"Projecting the Light of the Word of God on the Issues of the Day"

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, Editor

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"I AM A SEPARATIST"

by Pastor Peter Foxx

(The following article was the opening message of the Ohio Bible Fellowship Pastors' Conference, June 24-27, 1991. Peter Foxx is Pastor of Calvary Bible Church, Columbus, Ohio. He currently serves as President of the Ohio Bible Fellowship.)

Most of the sermons I preach are the result of several hours of study in the Scriptures and in the resource materials that are available to me. There is that occasional sermon that is the result of a lifetime of living. It is composed during years of walking with the Lord in fellowship and service. This is one of those messages.

These are difficult days for genuine fundamentalists or Biblical separatists. Our ranks are being depleted on a regular basis. Although many are retaining the name "fundamentalist" they are no longer taking the position of historic fundamentalism. There are many pitfalls on the road we are traveling - immorality, contemporary Christian music, charismatic enticements, and the old nemesis of numbers neurosis or doing what it takes to attract and keep a crowd. Men are falling into these pitfalls, even men who for many years have managed to avoid them.

Who Does the Adjusting?

I have never quite figured out why some believers become separatists while most believers take up positions somewhere to the left of them. Fundamentalism is an attitude that expresses itself in daily practice. It boils down to a willingness to pay any price to be obedient to the Scriptures. Separatists are Godcentered in their actions and emotions rather than man-centered.

They are more concerned with what God wants than with what man wants or even needs. Let me say the same thing in a different way. The separatist says we must adjust to God. We must learn through the Scriptures to be pleasing to Him. The non-separatist tends to insist that God do the adjusting. He knows in his mind the kind of God he would like God to be and he knows the needs that men have and is determined that God should accommodate us.

Have you not noticed that some men struggle constantly to be fundamentalists? Christians seem to fall into three broad categories.

The Separatist

There is the out and out separatist. This man has a heart for fundamentalism. He is militant in his stand for Christ. He feels most at ease with other separatists. When the separatist position is espoused or practiced, his heart is warmed and he says to himself, "That's right".

The New Evangelical

There is the committed new evangelical. This man has a heart for

compromise and accommodation. I spend hours every week with new evangelicals in my study. They live on my bookshelf. These men are an enigma to me. I admire their scholarship and their grasp of the Scriptures. They are quality people. Many of their Christian traits put me to shame. Yet when it comes to matters of disobedient brethren or questionable associations, these men consistently side with man and not with God.

Mr. Inbetween

Then there is Mr. Inbetween. This is the man with new evangelical tendencies who for one reason or another has found his way into the separatist camp. Being a separatist is painfully difficult for him. He is always having to be pulled along by the arm to do the right thing or take the right stand. He stands on the right but tilts to the left and he keeps looking to the left to see all the good things that are going on over there. If left to himself he would eventually slide into the new evangelical camp. His feet are in the right place but his heart is in the wrong place.

SEE SEPARATIST, PAGE 2

Deception by Imitation

by the late Dr. F.V. Dabold

In the present studies, delving into the "Mystery" that "doth already work," we have seen how Satan's program of deception got an early start in the planting of the tares (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43), which look just like the wheat. We further saw how it developed on down to the fourth century in the so-called, "TRIUMPH OF CHRISTIANITY," at which time everybody suddenly (and just as suspiciously) began to patron-

ize the Lord Jesus. The apocalyptic writer, on the contrary, calls this apparent "triumph" the "DEPTHS OF SATAN," (Rev. 2:24).

In the last chapter we saw the "form of godliness" of this present hour, the predicted strategy of Satan for the endtime, a strategy that constitutes our greatest peril, as Satan prepares to engulf the world SEE DECEPTION, PAGE 5

Editor's Desk

Fall means many different things to different people, but to "Aunt Carolyn" (my wife) and myself ("Uncle Dayton") it means hitting the road on the Christian School Convention trail. Of course, we are unable to get to every convention every year; however, we do try to get to at least six or seven of these conventions each year. South Carolina, Indiana, Georgia, Illinois, Alabama, Wisconsin and Ohio are on our schedule for this fall, and we enjoy immensely renewing old friendships as well as making new ones in the different states (mostly in eastern half of the country).

This fall we will be doing over sixty workshops, as well as other speaking opportunities. Mrs. Hobbs ("Aunt Carolyn" to thousands of boys and girls and teachers) has authored some twenty-five children's books and creates a great deal of excitement among the teachers with her "down home" approach to teaching children and challenging teachers.

It is my determination that, generally speaking, the Christian School movement is settling in to do the job for which God brought it on the present day scene: to give good solid Christian education to children of Christian parents.

RUME FAMILIE ATULATIONS



Dr. J. B. Williams speaks at 40th Anniversary Banquet

40th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

On August 5th, the Editor was surprised by a banquet in honor of his pastoring Grace Bible Church for forty years. Dr. J.B. Williams. veteran missionary and Bible conference speaker, was the special speaker for the occasion, which was attended by church members as well as former members and friends from out of town. Many other pastors and friends from distances

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EDITOR Dr. Dayton Hobbs

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letters of congratulations and encouragement. Rev. Tod Brainard. Assistant Pastor, was Master of Ceremonies and read a Proclamation from the Mayor of the City of Milton honoring Dr. Hobbs for his civic leadership and contribution to the community. Several men of the church also gave portions of the church history along with vignettes showing God's gracious hand and faithfulness through the years.

Dr. Hobbs founded the Church in 1951, while still a student preacher in Bob Jones University. At that time denominations were king in the South, and there were no other independent works in North Florida. Other areas of ministry of Grace Bible Church include Santa Christian School, the PROJECTOR National Tee Ball Baseball, a local PROJECTOR. youth sports program, and The Children's Bible Club.

Thank you so much for sending The PROJECTOR so faithfully. I have enclosed a tiny gift to help with postage.

> K.FP. Heath, OH

Dear Dr. Hobbs:

faithful publishing of The Your PROJECTOR is much appreciated and I apologize for not writing sooner to repay in a small way for the expense you incur in mailing it sooner.

May God continue to bless in your publishing this most valuable paper.

Yours to buy the Truth and sell it not.

> G.M. Newton, PA

SEPARATIST, FROM PAGE 1

Why isn't every born again preacher a fundamentalist? Let's consider some possible answers.

A Self-Centered Ministry

For some it is because of self-centeredness. They just do not want to pay the price of not being recognized or accepted by others. is a stigma that covers a fundamentalist and these men simply do not want that on themselves. They want to smell nice. They want to succeed. They want to be somebody.

A Man-Centered Ministry

For others it is because they are man-centered. Separation stands in the way of doing things that need to be done for God.

<u>Separation</u> <u>stands in the way of evangelism.</u> These men sincerely and desperately want to see men saved. Separation is a hindrance to their opportunity to minister the gospel to the lost. Man's need of salvation becomes a higher priority than obedience to God and faithfulness to His Word.

Separation stands in the way of church growth. These men sincerely want to teach the Scriptures to people. If people are not attracted to their ministries they will have no opportunity to share with them the good things of the Lord's Word. People's lives are in ruins. They need help in the worst of ways. Man's need of spiritual help becomes a higher priority than obedience to God and faithfulness to His Word. I am convinced that many pastors purposely keep their churches in a state of infancy because they do not want to lose their appeal to worldly people.

THE PRICE OF COMPROMISE

The Book of Ezekiel, chapter 44, provides a wonderful incentive for being a separatist believer at a time when it is not at all popular to be one. Ezekiel is receiving a vision of the millennial temple and comes upon those who have the special privilege of serving in this temple. Two sets of priests are described in this section. One of these groups is permitted some degree of service in the temple but is not allowed to come near the presence of the Lord. The other group does have the great privilege of coming in to the Lord's presence and offering unto Him the fat and the blood. Who are these priests and what did they do to acquire such an honor?

SEE SEPARATIST, PAGE 8

Stars of the Morning

By "Aunt Carolyn"

Dugout Daze



Continued From Last Issue

And so the game went. By the bottom of the sixth inning, the score was so close and the game so tight that Mugsy's stomach was in knots. The batter ahead of him hit a keen double right past the shortstop. It was a beautiful hit! Now they had a man on second and third — the perfect chance to bring in a run, maybe two!

Mugsy stepped to the plate, dug his toe into the dirt, and loosened his swing. One last glance to the coach confirmed the bunt signal, and Mugsy got ready.

He tried. Really, he did! But his move to lay down a bunt went sour and instead he hit a perfect infield fly. The shortstop nabbed it with a smug grin on his face.

"OOOUT!" bellowed the ump with a pull of his fist. Not only was Mugsy out, but the inning ended with a man dead on second and third.

The dugout went crazy.

"Mugs, what's the matter with ya'?"

"Boy, what a dope!"

"Yeah, a dugout dope!"

"What's yer battın' average, Mugs? Zero?"

"No, it's not zero!" Mugs retorted hotly. Then he thought again and answered in a quiet voice, "No, it's not zero, but I'm sorry I let you guys down."

"Ah, sit down, Mugs," Chip said. "Nobody ever batted a thousand."

The Sox finally won, but it did not help Mugs' feelings much after the guys had ridiculed him so, but he smiled, slapped his buddles on the back, and tossed off a "Good game, good game" call.

Walking back to his bike to head for home, Mugs felt a pull on his sleeve.

"Wait a minute, Mugs. Wait up!"

It was Chip, shortstop and number three batter for the Sox.

As the boys reached their bikes, Chip asked, "Are you in a hurry?"

"No, I reckon not. I just can't be late and make Mom worry. Why, what's up?"

"Oh, nothin'," replied Chip. "I just though you played a good game today."

"Good?" Mugsby exclaimed! Everyone nearly clobbered me for my last out, that bunting error."

"I know, but that's what I'm talking about. When everyone got against you, you just took it without getting mad, kicking dirt, or talking ugly. How come? The other guys, even myself, really unload when we get downed like that. How can you keep control?"

Mugs was stunned. He hardly knew how to answer. "Well, I am sure I ought to do a lot better, but, well, you see, I am a Christian, and having the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior makes the difference!"

"Oh," replied Chip dully, "You mean you have some kind of religion."

"No, no!" Mugs answered, "Not religion! New life in the Lord Jesus Christ!"

"Huh? I guess I just don't understand that kind of talk." Chip looked puzzled.

"That's O.K., and I am not sure I can explain it very well, but," he paused thoughtfully, "well, it's like being on a great ball team."

"Hey!" breathed Chip with relief, "Now you're talking!"

"Right!" Mugs continued, "Only God runs this team and makes all the rules. He ruled that you have to have a perfect record to be on His team. You have to bat a thousand!"

"Ah, c'mon, Mugs!" Chip shrugged. "Nobody is perfect! Nobody bats a thousand!"

"I know. Nobody is perfect. The Bible says, 'All have sinned and come short of the glory of god.' (Romans 3:23). 'There is none righteous.' (Romans 3:10). Yet God says that no one can enter Heaven with any sin. 'And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, or whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie; but they that are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.' (Revelation 20:27). See? You have to get on God's roster."

"Well, you surely have me stumped!" puzzled Chip. "I mean, I just 'joined' our ball team. Is that what you mean?"

"Nope! Being saved is not like joining a ball team or a church, or signing a decision card, or being baptized. Being saved is realizing that you are a sinner, confessing that to God, and turning from your sin to the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 He died to pay for your sins. 'batted a thousand!' He is perfect, so when you accept Him as your Savior, He forgives your sins and blots them all out. 2 He covers your bad, sinful record with His pure, perfect one. Then when God looks at your record, He sees it perfect in Christ - no blots, no sins, no errors!"

Chip could hardly take it all in, but as the boys walked their bikes through the park toward home they talked together. Mugsy prayed that God would help him know what to say.

After a spell of silence, Chip spoke abruptly. "But I don't see what all that has to do with what I asked you — what makes you different from the other guys?"

"Well," Mugs answered quietly, "When you accept Christ as Savior, He changes your life. The Holy Spirit lives within to help you do right. You learn to play the game of life God's way instead of your's."

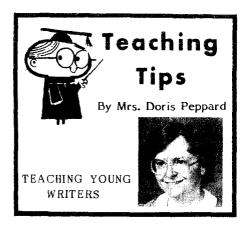
"That's some ball game!" Chip mused.

"Yes, sir! Then after you join God's team by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, it is like running the bases."

"You're kidding!" Chip wondered how far this would go.

"Yes! I mean, no, I'm not kidding," Mugsy fumbled. He stopped his bike, picked up a stick and sketched a baseball diamond on the ground. "See, it's like this. If you have joined God's team, you

SEE DAZE, PAGE 7



Good authors are not born; they are developed by practice, perseverance, and instruction. Throughout the elementary years, students should be exposed to good examples of written poetry, short stories, and novels. Teachers must make these examples useful to their children. We cannot simply assign the task, "Write about your family," "Tell what you did last summer," or "Describe how to wash a dog." We must have well-written examples and teach our children the principles of writing.

Children should be taught to write using correct grammar and punctuation. The assignment should be kept short while the mechanics are being taught. The composition should be simple and follow the examples in the basal reader or a book the teacher may read orally to the class. Some well-known examples are:

- 1. Fairy tales humorous stories that solve a problem.
- 2. Aesop's fables. Give students a "moral" and let them write an animal story illustrating it.
- 3. Mother Goose rhymes
- 4. Personal experiences

Third and fourth graders need to learn how to express their ideas on paper. This task becomes easier if students are given clear procedures, lists, and outlines to follow. Proof reading skills should be emphasized in building grammar and punctuation skills. Students should use a dictionary to correct spelling errors. Guidance should be on "order" in these grades.

By the fifth and sixth grades children are capable of doing some research work. They need to be taught to use reference books and footnotes. These children need to learn to answer the when, where, and why questions to solve problems about which they will write.

One of the main reasons children do not enjoy writing compositions is that teachers often do not spend enough time in preparation and grading. It is our fault if our students have not learned how to write. The following ideas may be helpful in teaching composition in your classroom:

- 1. Develop an idea that is <u>interesting</u>. This takes time!
- 2. Write a composition to use as an example.
- 3. Introduce the idea to the class.
- 4. Read your composition aloud.
- 5. Take a five-minute "Think break." Students may not do anything but think and jot down ideas about which to write.
- 6. Check ideas and give encouragement.
- 7. Help those without ideas. At first they may need to mimic your ideas.
- 8. Assign the composition.
- 9. Teacher reads the composition and passes it back to student with

suggestions to make composition:

- a. Concise
- b. Clear
- c. Logical
- d. Correct in grammar and punctuation
- 10. Students proofread to correct mistakes and rewrite in pencil.
- 11. Teacher grades. (Be Hard! Don't accept anything less than first quality.)
- 12. Student rewrites final copy, making any changes for improvement that may be necessary.
- 13. Teacher grades. Note improvements in red.
- 14. Keep these compositions in a notebook for Parent-Teacher Weeting. Parents will be pleased to see how much effort you put forth to help their child.

An enthusiastic teacher will inspire enthusiasm in his/her pupils. Your class stories will be fun to write and a treasure the parents will want to save. As the teacher, you may work twice as much as your pupils to develop their writing skills, but the results will be worth it!

Aunt Carolyn's CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

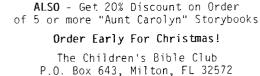


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DECEPTION, FROM PAGE 1

in a masterpiece of deception, which will terminate in "THE" (definite article in the original Greek) LIE" (2 Thessalonians 2:11), palmed off on mankind by "THE (definite article again) LIAR," (John 8:44).

We now come to verse eight of Second Timothy three: "Now Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth." The persons to whom the apostle refers as "these" who in the last days "resist the truth" are the "men" of verse two, and those "of this sort" in verse six. This is one of the most astonishing, as well as one of the most solemn revelations in the entire Word of God. It is a most singular warning to all those who have any desire at all to "escape those things that shall come to pass" (Luke 21:36), very shortly, and to "stand before the Son of Wan." As for those who shall be caught in Satan's net of deception, "they shall NOT ESCAPE," (I Thessalonians 5:3). My reader should acquaint himself with the MANNER of "escape," if he has not already done so (I Thessalonians 4:13-18).

What is the Jannes and Jambres story? Let us go back to Exodus 7:9-11. In accordance with His own prescribed regulation that, "In the mouth of two or three witnesses, every word shall be established," Jehovah sent Moses and Aaron into the court of Pharaoh, with an ultimatum: "Let my people go!" Pharaoh, in this cupidity, saw in those Hebrew people only valuable chattels with which to enrich his coffers. He was prepared to resist Jehovah's demand. Asking for the credentials of these two witnesses, Aaron proudly produced them. He converted the shepherd's rod into a serpent. That was a miracle and should not a miracle be sufficient attestation to the truth to prove its authenticity? It was a demonstration of the supernatural, and of course it was divine. Miracles always prove the reality of supernatural power.

At this point the unexpected and unbelievable happened. Pharoah calls for his two witnesses and into the This court step the two magicians. story was written 1500 years before Christ. Like all Old Testament stories this was written for us, "upon whom the ends of the ages has come," for our admonition (I Corinthians 10, 11, & Romans 15:4), and therefore the names of these two magicians have been withheld until the Holy Spirit inspired Paul to make the moral application in Timothy, so that we might be aware of what is going on around us today. Jannes and Jambres could also demonstrate the supernatural, and they too performed the same miracle. If Aaron, with his rod, could demonstrate the supernatural as a sign that Israel should be emancipated from her slavery and taken out of the land, Jannes and Jambres could perform the same supernatural demonstration as a proof that they should be kept in the land. Notice the baneful result: "Pharaoh's heart was hardened." (Exodus 7:22).

This story furnished us with a basis for a clear understanding of the satanic strategy of the endtime, a program of deception which will become more artful as the days go by, coming to its perfection in the tribulation when it will become so artful as to deceive if possible "the very elect" of Israel. (Matthew 24:24). What happened in the court of Pharaoh is becoming more and more the pattern of deception in our churches today in America.

Here we are face to face with a fact generally overlooked today, and that is in itself significant, for it is the intention of the evil one. (and we have seen that he is equal to it), to conceal his method of operation and the degree of his success. The fact herein set forth is the reality of two spheres of supernaturalism operating in the world today, and manifesting itself in the church. One is divine, the other is diabolical. It is the common belief that the performance of a miracle proves an operation of the Spirit of God, that it must be divine. Nothing could be farther from the truth as revealed in the Word of God. Satan's method has always been to duplicate the miracles of God and to IMITATE the work that God is doing in the earth. Therefore if God's servants can preach the gospel, so can the devil's servants preach the gospel; if God's servants can pray and cast out demons, so can the devil's servants cast out demons, and that too IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS;

C.H. Mackintosh on Parenting

"The Christian parent may ask, 'What am I to teach my child?'
The answer is simple. Teach him only things as will prove useful to him as a servant of Christ."

-Taken from a footnote on pg. 506 of The Mackintosh Treasury.

if the servants of God can do "many wonderful works" so can the devil's children do many wonderful works.

Let us read Matthew 7:21-23: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say unto me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied (PREACHED) IN THY NAME, and in Thy name have cast out demons and in Thy name done MANY WONDERFUL WORKS? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

Here is a startling revelation. we have a company of audacious folk who presume to be followers of the Lord Jesus. They have all the phraseology of the Christian faith upon their lips. They can pronounce the shibboleths correctly. have had these shibboleths placed on their lips when small children. They profess to be fundamentalists, and all they do is "in the name of Jesus" (notice that three times we have "IN THY NAME"). However, these people are so taken over by the devil as to be unaware of the unreality of their profession. As the devil's dupes they express great surprise when doors of heaven above are closed against them. Like Eve of old, they have been "thoroughly deceived."

Notice that in this group preachers who could preach were the gospel. "We have prophesied in thy name" they say. This means to preach the gospel. There was a time the writer believed that one could not preach the gospel if one was not saved. Then one day he discovered in the gospel of Mark, that the only men who knew the truth about Jesus and who were not afraid to proclaim the truth, were demon possessed men. There was a time when these were the only fundamentalists. professing Thev said, "We know thee who thou art. the Holy One of God." (Mark 1:24, 3:11).

E.M. Bounds once wrote: "When truth has once been promulgated, the after history of that truth does not necessarily prove an operation of the Spirit of God." And why? Because, too often, the devil has been known to take those very truths and use them as a smoke screen behind which he does his most deadly work. Paul says, "The letter killeth," (2 Cor. 3:6), and if the devil knows that the truth can be used to kill spiritual life, will he not take advantage of it? Indeed he already has done so.

-CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE-



By Rev. Tod Brainard

NEW AGE: THE MORAL DILEMMA AND DECEPTION

Genesis 3:1-7

"Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."

As we bring to a conclusion our study of the New Age, we understand, of course, that there is nothing new about it. It has been my prayer that Christians will be awakened and alerted to the dangers of this movement. The New Age movement, in my opinion, is nothing more than an attitude that centers and focuses upon self. Satan came to Eve with a message of selfesteem and Eve's listening ear led to a process of wicked thinking.

Genesis 3:6 "...the woman saw.... that it was pleasant... to be desired...she took...and gave to her husband...and he did eat." And so shall it ever be to those who listen to a voice other than God'.

centered. "Christian" Self-esteem psychology has brought New Age theology into the church. Satan has planted the tares of "self-esteem" and what a crop he has to show for it. The local churches across the globe are full of deceived individuals who profess to have the "saving knowledge" but who only possess a "self-knowledge." As Paul wrote to Timothy in II Timothy 3:2 concerning the local church in the perilous last days, "men shall be lovers of their own selves..." This I believe is more prevalent in our churches than most dare to admit.

The Moral Dilemma

Moral Relativism is the concept that man can do whatever seems good to him based upon his own finite reasoning and feeling. Methods and means are of no consequence, the end result is all that matters. the New Age, morality is of no importance to their idea of a proper world view. There is no right or wrong behavior in their thinking, therefore, pragmatism is the word. This thinking is a direct frontal attack upon the authority of God and His Word. Moral Relativism leads an individual to reason that since "all is God" (Pantheism) then God is both evil and good! 1 This is why a New Age guru Bhagwan Shree Raineesh has stated, "I don't believe in morality... and I am bent on destroying it." 2

What concerns the believer as he faces this issue relates not to how predominate this thinking lies within the minds of the people of this world, but rather, how predominate is this thinking in the minds of people in the local church.

It is my belief that two aspects of moral relativism have infiltrated the evangelical and fundamental church.

First, many professed believers discern right and wrong on a very subjective basis, not according to the inspired Word of God. Convenience and expediency come before the clear teaching of the Bible. Clear illustrations of this are found in the child rearing methods used by the average church goer. A "Christian" psychologist's books are read and digested to find "how to raise children" and God's Word is used only as a reference. Music standards are based upon personal taste, rather than Biblical revelation; on and on the list goes...

Secondly, professed believers behave as if they were totally in charge of their lives and that they must determine their own personal destiny. The profit, success oriented lifestyle is prevalent in the local church. The drive to be financially secure and vet also serve God is a dichotomy foreign to the Scriptures yet found in the average church. question is one of authority. Biblical truths dictate that a life redeemed by the blood of Christ is a life placed under the authority of God and His Word. Yes, Moral Relativism, a key tenet in the theology of the New Age is alive and well, I believe, in the evangelical churches of America.

Duplication of Religious Experience

The duplication of religious experience is Satan's hallmark. (Read II Thes. 2:9, II Tim. 3:8). Remember Lucifer was expelled from heaven along with a third of the angels because he declared himself to be "like the most high God." (Isaiah 14:14).

As Lutzer and DeVries state in their book on the New Age, "Satan wants humans to encounter him and think they are in touch with the living God." Satan is an imitator of God! If Corinthians 11:14-15:

"And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."

"Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

The Viaster of deception is working his lawlessness not just in the world, but also in our churches deceiving by imitating spiritual experiences. We must never let experience be our assurance of God's work, for experience is Satan's magic tool of deception. God's Word coupled with and empowered by the Holy Spirit is our assurance. May we understand this work of Satan and the "mystery of iniquity" that is at work today. The New Age is the old lie clothed with the garment of deceit.

1 Erwin W. Lutzer and John F. Devries, Satan's Evangelical Strategy for this New Age; Wheaton, IL. Victor Books, 1989, p. 90

²Ibid. p. 91

 3 Ibid. p. 100

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DAZE, FROM PAGE 3

might say that first base is studying the Word of God. The Bible is God's Official Rule Book. You ask the Holy Spirit to teach you God's rules, so you understand what God wants you to do."

"Say, that's great," Chip responded. "It would not be hard to be a Christian if you knew what you were supposed to do."

Mugsy continued. "And then you go on to second base. You pray every day. You talk to God. Tell Him your problems and needs; ask His help and advise.

"Well, it would not be bad to be a Christian if you knew you would have God's help to do right." Chip scratched his head... "But what about third base?"

Mugs thoughtfully followed the base line with his stick to third base on his dirt diagram.

"As you learn to know and love the Lord through His Word and prayer, you will want to tell others about Him. You are His witness. As you run the bases in the Christian life, you may not always run just as the Coach said in the Rule Book, but He does not kick you off the team. 3 He may bench you for a while or in some other way show you that you cannot play by your own rules. He will help you, but no matter on what base or where you are on the field, the main thing is to keep your eyes on your Coach, the Lord Jesus Christ. Pay attention to Him, not on the action or the crowd around you, and surely not on the opposing team's coach. The devil will do all he can to distract and destroy you. Jesus will keep you in His way if you will keep your eyes on Him. Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith'." (Hebrews 12:2).

Mugsy was quiet a minute, then he said, "Then someday, in God's time, you can go on to Home Base, and be with Him forever in Heaven. And all that is offered through faith in Jesus Christ.

Onip pushed his bike in silence a while, then mumbled, "That sounds like a mighty big contract God offers, but it surely sounds like a good one!"

"It is, Chip, it is! Mugsy agreed, "And you can sign on today if you would want to."

two bikes were parked Soon

against a tree in the park, and the boys were standing with their heads bowed as Chip confessed his sin to God and accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior.

When they opened their eyes and looked up, the boys gave each Sudother a questioning glance. denly a huge smile broke across each face, and they gave each other a "high five!"

"Wow!" Chip exclaimed. "How do you like that, Mugsy? Now I am on God's team!"

"Wow!" Mugsy replied. He hardly knew what to say. Winning the ball game was great, but seeing his friend accept Christ was a heap better! The day that he had dreaded so badly had turned out to be one of the best days of his life! Thrilled, Mugsy poked his tongue into his bubble gum and with a perfect puff, produced a giant bubble about as big Mammoth Cave!

The boys leaped on their bikes and dashed for home. They would tell Mom! They would tell Buzz and Steve! Oh, who knew who all they would tell? But first they would find the cookie jar and a quart of milk! This was a day worth celebrating!

And it will be a day worth celebrating for you, too, if you will receive Christ as your Savior. Like Mugsy and Chip, you are a sinner by birth and by action. You need to be saved, but you cannot save yourself. Only Jesus Christ can save you. "Believe on the

Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." (Acts 16:31). Come to Christ today. "Now is the time; behold, now is the day of salvation." (II Corinthians 6:3b).

- (1) I John 1:9; Romans 10:9.
- (2) Isaiah 44:22.
- (3) John 6:37; John 10:28.

SHOULD CHRISTIANS JOIN OPERATION RESCUE?

We oppose police brutality against Operation Rescue abortion clinic protesters, and are glad for the abortions they have prevented. are troubled, however, at the strong stress on churches working together ecumenically (Catholics, charismatics, and evangelicals) in this and calling it "revival." (see 9/16 CT., pg. 44, Focus on the Family Citizen, etc.) Half the crowds in Wichita have been Catholic, and half Protestant, all are getting along, and the "Catholics usually say their rosaries at the demonstrations" (9/2 Chr. News). We denounce the hypocrisy of liberals (e.g., the ACLU, the liberal N.O.W. gang, and Wichita's Catholic Judge Kelly) who defend the civil disobedience of civil rights workers but who impose a different code for O.R. But we don't believe in trying to force an ungodly society to live by Christian standards. We thus disagree with Christian Reconstructionism and "dominion theology." A Christian may rightly break a law only when obedience to government contradicts obedience to God, e.g. Acts 5:29.

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SEPARATIST, FROM PAGE 2

In verses 9-14 the Levites are discussed. These priests are the descendants of the compromisers in Israel's history who led the people into idol worship. Verses 13-14 describe the limitation of their service in the millennial temple and why:

"And they shall not come near unto me, to do the office of a priest unto me, nor to come near to any of my holy things, in the most holy place: but they shall bear their shame, and their abominations which they have committed. But I will make them keepers of the charge of the house, for all the service thereof, and for all that shall be done therein."

Earlier in the book of Ezekiel the failure of the Levitical priests to be the proper spiritual leaders of the people was specifically identified. Read carefully Ezekiel 22:26:

"Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them."

THE PRIVILEGE OF ZADOK

Beginning in verse 15 another group of priests is identified. These are the descendants of Zadok. Zadok was a faithful Old Testament priest who remained true to God and His Word when priests all around him were compromising. In II Samuel 15:24ff Zadok's loyalty to David during the time of Absalom's rebellion was noted. In I Kings 1:32-35 we find Zadok being loyal to Solomon and anointing him king when other priests were demonstrating their disloyalty to God's chosen leader. God honors the separatist position and actions of Zadok by allowing his descendants the privilege of ministering in the millennial temple with full access to the very presence of God.

God will put priests as ministers in the millennial temple who have established themselves as separatists. They will be given the privilege of teaching others the difference between the clean and the unclean - between what pleases and honors the Lord and what profanes His holy Name (Ezekiel 44:23).

"And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean."

Faithfulness to God now will reap eternal rewards of responsibility. It does matter how we live as Christians now. We have the great opportunity of demonstrating our loyalty to God and His Word when men are compromising on every hand. We can prove ourselves to be separatists when there is great pressure not to be.

THREE REASONS TO BE A SEPARATIST

First, I am a separatist because I want to be a clean vessel for Jesus Christ.

He is the only One I am serving. He is the only One I want to please. What He thinks and what matters to Him are alone important. I don't want the dirt of compromise on my hands or in my heart.

Purity must be a priority for the separatist. Being clean is the destiny of the child of God. In the Book of Revelation we read:

"And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." Rev. 19:8

"And the armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean." Rev. 19:14

I am a separatist because I want to be clean for Christ. This is my destiny later. It needs to be a reality now.

Secondly, I am a separatist because I want the blessing of God on my life and ministry more than anything else in the whole world.

I am not driven by success. I lose no sleep over the size of Sunday's crowd. I do not count baptisms. I'm not concerned whom I know or who knows me.

The one thing I want for Calvary Bible Church is for us to be in the place where God can bless and use us. The blessing of God is not always determined by things we regard as good. If God can do with us what He wants to do and accomplish His purpose through us, then all is well.

Disobedience and compromise will cost me and our church the blessing of God. That is too great a price to pay. I am a separatist because I want the blessing of God on my life

and ministry.

Thirdly, I am a separatist because I want the privilege and responsibility of serving God in eternity.

How we live now and how faithful we are to His Word matters a great deal for all eternity. I am convinced that much of our reward at the Judgment Seat of Christ will have to do with responsibility of service in the millennium and then on into eternity. We must not waste our opportunity to prove ourselves faithful to God when there is compromise and conformity all around us.

I love fellowship with the Lord. I love serving the Lord. I love being a clean vessel by the grace of God. I am looking forward to those white, clean, linen garments which will adorn us after our sanctification is complete. I want a full and rewarding future in eternity. That is why I am a separatist today.

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