



Victory Seekers Update

A news update of Victory Seekers Ministries
Feb. 2008 Published Quarterly by Walt and Jill Hartwich

No. 19

DOCTRINE, LOVE, OR BOTH

Question: Which one word of the above title has to do with the correct interpretation of Scripture?

Some say that doctrine is fine but hold to magnifying the “love” of God above everything else even at the expense of solid doctrine, while others push the doctrine to an extent that borders on legalism, and for the most part, consider not the “love” that God is. (**I John 4: 16**)

It should come as no surprise to the student of the Bible that eliminating “doctrine”, or what the Bible actually says, has been going on since Eden where Satan questioned Eve, “...**Yea, hath God really said,...**”? (**Gen. 3:1**)

The notion that the love of God is more important than doctrine is the perfect element with which to ensnare all who’ve been prepped over the last 25 or so years with the health/wealth/feel good messages emanating from the pulpits of America’s most beloved televangelists.

While all this was going on, the truth of why there actually is a “salvation” and just what exactly we are saved from has slowly slipped into obscurity.

This downward spiraling of the true faith has been documented for some years and is born out by the fact that *70% of mainline denominational preachers deny the virgin birth, the creation account, the resurrection, etc.* which resulted in over 70% of professing Christians that make up their congregations world wide also denying these basic Biblical truths.

I don’t know about you, but the Bible is very clear. Believing the gospel is the only way to substantiate the true Jesus from all the false ones being offered today.

If all a person is asked to do is “come to Christ” or to “just receive Jesus” or to “give it up to God” or, my favorite, “just believe” without having actually been taught the gospel, which is the good news that declares that while we were sinners, already destined to hell, God came to live on earth in order to bear the cross in our stead, then that person has the wrong Jesus.

We must bear in mind that since the gospel has been replaced with messages that tickle our ears in the majority of churches **THE JESUS** has also been maligned.

The only way to persuade men to be saved is through the gospel. **Ephesians 1:13 states “In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise”**

The word ‘gospel’ means ‘good news’. Good news about what? Good news about the fact that God gave all of humanity a way out of their dilemma, which is, being already condemned to the Lake of Fire forever.

Paul the Apostle tells us, “**For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believes: to the Jew first, and also to the Greek**”. (Romans 1: 16) The thing believed here is the gospel.

I Corinthians 15:1-4 gives us a clear definition of what the gospel actually consists of when it states, “**Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also you have received, and wherein ye stand; by which also ye are saved, if you keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received,**

how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; and that He was buried and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures:...”

The Gospel



The above Holy Writ is what has to be believed to be saved. This is why we are commanded by Christ in **Mark 16:15** to “**...preach the gospel to every creature...**”.

It is clear that only God could be the Savior as per **Isaiah 43:11; 45:21**, etc. and that means that Jesus has to be God. Jesus in Hebrew is Yeshu’a which is a contraction of Yehoshu’a, which is Hebrew for Jehovah saves. (**Isaiah 9:6; 45:15; Titus 1:3, 4**) Jesus told the Pharisees that they would die in their sins if they believed not that **He** is the “**I AM**”. (**John 8:24; Exodus 3:14**)

The jailer who asked Paul: “**What must I do to be saved?**” was told to “**believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.**” (**Acts 16:30, 31**) Again, belief is based on the real Jesus who fulfilled the Scriptures as mentioned earlier. Again, “**whosoever believes in Him will not perish but has eternal life.**” (**John 3:16**)

As Dave Hunt points out, “**It is the gospel alone that saves those who believe it. Nothing else will save. Therefore we must preach the gospel.**” (Dave Hunt, The Nonnegotiable Gospel, TBC 1998, 2006; p.9)

Paul the Apostle, also, said, “**...yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!**” (**I Corinthians 9:16**) It is also interesting that the gospel doesn’t have even a hint of water baptism, dress, tithing, diet, church membership, etc. We see that it doesn’t require works, but faith. The gospel must simply be believed: “**the gospel of Christ is the power unto salvation for everyone that believes.**” (**Romans 1: 16**) This Scripture flies in the face of those who just want to “believe” to be saved.

Saving faith, or healing faith, or any other faith that’s biblical is always directed toward God. The faith or trust is **in Him** and **what He did** and what He did was, He came to earth to live as a man while remaining fully God, He died on the cross of Calvary to pay for our sins according to **His** justice, He was buried and rose again on the third day according to the Scriptures and He’s coming again to punish an extremely wicked world after which He will set up His Kingdom to rule and reign on earth for 1000 years.

This Kingdom rule of Christ fulfills the prophecies concerning Israel’s dominance over the nations of the earth, a position she was predestined to hold, but never did in all of earth’s history.

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HELP WANTED: Someone to donate their time to develop a website for Victory Seekers Ministries.

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Walt's book, **Condemned to Hell, Why Intelligent Men Believe and Follow Doctrines of Demons**, was published in 2002. *We are sold out!* Anyone wanting a copy will have to purchase it through www.amazon.com, or you may order it thru your local bookstore. A recent review of the status thru Amazon.com showed a review and rating as follows:

★★★★★ **Condemned To Hell**, December 2, 2002

By **A Customer**

The world always has questions about what happens after you die. This book answers those questions with reliable proof and allows you to see with your own eyes the importance of making the right decisions now about who you will serve. It also educates you on what different religions believe. Ultimately life comes down to one question. Will you follow Jesus, who is truth and life? Or will you follow Satan who brings you to death and destruction. This book is very informative, even if you have already made that decision. Everyone needs to know this information.

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Letters from our readers:

5-04 "Dear Walt: I like receiving your newsletter. Thanks. Here's a check please send me your book." S.M.- Arizona

2-05 "Dear Walt & Jill: Thank you so much for the Newsletter! Sooo much to learn and I rejoice in the soon coming of Our Lord Jesus! We pray for you and your ministry. Hope to see you again one day soon at the dig!" O.W. – Florida

5-07 "As far as your newsletters go I don't think I had received any of the ones you mentioned in your email. Believe it or not I do read them when they come through ☺. If you like, you may send them to me." M.L. -Germany

12-10-07 "Thanks Jill, for sending your newsletter. I look forward to receiving more from you!!" D.L. - NYC

12-12-07 "Dear Walt & Jill, Thank you for continuing to include me on the e-mailing list for your newsletter. I really enjoyed reading this November edition!" THANK YOU! A.T. - Indiana

12-15-07 “Hi Jill: Hope all is well with you and Walt. In good conscience, we feel we must ask you to take our name off your mailing list for the Victory Seekers Update. We do not agree with the ideas expressed in your publication and find them to be intolerant of differing and very legitimate viewpoints and beliefs. Have a happy holiday and good luck in 2008.” B. & B. H. - Connecticut

1-17-08 “Walt & Jill: Thanks for all you do for the Kingdom! We pray God will continue to bless and grow you.” P. & P. Indiana

1-29-08 “Dear Walt: I attended Harvest Chapel for the last 2 years and had received your Victory Seekers newsletter for the majority of that time. I am currently serving time in the County Jail and am writing this letter to ask you if it would be possible for you to continue to keep me on the mailing list for your newsletters and possibly receive the last 2 issues that I have missed.” Thank you for your time. In Christ, D.B. – Indiana

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Q and A

Walt: Do you see the Islamic nations as playing a role in prophecy? D.W.B.

D.W.B.: I did not see the program you mentioned, but the answer to your question is a *resounding yes*.

Ezekiel 38:1-6 lists some nations the majority of which today are under Islamic rule. Ezekiel mentions Magog which many interpret to mean Central Asia with approximately 60 million Muslims.

Beth-togarmah/Gomer is Turkey, Put is Libya, Persia is Iran, Cush/Ethiopia is Sudan. It is important to realize, however, that while Arabs live all over the world, not all Muslims are Arabs and not all Arabs are Muslims.

Muslim controlled nations are made up of Jordanians, Egyptians, Sudanese, Syrians, Lebanese, Turkish, Indonesian, etc. as well as Arabs.

RETRACTING ON PASTOR JOHN HAGEE

In Victory Seekers Update issue # 17 dated September, 2007, I responded to a question about the “dual covenant” teaching and the position of that teaching held by popular televangelist Pastor John Hagee.

In my response I correctly stated that, although having heard, I was not personally aware of Pastor Hagee’s beliefs on the subject. I have read several of his books and articles, as well as heard him preach a number of years, but not until he recently let the *cat out of the bag* by making obvious claims to dualism for Israel, as well as several other unbiblical remarks, in his latest book IN DEFENSE OF ISRAEL did I know for sure that he indeed takes the heretical view of dualism as it relates to Israel.

Some of the statements he makes are:

- “Jesus was to be a light to the gentiles”-- not the Jews (p. 133)
- “the message of the gospel was *from* Israel not *to* Israel” (p. 134)

- “had Jesus permitted himself to become the reigning Messiah to the Jews, he would have missed the sovereign will of God for his life” (p. 134)
- “it was not the Father’s will, nor his, to be Messiah” (p. 138)
- “The Jews were not rejecting Jesus as Messiah; it was Jesus who was refusing to be the Messiah of the Jews” (p. 140)

From a man who was for many years a “soul stirring” preacher this is a real disappointment. We need to pray that he would reject such obvious heresies and get back to the Truth of Scripture.

I suspected his downfall when he taught the “gap” hypothesis which only exists to accommodate the long eons of time needed to push the lie of evolution. Too bad!

Changing the Word of God is not the way to get anywhere that’s worth going!

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Calvary Chapel Bible College - Indianapolis – Fall 2007 classes for CCBCI began in August.

Walt is teaching Eschatology (End Times).

For more information regarding Calvary Chapel Bible College go online at www.ccpci.org or contact Richard Day at 317-823-2349.

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Sacred Grounds Coffee House, Lafayette – Check out their website at www.sgcoffeeshop.com.

A River Flows, Attica - A new coffee house located in downtown Attica is open on Friday and Saturday nights with a Bible study held at 4:00 pm on Saturdays. *A River Flows* is also holding Sunday morning church services.

Logansport – A Bible study is being held in Logansport as well.

Both Attica and Logansport are outreaches through Harvest Chapel, Lafayette.

97.3 FM and 97.7 FM – sources for sound Biblical teaching and contemporary music.

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Saturday Night Bible Study – Our current Bible study began in January and we have changed to Monday evening. Our topic is **Eschatology (End Times)**. For more information call 765-474-7490 or email us at jw.hartwich@gmail.com.

We solicit your prayers for our ministry that we will continue with boldness as we present the truth, no matter what; and that **we** will not be deceived as **no one** is immune.

If you would like for Walt to speak at your church or group or if you have questions regarding anything you’ve read in our newsletters or any biblical subject, you may send your requests via mail, email or call.

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If you wish to add someone or be deleted from this mailing list, respond by mail or email.

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Return Service Requested

Victory Seekers Ministries is based on the scriptures **Ephesians 5:11** “have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.” and **Colossians 2:4, 8-10** “lest any man should beguile you with enticing words...beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power”.