you of the special gift that God has given to you, because He has promised that He has given gifts to His chosen people. If you are a Christian, then you are one of His chosen, so this promise applies to you.

It is important for EVERY Christian to know what their gifts are and be prepared to use them for the glory of God. This may be in your workplace; in the school room; or in your bible study group. It may be working with the youth, or people with disabilities, etc. Not all people are called to be pastors or church employees.

Conclusion:

It is clear that all things work together for good, provided the pre-conditions are all met.

Now would be a good time to re-evaluate your position with Jesus Christ and satisfy yourself that you are doing all you can to bring glory and honour to His name.

Spiritual Gift

1. Administration
2. Apostle
3. Celibacy
4. Discerning of Spirits
5. Evangelist
6. Exhortation
7. Exorcism
8. Faith
9. Giving
10. Healing
11. Helps
12. Hospitality
13. Intercession
14. Interpretation of Tongues
15. Knowledge
16. Leadership
17. Martyrdom
18. Mercy
19. Miracles
20. Missionary
21. Pastor
22. Prophecy
23. Service
24. Teaching
25. Tongues
26. Voluntary Poverty
27. Wisdom



Transforming your city – the power of prayer

By Dr. Geoff Waugh - Renewal Journal - www.renewaljournal.com

<https://renewaljournal.wordpress.com/2016/10/17/transforming-your-city-the-power-of-prayer/>

THE CRIME RATE FELL BY 93% WITHIN 18 MONTHS.

EVEN THE UNITED NATIONS CANNOT UNDERSTAND HOW THIS HAPPENED!

TRANSFORMING YOUR CITY – THE EXAMPLE OF JUAREZ, MEXICO



Recently in Albuquerque, New Mexico, 140 ministry leaders and public officials were electrified to hear the testimony of **Pastor Poncho Murguia**. Poncho after leading a large and successful mega church for years was instructed by the Lord to “leave everything” and to go to a city park in his native Juarez, Mexico in order to fast and pray for three weeks over the city. During that process, he learned for the first time to really love and understand his city and then to “adopt” the city. Eventually 4000 other believers in Jesus joined him in a movement of transformational prayer and action that has changed Juarez from “the murder capital of the world” with violence 25 times as much as any on other city on earth, to one of the safest of Mexico’s cities.

At the height of the violence that swept the city which had become the site of a prolonged turf battle between drug cartels, 20-30 people were being assassinated by “sicarios”, hit men paid an average of \$50 to kill anyone. They killed a young man just as he was being married to his fiancée in a church and freely machine-gunned peace-loving people who were having dinner in restaurants. There were also an average of 10-15 kidnappings per day and if loved ones did not pay the ransom that was demanded, their family member would have his ears or fingers amputated first and if there was still no payment, he or she would be killed and buried under the floor of the “safehouse” that served as their prison.

Twenty percent or 300,000 people left the city; 30% of the businesses closed. The cartels made lists of police officers and systematically assassinated them one by one to terrorize and exact concessions. The smell of blood filled the streets. Such overwhelming violence that the police and even the army could not control finally drove the pastors of the city’s churches together in prayer. They humbled themselves before the Lord, taking responsibility for the situation since they had been occupying themselves with their own congregations and “building their own kingdoms” without a real love and concern for the whole city. As they underwent this process together, God demonstrated His presence and the crime rate fell by 93% within 18 months. Even the United Nations cannot understand how this happened!



Other wonderful transformations happened and as they “adopted” the “sicarios”, many of these vicious hit men came to Christ and were disciplined to serve Him back in their own towns across Mexico. Poncho challenged the Church and ministry leaders to tackle problems in our communities that the government and police are not being effective in fixing. The church he said spent too much time studying the Bible when God wants us to “be the Bible” to our needy city. Those who heard Poncho’s testimony were deeply challenged to apply what we learned. Many went home determined to see a transformational movement happen in their communities.

Source: International Prayer Council

See also:

Video: Transformation in Juarez, Mexico - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lzl9bLRR4_4

In 5 years kidnapping down by 100%, extortions down by 90%, & homicides down by 80%

We often forget to do things God’s way!

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

(2 Chronicles 7:14)



'See & Save'

Kid's Medical Wristbands – www.cleverdux.com



Founders and childcare workers Courtney and Jarrad Dober.

As childcare workers and school teachers Courtney and Jarrad Dober saw firsthand the struggle to identify the growing number of children with Asthma, Allergies and Anaphylaxis. To date Australia has the highest prevalence of these conditions in the world and it's continuing to grow. After the death of a child at a NSW after school care centre in 2013 the brothers founded CleverDux and began designing a simple solution to this epidemic. Today the boys have designed various products which can be found in over 500 schools and childcare centres Australia wide. Their latest design – The 'See & Save' medical wristband range, has received a huge amount of praise from parents, teachers and press.

Why this is so important to us and why we've chosen to do something.

We've worked in childcare for a combined 18 years and continue to do so today. We've seen children suffer from Asthma attacks and Allergic reactions, it's not nice, especially when your responsible for their outcome and they're not your children. Thankfully our experiences have required nothing more than first aid and nothing our training and experience couldn't handle. Other carers haven't been so lucky. In 2013, in a school nearby our centre, 8-year-old Marcus Terranova presented symptoms of an Asthma attack to After School Care staff. The carers, made up of both casual and permanent staff, acted to the best of their awareness however the child's symptoms quickly escalated and the child later died. The news spread quickly and really shocked us fellow After School Care workers as it was just far too relatable. We believe the increasing number of children with these conditions and the lack of awareness and identification surrounding them has to change and it can all start with a simple wristband. If these wristbands can save even one life, everything has been worth it.

The facts.



We're really worried about where this epidemic is going. The "Health Nuts" research study predicts we will see Australian children present 31,000 new cases of food allergy each year along with 21,000+ asthma hospitalisations.

Today roughly 700,000 children in Australia have either an allergy or asthmatic condition that affects their daily life.

See & Save' (...continued)

On average in Australia EVERY childcare centre has 10 children with allergies, 10 children with Asthma and 3 children with life threatening Anaphylaxis.

In an average primary school class of 25 students - 3 would be Asthmatic, 3 would have Allergies and at least 1 child would be Anaphylactic.

These figures are staggering and research suggests they are continuing to rise.

We recently trialled the See & Save wristbands in NSW Primary Schools with these results - Whilst on playground duties pre-trial surveys showed a 12% confidence level in identifying students with these conditions. This increased to over 90% when the children wore the relative See & Save wristband.

81% of teachers believed the wristbands had a positive effect of student well-being, 93% believed the wristbands improved their awareness of students with medical conditions and 97% believed the system should be implemented full time at their school. This is only schools. Think about the various situations where children are being looked after by carers who are unaware of their condition. Places like Nippers, Sporting groups, Scouts, Camps, Vacation Care and of course Church Groups.

The Wristbands

See & Save medical wristbands have been designed to assist in the identification of children who suffer



from Asthma, Allergies, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes and Epilepsy. These wristbands have been specifically coloured and labelled according to the colours associated with each condition recognized nationally – Royal Blue for Asthma, Green for Allergy, Red for Anaphylaxis, Light Blue for Diabetes and Purple for Epilepsy. The wristbands suit children aged 0 – 16 with 3 press studs to adjust size. There are also posters

available to pin up in a classroom to educate children on the signs and symptoms to look out for.

Where can you find them and what can you do.

The wristbands are currently available for individual sale or in bulk order online at – www.cleverdux.com

We are extremely passionate about making a difference to this rising epidemic and helping carers with easier identification of children with a condition, in any scenario. To date we have not paid ourselves. We've used all money raised through the sales of these wristbands to develop more innovative solutions, reduce the hospitalisations and deaths of children due to these conditions and just help our carers monitor our children with more confidence.

Our goal is to provide every child in Australia with a wristband according to their condition. You can help us achieve this by purchasing a wristband or a package of wristbands for your centre or organisation.

For more information or to order, head to www.cleverdux.com or for large orders and a discount through this publication, phone Courtney directly on 0450 469 604.

Thankyou and god bless.

Courtney and Jarrad Dober.



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Embarrassed

Delivered by Dr. John Yates at St Mark's, Bassendean 25.9.16 - posted <http://cross-connect.net.au/embarrassed/>

Isa 29:11-19; Ps 17; 1Cor 1:26-2:16; Matt 27:27-54

Introduction

This is the second sermon in our series on 1 Corinthians, and as with all Paul's communications with this divisive, arrogant, immoral and confused church what he says is particularly intense. Because he is *not trying to please his audience* Paul is not "nice" but speaks in a manner assured to offend his hearers. Since Bassendean is more "real" than the average congregation, especially Anglican ones, you can probably cope with the tone of this message. Paul bluntly strips away all the pretensions of the Christians in Corinth by telling them what they are NOT. Given the honour-shame Greek culture of the day he embarrassed the Corinthians publicly as this letter was read when they gathered together as church. He tells them what they are NOT to point them to how in Christ God become nothing to save them. The intensity of this passage was demanded by the scandalous attitude of Corinthian Christians, the thought of *Christ crucified represented the epitome of everything the Corinthians detested*, foolishness and weakness in the eyes of the world.

Exposition

Paul brings up the past of his hearers in a way that they would have found very demeaning.

1:26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

"Not many of you were wise according to worldly standards". To use a contemporary term the Christians in Corinth wanted to think of themselves as "smart arses". Paul pulls them down a notch by reminding them they definitely were not intellectuals. The Corinthians wanted to think they were smart because smart people are esteemed. I remember getting a surprise visit from my pastor not long after I had become a follower of Jesus and still at university; he was enthusiastically encouraging me to do a PhD in biology. If I had a little more courage at the time I would have told him to turn away from the *idol of intellectual achievement* as the Lord had already strongly rebuked me about this sin.

"Not many were powerful" says Paul. The Corinthian Christians like the common culture around them craved influence in society. But Paul embarrasses them with the reminder they never

had this status. (There's actually a family of churches in Australia called "Influencers Church"; some lessons never seem to be learned.)

Finally, "*not many were of noble birth*". In a socially stratified society where people were honoured because of their family line few of these Christians came from upper class families. We don't tend to make so much of these things in Australia but lots of other nations do. I remember (Justice) John Gilmour saying publicly that one of the things that he liked about Australia compared to the U.K. was that no one asked, "What did your father do for a living?" Paul is categorical that the believers in Corinth were not drawn from the worlds' "beautiful people" but were *society's "nobodies"*.

Early opponents of the Christian message made much of the Church's unimpressive nature. The second century anti-Christian philosopher Celsus sneered at Christianity, "the following are the rules laid down by them. Let no one come to us who has been instructed, or who is wise or prudent ... but if there be any ignorant, or unintelligent, or uninstructed, or foolish persons, let them come with confidence...(Christians) manifestly show that they...are able to gain over only the silly, and the mean, and the stupid, with women and children." Today people like Richard Dawkins still argue that Christians are dumb, delusional and dangerous. But to be disrespected by the world may not a bad thing (John 15:18-19). This is *not what the Corinthians wanted to hear*, but Paul presses on to humiliate them even more.

v.27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong

"You", Paul says to the Corinthians, are in the eyes of the world the "foolish" and "weak" people God sovereignly chose to shame the smart and powerful. To be called "foolish" and "weak" is only an insult if you are deceived into thinking that you should be wise in your own wisdom and strong in your own strength. Paul is no way interested in putting his readers down but only in lifting up the grace of God in their lives. Let me make this point from another angle. If you are a Christian and someone else isn't, like me and my late father, you can try to find the difference in some quality *you have* and the other person doesn't have, or solely in the grace of God. I am 100% sure of what is the true answer. As if Paul hadn't humiliated and

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Embarrassed (...continued)

disgraced the Corinthians enough now he calls them “nothings”;

v.28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, things counted as *nothing at all*, to bring to nothing things the world considers important

This degradation is all for one purpose.

v.29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God

The Corinthians understood Paul's line of thought about boasting. The ancient Greek writers correctly observed that people boasted in what gave them most delight, so Odysseus/Ulysses boasts in his cunning and Achilles in his strength. This is Donna's “Brag Book” which she carries around in her handbag containing photos of the grandkids. I remember saying to Donna that “the twins”, who were born 8 weeks premature, are “delightful”. This is natural, but why do so few Christian grandmothers speak about the delights of knowing Christ. Or, why do so few men talk about Jesus with more passion than they do about their favourite sport (Matt 6:21, 12:34)? If we keep listening to Paul we will find out what is stopping most of us speaking enthusiastically about Jesus.

v.30 And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption

Everything that is worth anything is a gift of God's grace. Our relationship with Jesus, our acceptance by God, our holy status and our deliverance from evil forces has come about entirely by divine initiative. All this is for one purpose.

v.31 so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

“Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.”” (Jer 9:23-24)

The powerful prophetic truth in this scripture from Jeremiah is that if we turn aside from family, possessions, abilities or achievements as our primary boasts and *delight in God's love, justice and righteousness in Christ we will experience his delights in our lives*. Christians are called to boast supremely about Christ but often find this hard to do.

I am involved in a meeting called Perth Prayer where each week someone is called to give a

testimony to Jesus. Too often people tell us about *their* ministry, *their* spirituality, *their* financial success, *their* knowledge and so on rather than testifying about Jesus. Praise God however I received online this week a recorded testimony from a young man I mentor. At twenty years of age he was leading a church youth group but had a total mental melt down and became so psychotic that he forcibly hospitalised. In the darkness of a holding room experiencing extreme loneliness he had an encounter with the power of God that communicated to him the terrible isolation that Jesus experienced on the cross. In that moment he knew he was not alone; and could never be. Christ was being gloried in everything he was NOT.

Paul presses on to remind the Corinthians about how his preaching imaged the message of God's choice of the weak and lowly by boasting of what he was NOT.

2:1 And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom.

The preacher through whom the Corinthians believed in Jesus (i.e. Paul) had not impressed them with smart or clever talk (2 Cor 10:10).

A friend of mine sent me a link yesterday connected to a well known American preacher. After I had listened to this highly skilled orator I replied by email to my friend. “you need to watch the next clip... Wait for the time when he centres on Jesus!” The truth is he never once centred on Jesus and he never once mentioned the cross (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqPUXjFYh38>).

2:2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

Paul was resolved in every situation to speak about Jesus and his death. He never told his audience what they wanted to hear but only what God wanted them to hear. And what he wanted them to hear was Christ crucified. Naturally speaking the message of a crucified God is stupid. The earliest depiction of Jesus is piece of graffiti from Rome (c.200); reading “Alexamenos worships [his] God.” it is a stick drawing of a Christian reverencing a crucified man with the head of a donkey (cf. Acts 17:18). This is an image of total ridicule and mockery.

The Gospel reading I chose today focuses on this aspect of the crucifixion of Jesus.

“the soldiers.... kneeling before him...mocked him,

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Embarrassed (...continued)

saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!...And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and ... led him away to crucify him.... And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads...saying, "...save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself....And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way." (Matt 27:27ff.)

Jesus intentionally exposed himself to public mockery and open shame in order to save us from our sins. To be mocked on account of the gospel was the last thing that the Corinthians wanted, and it is the last thing popular Christianity wants today.

Several years ago I attended an international Christian conference in Kuala Lumpur, and I was more than surprised when the organisers of that event had the assembly opened by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, a man whose first name was Mohammed. This seeking of self-importance would have impressed the Corinthians but it has nothing to do with the power of the cross. Paul drills this message home in a way that is totally counter-cultural.

v3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling,

If the Corinthians must boast of their "strengths" Paul boasts of his disabilities (cf. 2Cor 11:16-12:11). His opponents in Corinthian went on to say; "His letters are weighty and strong, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech of no account." (2 Cor 10:10). But there was a deep spiritual reason for the apostle's vulnerability. In his manifest weakness Paul revealed Jesus, who in Gethsemane "offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death," (Heb 5:7). Paul's life was part of the message of the cross that weakness submitted to God is never a source of shame but always a means of glory (Luke 24:26).

v4 and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

The true message of the gospel is so scandalous to ordinary logic that only a "demonstration of the Spirit and of power" can shift the conscience to believe it. There is a deep spiritual mystery about Christian ministry here. Just as the crucified Christ needed to lie dead and powerless in a tomb so that all glory would go to his Father by raising him from the dead by the Spirit's power, so Paul

understood he must be *empty of all self-confidence* if God's unaided power was to move through him. The weakness, fear and much trembling which marked Paul's ministry is a share in Christ crucified who depended wholly and solely on the power of God which raises the dead. This is how our passage ends.

v5 so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Paul was a true pastor; he knew that those who follow the cleverness of mere mortals will be manipulated and in the end let down and disappointed. But if you follow *the crucified and risen Christ who is the power of God he will never let you down* (1 Cor 1:24). However much the Corinthians might have found Paul's line of thought distasteful deep down they knew his message was true, because when they heard him preach the power of God came on them in a way that no amount of clever human speech could ever have produced.

"He delights in turning nothings into somethings by his great grace"

Conclusion

The true gospel message is that Christ in his death "made himself nothing" so that his Father might be everything in him for us (Phil 2:7). This makes every confused, weak and fearful human being a candidate for a miraculous death and resurrection transformation through God's power. Against all natural human wisdom whoever gives their nothings to God will never be embarrassed by what they are NOT.

If your family or marriage or relationships are *not* anything special, hand this over to the Lord, if your education or Bible knowledge is *not* great, give it to Christ, if you have *no* self-confidence trust in Jesus, if your health is *not* fantastic look to God for strength. *He delights in turning nothings into somethings by his great grace.* If you are embarrassed by your inability to speak to others of Jesus there is a way forward.

Whoever takes their nothingness to God through Christ will find their heavenly Father is not embarrassed of them and will enjoy the delights of God. Our Father has a "Brag Book" in heaven and you can know your name is in it (Rev 13:8). When this revelation happens you will experience the Spirit and power of God and boast supremely of Jesus Christ and him crucified. *Nothing* need disqualify us from enjoying God's riches in Christ. Let us pray.

Youth for Christ E-newsletter - Spring 2016



at the heart

YOUTH FOR CHRIST AUSTRALIA NEWS
SPRING 2016 ISSUE 47



Brad's story, "Jesus changed my life!"

Brad was expelled from his high school when he was fifteen. This year he was invited back to his former school as a special guest, to speak into the lives of the students. Now twenty-one-years-old, Brad shares how this turn around testifies to the transformative power of Jesus.

As Brad puts it, "My passion now is just to share the love of Jesus. There's nothing very complicated about it, just to share the Gospel in anything that I can do. Going to churches, walking down the street, hanging out with mates, youth programs..."

Read more at <http://www.yfc.org.au/OurStory/47AtTheHeart.aspx>



The Jesus School: sharing the simple Gospel

Thank you for your gifts and prayers, which are vital to the fruitfulness of Youth for Christ and the catalyst to pioneering and sustaining new initiatives, like The Jesus School.

Last year YFC launched The Jesus School, a training initiative grounded in the simplicity of the Gospel message. The growing momentum and fruit from the school since then points to the power of making prayer the strategic anchor to mission.

Read more at <http://www.yfc.org.au/OurStory/47AtTheHeart2.aspx>



Chanae: "Jesus can actually use me!"

Fifteen-year-old Chanae came to YFC's Jesus School motivated by a desire to learn more about Jesus. Through the practical application of the teaching Chanae was able to begin taking control of the fears that had previously held her back.

One evening, as the student team visited a local market... Read more at <http://www.yfc.org.au/OurStory/47AtTheHeart3.aspx>



A note from Cindy to you

Dear Friend,

We have made some significant changes in YFC to make sure our fundamentals are strong. Firstly with our structure, refocusing on our core mission. Secondly with our behaviours and attitudes, if these aren't exemplary then non-believers are right to conclude that there is

nothing in Christianity worth investigating. We would toil in vain. Thirdly to make sure prayer is our strategic anchor. It's God who leads this movement.

In order to preach great things, we need to be living them, in absolute authenticity and humility.

Thank you so much for your trust and support as we journey together!

Read more at <http://www.yfc.org.au/OurStory/47AtTheHeart4.aspx>

YFC ★ ★ ★
AUSTRALIA | every young person



IS DEBT KILLING YOUR CHURCH?

Written by Alex Cook, *Wealth With Purpose* - www.wealthwithpurpose.com

A casual glance at western society and the debt-driven economies that are part of it, make it clear that many of our members are drowning in debt. Perhaps as a Pastor you can relate to it with your own financial situation or even that of your Church.

When we look at the United States, its current debt exceeds \$60,000,000,000,000 – that is [60] trillion! Households make up over \$17 trillion of that debt. Student loans and credit cards alone are nearly \$1 trillion each. These figures are real, they are serious, and they are killing the Church.

Our Love of Debt

An observation of our culture by a Christian Author whose book I read recently stated quite rightly that debt in our society today is believed to be *'normal, harmless & necessary'*. How many of us and our members believe at least one of those lies. After all if my friends do it, the Government does it and businesses do it, then it must be normal – right?

Harmless? - Of course unless you ever experienced the pain of foreclosure or creditors chasing you for payment, and lastly – Necessary. Surely if I ever want to own a home then I must borrow in order to achieve it?

Many Church leaders feel that the only way to grow their Church and fund building projects is by borrowing money. You may have a strong desire to grow and see lives transformed and find the temptation to borrow very high particularly if there is a lack of generosity from members meaning the Church is starved of much needed funds.

I want to offer you a better way. Let's look at this great passage from Deuteronomy:

"¹² The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none"
Deuteronomy 28:12

Here are some key points:

- **Debt is not sinful.** God is saying it is better to be a lender than a borrower. It can become sinful however if it stops us from fulfilling our

obligations to our families, our churches and living a generous life.

- **God can bless the work of your hands.** When we are obedient to God and live according to his will and his principles then he is able to 'bless the work of our hands'. Many people are operating in their own strength and find they are having to toil for their very survival.

In Matthew 6:33 – Jesus says we are to 'seek first his kingdom' and then 'all things will be added'.... This is a promise; God says that he will provide for us when we put his kingdom first. It is not a divine promise of home ownership, but it is a promise that he will meet our needs.

Sometimes debt is almost saying to God "you haven't met my needs so I am going to take matters into my own hands".

The Bible warns us that 'debt leads to slavery'. How many of our members are enslaved to their mortgages and car repayments? I have met many people whose mortgages alone consume more than 50% of their disposable income. It would seem that slavery is alive and well, but without the ball and chain.

The Problem

Our Churches are now on the front end of the impact of this debt. So many of our members have caught the 'debt disease' that it flows through to our Church budgets. Consider the implications:

- **Your Members are enslaved** – what percentage of your Church are struggling to make their repayments? What about the percentage that have so much debt, that they cannot give at least 10% to God's work. Many of our members would give more if they could. On the other hand, many are trapped by things of this world, and their finances reflect that.
- **Endangered Relationships** – the leading reason for divorce today is financial problems. Debt can be stressful. The thought that this month, you might not be able to pay the mortgage or the kid's school fees can keep

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IS DEBT KILLING YOUR CHURCH? (...continued)

you awake at night. This ongoing stress takes its toll. How many marriages would not have gotten into the long grind downwards had they not put their financial situation into a position of ongoing stress.

- **Our Spiritual Condition** – often the level of debt is a reflection of worldliness and impatience. In short many of our members are probably more in love with their ‘stuff’ than they are in God himself. Until this changes are our Churches will never reach their potential. If anything they will be at risk of extinction.
- **Too Hot too handle** – My observation after 20 years in the Financial Services industry is that most people cannot handle debt well. They borrow too much, they underestimate the impact, they become addicted, they treat it as though it is their money, rather than something that needs to be paid back.
- **Chains on the Church** – Many Churches have large debts, meaning that the cash flow from the Churches revenue sources (primarily giving) are being directed towards a bank and often towards a building, not towards reaching the lost. Don’t mishear me, you need buildings and resources to do ministry. But when the average Church pays more interest to a bank than it spends on missions, you know we have a problem.
- **Bye, Bye Vision** – I am pretty sure that God [has] given your Church a vision for the future. I am also sure that for most Pastors their vision is bigger than their current budgets allow. That is not always a bad thing, but I’m pretty sure the vast majority of Churches could benefit from a big dose of generosity.

Put Simply:

DEBT IS DESTROYING THE CHURCH

The Solution

What is the solution? It is very simple, just not easy. Attack debt! The devil has the Church all bound through debt servitude. If we release the shackles and change our mindset towards debt, we will be far freer to pursue the Great Commission.

Here are some tips for how you can bring a turnaround to your Church:

- 1) **Preach on Debt** – The bible makes it clear, that whilst not sinful, it is surely unwise. The word of God is littered with wisdom on how manage money wisely.
- 2) **Show people the numbers** - A credit card with a debt of \$4,300 with an interest rate of 18% would take 31 years to repay if you only paid the minimum required amount each month. If you borrow \$300,000 for a mortgage at 7.5%, you will repay over \$700,000 of which \$400,000 will be interest alone! Most people won’t know this.
- 3) **Give people alternatives** - Contrary to popular belief, there are many alternatives to debt:
 - a. God’s provision
 - b. Saving for what they need
 - c. Switching from a credit card to a debit card
 - d. Don’t borrow for consumption items
- 4) **Address their Spiritual Condition** – for most people their financial position is reflective of their spiritual condition.

*Alex Cook is the founder of www.wealthwithpurpose.com a Stewardship ministry with the aim of helping Christians to become better stewards of the resources God has blessed them by providing biblically-based financial education. To find out more how **Wealth with Purpose** can help your Church please visit the website above.*



Wealth with Purpose



Always Laboring Fervently, Solomon Islands Good News!

From Rick Rupp, 17-Oct-2016

Hello Everyone!

Our CW4L projects continue to have life changing impact on the poor and needy people in the Solomon Islands! Picture #1 is the village of Taka'asai which is a community of approx 120 people and was established during the 1950's and have not had any source of clean water since until now!



Picture #2 is a CW4L project for the Christian Outreach Center in Noro. This well serves the church of 100 people and the primary school of about 80 pupils. I am so looking forward to joining our Fa'arau CW4L well drilling team during my upcoming trip Oct 27 - Nov 12. Here is the link to watch the CW4L 5 minute video explaining the current drought conditions and how your donation can bring clean drinking water to a village, school, clinic, or church! Go to <https://youtu.be/66ZwRzABRAE>

More good news! Please take a look at the photos of the new concrete floor



that was just poured at the Fa'arau Orphan/Visitor House! This is a jungle village with no electricity. In 2008 when I first visited Fa'arau there was 100% unemployment. No jobs! No income! No money! No clean drinking water! Now 30 men in the village of Fa'arau for the first time in their lives have a job and can earn a living. We trained 12 men the art of installing water wells. We trained 12 more men how to make cement blocks with the machine we sent in 2014. We trained 6 men how to use power tools and I wish you could come see the 40ft X 60ft Orphan/Visitor House these men are building in Fa'arau, Solomon Islands! Wow!

A person handed me a very beautiful diamond ring saying "I wish I could give you \$1800.00 towards installing a water well but I can only give you this ring in hopes you can sell it and put the ring money into a CW4L well project!" Contact me if this ring interests you ok? The drought continues and the need for clean drinking water is great. One of our Fa'arau Well drilling team's is still in Munda with enough materials to install another 12 water wells. But CW4L keeps receiving more and more requests for villages, schools, Churches, and Hospitals desperately needing a water well. What we are doing is so HISTORIC! We really need more prayer and more support!

Currently CW4L needs \$16,000.00 - \$18,000.00 more by years end to complete the financial milestone needed to provide a total of 50 water wells installed for the poor and needy people who currently fetch water either from rivers or shallow hand dug water pits.

I have lots more "Good News!" testimonies of ongoing miracles in the Solomon Islands! Please consider inviting me to come share at your Business, Church, Home Group, or House of Prayer. I have a great slide show with lots of exciting pictures and God stories! In fact I'm planning a 2 week ministry trip to Ohio, Michigan, and Manitoba in November to share my "Fruit Report" Solomon Islands slide show. So contact me if you are interested ok?

I continue to pray and declare Philippians 4:19 expecting God will supply the funding for water wells on the Island of Bellona (7 wells), Savo (3 wells), Malaita (10 -15 wells) and Guadalcanal (15-20 wells) after we finish up our 30 wells in our Munda Project! It's justice that we would do this together!

Go online and donate today <https://mygiving.secure.force.com/GXDonateNow?id=a0Ui000000LvZpNEAV>

Here is the complete information and video: <http://www.cleanwater4life.com/25wells/us>

Here is the online link for the Australian House of Prayer for All Nations tax deductible contributions: www.cleanwater4life.com.au/25wells

or Tax deductible donations in Australia can be made via Mission World Aid: Each donation of \$2500 AU will sponsor one well. BSB: 105079 Account # 040615340 "marked": Clean Water 4 Life

If you would like to become a monthly partner, you may do so online at IHOPKC giving e-link eGiving Code **RR587249**

<https://www.ihopkc.org/give/staffsupport/form/?cid=701d000000OMOnAAO&sname=Richard%20Rupp>

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Always Laboring Fervently (...continued)

or with PayPal using my email rickrupp@ihopkc.org

To help fund a well project by mail:

Make check payable to National Christian Foundation, in the memo write Acct # 1121806

Mail checks to: National Christian Foundation, 11625 Rainwater Drive Suite 500, Alpharetta, GA 30009

Thank you partners for praying and sowing!

This link explains our goals for 2016 in the Solomon Islands. Click <http://www.rickrupp.com/newsletter/goals.php>

Online giving for these water wells projects use www.Cleanwater4Life.com or just email me!

Please contact me if you are interested in joining me for a future trip to the Solomon Islands!

Thank you!

Leviticus 6:12 The Fire on the altar shall never go out!

Oh Father God, Lord Jesus Christ, bring us to our knees. Find us contending in prayer until the breakthrough is birthed in Jesus name. Amen

God Establish Your Topeka House Of Prayer

Meditation: [Acts 2:23](#)

"But God knew what would happen, and His prearranged plan was carried out when Jesus was betrayed. With the help of lawless Gentiles, you nailed Him to a cross and killed Him."

Think about the greatest evil ever to take place in the history of the world. No, it wasn't the Fall of man; it wasn't the killing of Abel; it wasn't any of the bloody events of the Old Testament; it wasn't the brutal regimes of the Nazis or the Communists; it wasn't the terrorist attacks of September 11; and it wasn't any of the personal tragedies that we experience in our lives.

No. The greatest evil ever committed was the murder of God. When Christ was executed on Good Friday, God Himself in His human form was put to death. Here we have without question the greatest single act of disloyalty, ingratitude, deception, faithlessness, betrayal, malevolence, and outright evil of all time. God who created everything and everyone was actually killed by His own creatures.

And yet what did God manage to do with this most monstrous of all human events? Did He give up on mankind? Did He for one second concede that Satan and his demons had won the day? No. Instead, God promptly turned the world and everything in it on its head. For out of the hellish darkness of the Crucifixion He brought the miraculous light of the Resurrection. Yes in one amazing stroke of genius and grace, God turned it all around. He redeemed mankind. He made it possible for sins to be forgiven and for us to receive countless blessings during our lifetime. On top of this He threw open the gates of heaven so that one day we could all be reunited with our friends and loved ones in eternity.

No more horrible event could have taken place than the killing of Christ. No more wonderful treasure could have been given to mankind than the resurrection of Christ. In rising from the dead, God didn't just "fix things up" or "make things better" for us. He did something much more profound. He turned black into white, dirt into gold, sin into eternal life.

If God was able to turn the worst kind of evil into the greatest kind of good, then He can certainly turn lesser kinds of evil into good as well. He can certainly take the bad things that happen to us in our lives and bring some kind of blessing out of them.

It is urgent that we return to covenant relationship with God and with one another in the Body of Christ. This is essential to provide security and protection from the spirit of this age that is destroying our children and youth, our marriages, families, congregations and communities. Why not Topeka! Why not NOW!

"What an unspeakable privilege united prayer is and what a power it can be...God rules the world by the prayers of His saints...prayer is the power by which Satan is conquered...by prayer the church on earth has at its disposal the powers of the heavenly world."

Join us as we stand in the gap for Topeka and surrounding cities in worship and intercession. The Topeka HOP meets at the Open Way Church at 200 NW Gordon St. 66608. THOP meets every Friday night from 6:00- 9:00 pm, Also on Friday nights we offer soaking prayer for those needing healing. This is a city wide prayer meeting and all churches are welcome. For information on how you can become trained or involved in participating on a worship team simply email me at rickrupp@ihopkc.org

Rick Rupp | NightWatch Dad

IHOPKC Intercessory Missionary

Director Of Topeka House Of Prayer

RickRupp@ihopkc.org

www.rickrupp.com

www.CleanWater4Life.com



The Issachar Initiative

From Dr. David Pope, Director of Operations, Issachar Initiative - issacharinitiative.org

Seven and a half years after the death of Saul, David remained in Hebron and during that time his reign over all Israel had continued to increase in strength. As the king determined to establish Jerusalem as the city from which he would lead God's people, the twelve tribes made their way to where he was residing in a massive show of support. First Chronicles 12 (ESV) records this event for us (beginning with verse 22):

For from day to day men came to David to help him, until there was a great army, like an army of God. These are the numbers of the divisions of the armed troops who came to David in Hebron to turn the kingdom of Saul over to him, according to the word of the Lord. The men of Judah bearing shield and spear were 6,800 armed troops. Of the Simeonites, mighty men of valor for war, 7,100. Of the Levites 4,600. The prince Jehoiada, of the house of Aaron, and with him 3,700. Zadok, a young man mighty in valor, and twenty-two commanders from his own fathers' house. Of the Benjaminites, the kinsmen of Saul, 3,000, of whom the majority had to that point kept their allegiance to the house of Saul. Of the Ephraimites 20,800, mighty men of valor, famous men in their fathers' houses. Of the half-tribe of Manasseh 18,000, who were expressly named to come and make David king.

As the accounting continues (through verse 37), we may calculate a total of 340,800 men. The author describes these men and their passionate commitment (v. 38), saying, "All these, men of war, arrayed in battle order, came to Hebron with a whole heart to make David king over all Israel. Likewise, all the rest of Israel were of a single mind to make David king." Whole-hearted and single-minded, David's army gathered for battle.

Curiously, there is one interesting inclusion to the tribal list and it is found in verse 12. It reads, "Of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, 200 chiefs, and all their kinsmen under their command." It seems that one tribe, the tribe of Issachar, recognized that if King David was going to amass a mighty army capable of establishing his kingdom in Jerusalem, then that army would need leaders. So, while every other tribe sent their mightiest warriors, the tribe of Issachar sent 200 leaders who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do. Every army needs capable leaders and the men of Issachar came to lead.

Six years ago, Paul Eshleman (a ministry leader who provided catalytic leadership for the production and expanded distribution of the JESUS Film) and Paul Saber (a business leader with broad global ministry experience) met and decided that it was time to establish a unique ministry whose purpose would be to raise up and challenge a new generation of men and women of Issachar who had understanding of the Scriptures, to know what the **Church** ought to do! From this meeting, the **Issachar Initiative** was soon formed.

Since its establishment, the Issachar Initiative has sought to extend the reach of the church through three primary activities:

1. Casting a vision for the unfinished task of the Great Commission.

Through nine regional *Summits*, the Issachar Initiative has educated and raised awareness concerning progress in five "currently very strategic" elements of the Great Commission. These five elements are: Scripture Translation and Distribution, Orality, Evangelism, Church Planting, and People Group Engagement. Each *Issachar Summit* utilizes a TED conference methodology that provides current thought leaders and ministry mobilizers the opportunity to present the current status among these global Great Commission efforts. In addition, participants are inspired and mobilized to commit the lives and resources to finishing the task.



2. Identifying and advocating for those global strategies and activities that are effectively accomplishing the missional aspects of the Great Commission.

(continued next page)

The Issachar Initiative (...continued)

The leadership of the Issachar Initiative regularly collaborates with significant innovators and catalytic workers across the globe in order to keep a finger on the pulse of the various ways God continues to reach the global unreached with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Activities that result in sustainable, long-term engagement of peoples and places around the world are always changing and our Creator uses Holy Spirit-guided intelligence to constantly improve that effectiveness. The Issachar Initiative uses its broad range of international relationships to identify the best strategies and ministries and then seeks to be an advocate for their continued improvement and effectiveness. Many of these partners have been identified as *Count For Zero* organizations, because they join with us in working toward a day when there will be ZERO languages without the Scriptures, ZERO people groups without disciple makers, ZERO oral learners without an oral bible, ZERO villages or neighborhoods without a church, and ZERO people who have not heard the gospel.

3. Brokering relationships that will result in the resourcing of those global strategies and activities that are effectively finishing the task.

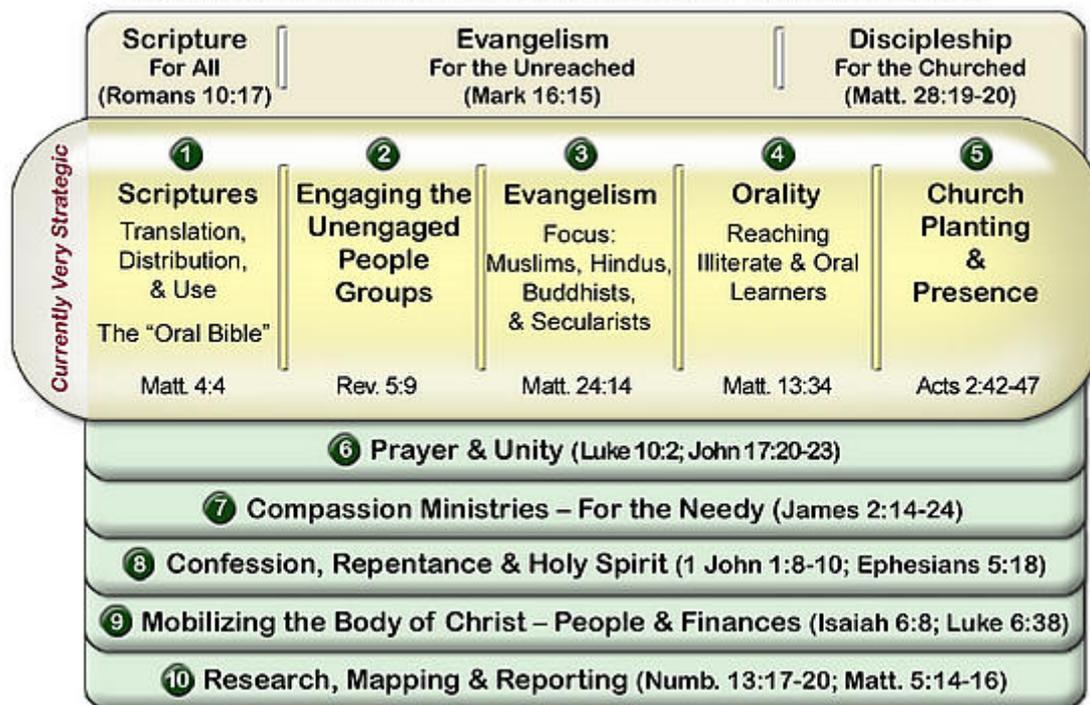
In 2010, the U.S. Center for the Study of Global Christianity determined that of all financial contributions to global Christian causes only 0.3% went to those places where the church does not yet exist. Our Issachar Summits have given us the platform to inform passionate Great Commission investors about ministry opportunities that, if funded properly, could make a significant global impact. As a result, millions of dollars have been contributed, hundreds of people groups have been engaged, evangelism tools have been created, thousands of workers have been sent, and millions of people have heard the gospel for the first time. Sometimes all it takes for someone to recommend the right ministry to a willing partner for advancement to occur.

What is the *Issachar Initiative*? It is quite simply a challenge to lead. God is raising up a new generation of men and women of Issachar to lead His church. If we, as Christ-followers, understand the Scriptures, then we also know what we as the church of the Lord Jesus Christ should be doing with the days that we have been given ... and lead others to do the same. Jesus, speaking to His disciples of these last days, said, "... *this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come (Matthew 24:14 ESV).*"

Jesus is coming. Let us be going, until He comes again.



Essential Elements of the Great Commission



You're Invited!

wear white, be light

GIVE

LOVE + PEACE

OCTOBER 31ST



Haloeen is a Christian response to Halloween on the 31st of October each year.

It is a chance for Christians to be salt and light, to be counter-cultural with love + peace.

So have some fun, and be a positive voice in your community!



You can participate with us by:

- Wearing white on October 31st
- Hosting a 'Wear White, Be Light' party
- Handing out heart shaped candy along with cards that say 'Love + Peace' and/or cards with a Bible verse on it
- Saying 'Love and Peace' when people say 'Trick or Treat' at your door
- Praying for our world and for all Christians, that we may be light in the darkness

Share your photos and stories on the Haloeen
Facebook page
#haloeen #wearwhitebelight

www.haloeen.com