



# CELEBRATING 16 YEARS OF MINISTRY

# Reachout Quarterly

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*Reachout Trust is an international Christian ministry that upholds biblical truth and builds bridges to people in the cults, occult and new age. We aim to:*

*Examine in the light of the Christian gospel the beliefs and spirituality of people within the cults, occult, new age and all not upholding biblical truth.*

*Train and equip Christians to explain the Christian gospel in a relevant way.*

*Provide a complete service of counselling and help to all enquirers.*

*Present the Christian gospel.*

*Work with organisations who will help achieve these aims.*

**A detailed information pack that shows how you can be involved in this ministry is available from head office.**

*All unassigned articles are the responsibility of Doug Harris, Director of Reachout Trust.*

*Other articles may not necessarily represent the Trustees' belief in every small detail.*

*Requests to reprint articles, in any form, must be made in writing to the Richmond Office.*

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## Under Foreign Occupation

Everyone seems to be looking to the heavens these days. If its not trying to see the 'little green men' on Mars, its wondering if the tall dark one is forecast in the daily horoscope. However lately there is also the revived interest in aliens and UFO's. It seems to me that this whole field will become more of a problem to many in the months and years to come.

Is there any harm in what appears to be an innocent practise? I believe there are two main dangers in this whole realm of UFO's and both are excellent reasons for Christians not to be involved and for also sounding a suitable alarm.

First, the majority of people are not looking for aliens in the hope of preaching the gospel to them, the belief is that they are more intelligent than we are and can help us in our plight. In other words aliens will not lead people to thinking about God but will be a substitute for God. Second there is clear evidence that many that are caught up

with the UFO phenomenon are also getting themselves involved in Occult practices of one degree or another, hence the title of the article. You only have to see the subject matter of the *X Files* and other such programmes to understand where this involvement can lead.

Ufology may seem an innocent practice and I am sure that there are many involved who genuinely see it in this way however as Satan comes as an angel of light we know that he will blind many to the truth of what is happening.

On a slightly different subject, those who live in the North of England, looking towards the heavens recently, may have be forgiven for thinking that aliens had come to earth. Actually it was only 'Angel Moroni' taking his place on top of the spire of the Mormon Temple in Chorley. It received much publicity in the local press and of course many feel that Mormons are Christian. The tragedy is though, that the Angel Moroni is the symbol of a false religion that has captured thousands of people.

We recently sent out a press release concerning Mike and Ann Thomas' great new book *Mormonism A Gold Plated Religion*. Two local radio stations wanted us to go on and talk about Mormonism and both invited the Mormons but they would not come. We have since heard that the Mormon church has sent around an official document to all Mormon bishops stating that although they want to be able to 'use' the media for good publicity they consider groups such as ourselves as parasites. In other words we live off of them and without them we would not exist.

There is of course some truth in that because if there were no cults, occult or new age we would not have to exist. All the Mormons need do of course is to show clearly that their teachings are Christian and the clear evidence that Mike and Ann bring out in their book of non-Christian belief is not true. Maybe they realise that they could never do that and so are not willing to be exposed in the media.

Do make sure you get hold of a copy of *Mormonism A*

*(Continued on page 3)*

### Inside . . .

*Reachout Counsellors? - p.2.*

*Halloween - p.3.*

*Unification Church - p.4.*

*Martial Arts - 2 - p.5.*

*Watch The Tower - p.6.*

*Truth Restored - 12 - p.8.*

*Witnessing to Cults - 2 - p.12.*



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# Why Doesn't Reachout Have Counsellors Anymore?

by Mike Thomas

Anyone who knows us will know that Reachout Trust is organised around the idea of local support. A team of *Area Directors* around the country provides that support and, depending on location and expertise, contacts are referred to these AD's for advice and counselling. It is reassuring to know that you can pick up the phone and find someone 'on the spot' to help with a confused cult member or distressed parent or partner. We insist that all our AD's are active members of the local church, as this provides a relatively easy introduction to the local Christian community for those looking for a new spiritual home. It also opens opportunities for educating Christians in practical methods of witnessing to cult members. From initial contact through to rebirth into the local Christian community it is a simple and effective system and works well most of the time.

Like many organisations whose primary purpose is to 'come alongside', we have sometimes referred to ourselves as counsellors. We are aware, however, that some of our helpers are less than comfortable with the title. We have also observed a growing uneasiness in some churches with what is seen as a faddish preoccupation with 'talking therapies', and a growing fear that these have become a substitute for genuine repentance and Christian renewal.

Under the heading *Counselling - a new religion* a recent *Evangelical Times* report pointed out,

**In 1990 there were seventy-six courses for counsellors; today there are more than 460. It is estimated that 20,000 people are taking part in some form of counselling training, while the number training as Church of England clerics is below 2,000. An estimated two million people now perform 'talking therapies' as part of their work. Such statistics have caused some to make the charge that Christians are moving from the cross to the counselling room. One authority is quoted as saying that counselling in its modern setting is "Christianity with its theology gone."**

In such a climate it is understandable

that some are reluctant to be officially labelled "Counsellor". It appears to be a considerable liability, with all sorts of moral, spiritual, and even legal implications, for folk who simply want to help. It seems good, then, that we should clearly define what we mean when we speak of counselling.

## DEFINITION

A good dictionary definition of counselling is 'advising'. A counsellor is one who gives advice. There are some whose job it is to counsel, offer professional advice, perhaps in legal matters e.g. a barrister. Then there are those in any community who seem to have a gift for coming alongside and, out of concern and from wisdom born of experience, offer timely counsel and encouragement. The church's current preoccupation with counselling training carries with it all the implications of the first definition.

Reachout's counsellors have always fallen into the latter category. We are those who, out of Christian concern, often having experienced the pitfalls of involvement in a cult and subsequent release through faith in Christ, wish to come alongside, advise (counsel), pray with and otherwise help those who are treading the path we have trod. Just as people who have lost loved ones through disease may feel impelled to set up a 'Trust' to further the work of helping others, so we are those whose Trust exists to help others trapped in spiritually abusive systems. Lay people who set up medical trusts do not pretend to be doctors. Reachout AD's do not pretend to be counselling professionals. As far as our experience and knowledge takes us, as God leads, we help. We are often simply a first point of contact leading to more appropriate ministry within the Christian Church and even professional help in a counselling setting.

## PROFESSIONALS

We do not decry the work of people whose role is professional, although

like many, we question the use of counselling as a universal panacea. It is unfortunately true that in many instances troubled people seek counselling before seeking out their pastor, not realising that spiritual problems need spiritual solutions. As a Christian charity whose work involves a good deal of 'counselling' we see it as our responsibility to take advantage of every practical help that advances the Lord's work. In recent years we have successfully included basic counselling training in our programme and we have greatly benefited from such training. There is a difference, however, between learning how to listen, build a working relationship, practice discernment, patiently lead a person to the foot of the cross and seeing therapy as a solution where the only solution is Jesus. There is a difference between training that enables people to more effectively minister God's healing word to the spiritually abused and training that leads to professional status and emphasis on the world's solutions.

We are, then, counsellors in the old fashioned sense of the word. That definition has largely lost its meaning and been replaced by one more closely akin to therapist. Consequently Reachout Trust, not wanting to mislead people as to our role and purpose, no longer has 'Counsellors'. We feel perhaps that people would be more comfortable with the word 'Advisors'. The work goes on, then, and our advisors are ready and willing as always to help where they can. Where they cant - well, we usually know a man who can.

*(end of article)*

(Continued from page 1)

### LEADER

Gold Plated Religion (see enclosed leaflet) and be ready to communicate with the local newspaper etc., as the Mormons seek to continue to 'use' the media.

(end of article)

## HALLOWEEN

We thought it helpful to remind ourselves what Halloween is all about and what we can do.

### TIMES PAST

The celebration of Halloween goes back to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, the god of the dead.

**Central to the festival of Hallowe'en was the celebration of the dead. The Celtic New Year festival was known as the celebration of Samhain, the Lord of the Dead. The eve of November 1st, the day on which the old year died, was a very appropriate time to honour death. - Hallowe'en Treat or Trick, David Porter, 1993, p.24.**

This evening has always been associated with the Devil and his supernatural realms. In Celtic and Anglo-Saxon times it was also the eve of the New Year and bonfires were lit to ward off evil spirits. It was felt that this was a good evening to invoke the Devil's help concerning marriages, health, etc.

David Porter shows that the Druids too

regarded Halloween as a sacred time. He quotes on p.26 of his book from *The Elements of the Druid Tradition* by Philip Carr-Gomm, p.70.

**The Druid rites... were concerned with making contact with the spirits of the departed, who were seen as sources of guidance and inspiration rather than as sources of dread... The dead are honoured and feasted... as living spirits of loved ones and of guardians who hold the root-wisdom of the tribe.**

Many felt that this was also a time when the souls of the dead revisited their homes, therefore the preoccupation with ghosts, demons and the like.

### CEREMONIES

The church wanted to divert thinking away from these pagan ceremonies and so introduced special services for All Hallows Eve and 1 November, All Saints Day. However, this evening is also special to those in Witchcraft or Satanism. Many witches will give testimony as to what happens at Halloween and how much they enjoy it.

It is an evening where, through various means, supernatural power is released. This power is not from God and consequently it is often a night for much evil activity.

### DEVELOPMENT

Today, in some countries, Halloween is a commercial enterprise whereas in others it is hardly celebrated. Whatever the 'outward' signs, witches will be using it to celebrate because of its pagan and occult roots. Wicca, (White Witchcraft) and Satanism are different, consequently celebrations will be different in the various covens.

(Continued on page 10)

## Help!

We need someone living near a major reference library with time to spare.

When I was writing *Awake! to the Watchtower!* I looked at many books in the British Library and copied out many of the quotes. We are constantly being asked now for photocopies of these for research purposes and we do not have them.

Is there anyone willing to try and track down as many of the missing volumes as possible and obtain a photocopy of the relevant quotes? If so

## Doug's Diary

Doug Harris will be involved in training at the following seminars. Others may have also been added since publication. If you are interested in attending please ring Head Office for further details. Those marked \* may have a restricted attendance.

If there is not one near you but you feel that your area would benefit from one, why not talk with us about organising it. Contact Head Office for our information leaflet on seminars.

### OCTOBER

- 1-5 Ireland
- 11 Area Director Day - Suffolk
- 18 Coventry
- 20-22 Manchester Area
- 23-25 MANCHESTER CRE
- 26 West London

### NOVEMBER

- 4 Oasis Youth Pastors \*

- 4 Banstead
- 7-9 Buckingham
- 11 Banstead
- 15-16 Preston
- 17 Blackburn\*
- 17 Warrington
- 18 Banstead
- 21-23 REACHOUT ANNUAL CONVENTION

### DECEMBER

- 6 Barnstable
- 7 Bideford

THE UNIFICATION CHURCH

WHO ARE THEY

Members of the Unification Church are better known as "Moonies" after their founder Rev. Sung Myung Moon. They believe that in 1935, when Moon was just 15, he received a vision of Jesus Christ, and was commissioned to further the building of God's Kingdom on earth. By intense prayer and Bible study he discovered hitherto unknown principles for the basis of God's saving work.

HISTORY

Official church sources say that Moon began his ministry in South Korea in 1945. Rejected he went to Communist-held North Korea where he was arrested, tortured and sent to a concentration camp. Surviving appalling conditions, he was liberated in October 1950. In 1954 in Seoul he founded the first *Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity*.

Other sources show that before his claimed vision he had already dabbled in the occult; searched for the perfect wife via four marriages; received a prison sentence for sex offences, built up a business empire worth millions; and had links with the Korean Central Intelligence Agency and a Japanese organised crime syndicate. On top of this in 1982 Moon was convicted of tax fraud and served a thirteen-month sentence in Danbury's federal penitentiary.

Yet, still over two million have accepted the invitation to embrace his message that *'The Cross is the symbol of defeat of Christianity'*.

TEACHINGS

The basis of all their teaching is dualism. They see male and female, positive and negative, etc., therefore they say the Creator must also contain the + and -. God is both Mother and Father.

OVERVIEW

Moon teaches that Jesus, the second Adam, failed and there was need for a Third Adam, the Messiah, the Lord of the Second Advent. At first Moon did not declare publicly that he was 'The

Messiah', although it was always clear from his writings that he believed it,

**With the fullness of time, God has sent his messenger... Sun Myung Moon... He fought alone against myriads of satanic forces... and finally triumphed over them all. In this way, he came in contact with many saints in paradise and with Jesus, and thus brought into Light all the heavenly secrets... - Divine Principle, p.16.**

In 1992 Moon finally declared publicly that he was the Messiah.

**... Rev. Sun Myung Moon announced in this speech on August 24, 1992, to a distinguished audience of current and former heads of state, scholars, professors and religious leaders, that he and Mrs Moon were the Lord of the Second Coming - the True Parents - the Messiah. - Unification Newsletter, Vol.8, No.1, Jan 1993, p.2.**

CREATION

God's intention was for man and woman to achieve a perfect and mature relationship with God before having children. Adam and Eve fell before perfection resulting in the need for both a physical and spiritual salvation.

JESUS CHRIST

**Jesus, being one body with God, may be called a second God (image of God), but he can by no means be God Himself. - Divine Principle, p.211.**

Christ failed by being killed on the Cross before accomplishing His mission. Jesus should have married someone with a perfect relationship with God, had children and thus produced a building block for the perfect society. The Cross was not God's original plan in fact it was *'a grievous mistake'*.

SALVATION

There were two falls. Eve's sexual relationships with Lucifer caused the spiritual fall and then with spiritually immature Adam which caused the physical fall. Christ accomplished spiritual salvation but not physical. Moon the "third

Adam" will accomplish this by setting up the Perfect Family.

**The cross cannot completely liquidate our original sin... If Jesus had not been crucified... He would have accomplished the providence of salvation... spiritually and physically... Christ must come again on the earth to accomplish the purpose of the providence of the physical... - Divine Principle, pp.142, 147, 148.**

PROPHECY

The idea that Christ failed contradicts Old Testament prophecies, Moonies see it differently.

Jesus could either have become the Lord of glory or the Lord of suffering. The outcome would depend on humanity's response. Moonies conclude that Jesus should have become the Lord of glory not the suffering servant.

SCRIPTURES

Moonies do not use the Bible, but the 536-page *Divine Principle*, written by Moon and first published in 1957. The 'what is to come' [John 16:13] is the *Divine Principle*. There are three ages, the Old Testament using the Old Testament; the New Testament, using the New; and the Completed Testament Age, using the *Divine Principle*.

**It may be displeasing.. especially to Christians, to learn that a new expression of truth must appear. They believe that the Bible... is perfect and absolute in itself. Truth, of course, is unique, eternal, unchangeable, and absolute. The Bible, however, is not the truth itself, but a textbook teaching the truth... - Divine Principle, p.9.**

**Just as the Old Testament words lost their light when Jesus and the Holy Spirit came with new Words... so the New Testament Word... will lose their light when Christ comes with the new Word, in order to fulfil the New Testament Word. - Divine Principle, p.118.**

(Continued on page 10)

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# MARTIAL ARTS

Doug Harris

This is the second part of the article that is an abbreviated form of our new publication, *A Look Into Martial Arts*.

## VARIOUS HARD DISCIPLINES

### KUNG FU

Kung Fu appears to have begun somewhere between 1122-221 BC. A hard Martial Art it emphasises kicking and punching your opponent with both strength and speed. The power is derived from the Ki, or Chi and can be used even to kill an opponent.

It is widely reported that in advanced Kung Fu vital points in the body are targeted and hit with what is known as the 'death touch'. Psychic powers are not unknown to be used either. Whereas the outward physical aspects can be learnt most teachers of Kung Fu will readily admit that it is the inward or 'spiritual' aspects that are important.

### KARATE

Karate was introduced to the West by returning American Forces from Japan and is basically a form of self defence using bare arms. It was developed in Okinawa [Okinawa is an island in the Ryukyu chain which links Japan with China] and China because the Japanese rulers had forbidden the use of weapons. The word literally means "empty hand".

Karate developed in a background and atmosphere of Buddhism and as such is saturated with the philosophy of Zen whether it is spoken about or not. This along with the following quotations about breathing and spirit underline the 'spiritual' problems with Karate.

**Constant exercises are important for limbering up and for strengthening the muscles of the body. Deep-breathing exercises are also useful because exhalation and sudden shouts accompany the directed blows, particularly the final or so-called killing blows. Such breathing and cries help the rhythm of the karate attack, focus more force in each blow or block, and psychologically invigorate a person while disconcerting the oppo-**

**nent. - Microsoft Encarta, 1994.**

**Timing, tactics and spirit, however, are each considered at least as important as physical training - Micropaedia, Vol.6., p.740.**

### AIKIDO

**Aikido was, like judo, derived from jujitsu within the last century. In aikido, an attack is avoided with flowing circular movements. The opponent can then be brought to the ground with painful, immobilizing joint locks. Aikido is, with tai chi chuan, the gentlest martial art and is not practiced as a competitive sport. - Microsoft Encarta, 1994.**

Aikido literally means 'the way of all harmony' and developed out of Ju Jitsu. The harmony that Aikido is striving to achieve is obvious from the name Ai (union) Kido (road). Morihei Uyeshiba its founder is reported to have said that true martial arts "regulate the Ki of the universe."

Larson also reports that,

**Morihei Uyeshiba (O'senei as he is known by devotees) once described a strange psychic/occult visionary experience of seeing rays come down from the sky. "I felt my body growing larger and filling the entire cosmos. While I was exalted by this vision, I acknowledged suddenly I should not want to win: a martial art should be a form of life." Larson, p.303**

### JUDO AND JUTITSU

Ju Jitsu is translated as 'the compliant way'. If a Japanese warrior lost his sword it enabled him to continue fighting and capture any enemy alive.

Judo was founded in 1882 and has been described as Jujitsu minus the killing aspects. Although its practice is to do with balance and leverage there is often an exaltation in training manuals not to try it without meditation too.

**Among latter-day students of that era was a young man named Jigoro Kano. Born in 1860, he studied Jujitsu under**

**several great teachers... The young Kano was forever perplexed by the differing teaching principles of each Jujitsu teacher. It seemed to him that, while each taught a range of techniques, none had grasped the total concept of all Jujitsu, discovered its true essence or what lay behind it all. Searching diligently for a simple underlying principle which was applicable to all techniques, he was eventually able to define the common principle as being the need to maximize the total efficiency of both mental and physical energy in the application of all techniques. - The Judo Handbook, Brian Caffary and Desmond Marwood, 1989, p.11.**

Judo has already been mentioned in a quotation under the Zen heading and there is a discipline called Zen Judo.

**The title of this book indicates that, to me, Zen Judo is not just another sport or pastime: it has become my way of life. To really appreciate and understand any martial art it must permeate your being and become reflected in everything you do. - Zen Judo - a way of life, Brian Bagot, 1989, p.113.**

Here lies one of the dangers of martial arts - they take over the whole person!

## VARIOUS SOFT DISCIPLINES

### TAI CHI CHUAN

As soft arts go this is the ultimate.

**The earliest records of the practice of T'ai Chi date back about 300 years, but it was not formally named until the end of the 18th century, by one Wang Zong Yue. It was brought to Beijing in 1852, from where it spread rapidly throughout China. In the last 100 years many of the faster moves have been taken out, leaving the soft flowing art as we know it today. - Reid, p.17.**

There are a number of claims that the practice of Tai Chi is beneficial for your health. This fact need not be disputed.

*(Continued on page 11)*

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# WATCH THE TOWER

We continue a summary of the WebPages of the *Liberal Elder* that we began in Quarterly 48. The full content of the pages can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.visiworld.com/starter/newlight/home1.html> [apologies for the typographical error in the last issue]. This time we look at the influence of Clayton J. Woodworth on the doctrine of blood.

Clayton J. Woodworth was co-author of *The Finished Mystery* and in 1919 became editor of the *Golden Age* magazine, a forerunner of today's *Awake!* magazine. We are told that a generous description of Woodworth would be 'a crackpot'. He was a supporter of some very strange medical ideas that he regularly recorded in the *Golden Age* for the Bible Students. For instance,

**There is no food that is right food for the morning meal. At breakfast is no time to break a fast. Keep up the daily fast until the noon hour... Drink plenty of water two hours after each meal; drink none just before eating; and a small quantity if any at meal time. Good buttermilk is a health drink at meal times and in between. Do not take a bath until two hours after eating a meal, nor closer than one hour before eating. Drink a full glass of water both before and after the bath. - Golden Age, 9 September 1925, pp.784-785.**

A more serious conclusion was the idea that all medical doctors were the agents of Satan.

**We do well to bear in mind that among the drugs, serums, vaccines, surgical operations, etc., of the medical profession, there is nothing of value save an occasional surgical procedure... Readers of the Golden Age know the unpleasant truth about the clergy; they should also know the truth about the medical profession, which sprang from the same demon worshipping shamans (doctor priests) as did the 'doctors of divinity.' - Golden Age, 5 August 1931, pp.727-728.**

Such an attitude obviously led them to denounce much of what these "demon worshipping" medical doctors undertook.

*The Elder* tells us,

**Disease, they claimed, came from 'wrong vibrations,' and the WTS even marketed a special machine called the Electronic Radio Biola, which claimed to heal patients by sending special 'radio waves'... The claim that the medical profession had descended from 'demon worshipping shamans' becomes quite ironic when we see how this Radio Biola worked: The patient was told to write his or her name on a piece of paper. A tiny piece, only a dot, of this paper with ink was put into the machine. The machine (or rather, the operator) then somehow answered 'yes' and 'no' to questions about the patient's health, reading the 'electronic oscillations' of the patient's organs based on this dot of ink. It was not limited to diagnosis; the machine had even been employed to answer questions about people's life expectancy. If the reader thinks this sounds like a fancy Ouija Board, he is quite correct. One Roy Goodrich, who was such a respected 'Bible Student' that he was allowed to write a warning article in the *Golden Age*, was convinced this machine was a clever spiritistic trap. The WTS leadership disagreed, and Mr. Goodrich found himself disfellowshipped (see *Golden Age*, 22 April 1925, pp.606-7 and 5 March 1930, pp.355-62).**

The Elder goes on to list other strange incidents, "not in an attempt to embarrass the society, but to demonstrate the level of ignorance regarding science and medicine, and to enable ones to grasp the source and origins of the present prohibition on blood."

Through the 1920's one of Woodworth's major gripes was concerning vaccinations. There are many quotations like this one,

**Thinking people would rather have smallpox than vaccination, because the latter sows seeds of syphilis, cancers, eczema, erysipelas, scrofula, consumption, even leprosy and many other loathsome affections. Hence the prac-**

**tice of vaccinations is a crime, an outrage, and a delusion - Golden Age, 5 January 1929, p.502.**

Vaccination was 'a crime' and sometimes likened to a rape' as blood transfusions, maybe today.

*The Elder* states that,

**Woodworth's primary argument against vaccinations seems to have been that this was "animal filth" that would "pollute" humanity. According to the *Golden Age*, vaccinations not only caused all kind of dreadful diseases, including the Spanish Flu, it even retarded the intellect of men and caused moral bankruptcy... We find these same arguments applied to organ transplants and blood transfusions later!**

Blood transfusions themselves were not an issue at this time. It was not until the 1940's that the Society explicitly condemned blood transfusions and then they used the same arguments as they had earlier used to ban vaccinations. The arguments that had been laid down by the eccentric views of Clayton Woodworth.

The Society have now changed their views about vaccinations,

**After consideration of the matter, it does not appear to us to be in violation of the everlasting covenant made with Noah, as set down in Genesis 9:4, nor contrary to God's related commandment at Leviticus 17:10-14. Most certainly it cannot reasonably or Scripturally be argued and proved that, by being vaccinated, the inoculated person is either eating or drinking blood and consuming it as food or receiving a blood transfusion. Vaccination does not bear any relationship to or any likeness to the intermarriage of angelic 'sons of God' with the daughters of men, as described in Genesis 6:1-4. Neither can it be put in the same class as described at Leviticus 18:23, 24, which forbids the mingling of humans with animals. It has nothing to do with sex relations. The Watchtower, 15 December 1952, p.764.**

Despite this admission they still continue to use the same arguments with blood transfusions. The damage has been done.

## CHANGING DATES

Several have questioned the difference, this year, between the date that the Society held their Memorial Meal and the date for the Jewish Passover. Here is the 'official' explanation of the difference direct from the British headquarters of the Watchtower.

**To establish the date for the annual Memorial celebration, the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses uses the following method. On the same basis as calculations made in Bible times, they ascertain first of all the date for the commencement of the month Nisan. This coincides with the new moon nearest to the spring equinox (around March 21). This would be when the new moon could first be seen in Jerusalem and not the astronomical new moon because the first thin sliver of the new moon is not visible until some eighteen to thirty hours after the moment of the astronomical new moon. Having established the date for Nisan 1, we then calculate fourteen days later to give Nisan 14. The modern Jewish calendar sometimes differs in its calculations for two reasons. As mentioned above, the astronomical new moon is used to mark the beginning of a month. Then, the Jews may add their thirteenth intercalary month at a different time than do Jehovah's Witnesses. On such occasions, their Passover date comes later in the month than the Memorial date we use. A further discrepancy arises for modern Jews use Nisan 15 as the date for their celebration of the Passover.**

Now you know!

## ALL CHANGE

Surely one of the worse things about the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society is the way they abuse the trust of its members. Claiming to be God's sole organisation they convince them not to check up what they are teaching. Many times this leads to the writers knowingly misquoting publications or altering facts to suit themselves as the situation demands. First an example of misquoting their founder.

**Based on what he said, along with the words of Daniel and John, Jehovah's**

**Witnesses pointed to the year 1914, decades in advance, \* as marking the start of "the conclusion of the system of things."**

**\* See, for example, the *Bible Examiner*, Vol. XXI, No.1 (Whole No. 313), October 1876, pages 27,28. - *Awake!*, 22 January 1973, p.8 (including footnote).**

But what do we see when we check this article. Please note carefully the words we have underlined below compared with the key word 'start' in the above quote.

**"Times of Gentiles," and "Treading of Jerusalem," are parallel periods, commencing at the same time and ending at the same time; and, as in the case of Israel, their degradation was to be for seven times, so with the dominion of the Image; it lasts seven times... in Revelations we learn that three and one-half times, 42 months, and 1260 prophetic days, literal years, are the same ... seven times would be twice as much, i.e., 2520 years. At the commencement of our Christian era, 606 years of this time had passed, (70 years captivity, and 536 from Cyrus to Christ) which deducted from 2520, would show that the seven times will end in A.D. 1914; when Jerusalem shall be delivered forever... When Gentile Governments shall have been dashed to pieces; when God shall have poured out of his fury upon the nation, and they acknowledge him King of Kings and Lord of Lords. If the Gentile Times end in 1914 a time of trouble such as never was before, nor ever shall be; a day of wrath, etc., how long before does the church escape.**

Second we record what is one of the most famous no, yes, no, yes situations of the Society. How can they be God's organisation at all stages. This surely is not new light but old darkness.

**However, it seemed puzzling at first to know why this name (Michael) should be given to the Antichrist, but on turning to a dictionary we find that the meaning of the word Michael is—"Who as God." - Zion's Watch Tower Reprints, December 1879, p.55.**

**One expression in Scripture may at first sight seem to conflict with this thought that Jesus and the arch-angel are identical... We reason that this Great Prince — Michael — Jehovah's**

**chief-messenger, is none other than the Lord of Glory, whose presence we are now proclaiming - Zion's Watch Tower Reprints, June 1883, p.490**

**Michael. — "Who as God," the Pope. - The Finished Mystery, 1917, p.188.**

**The title or name archangel was also applied at certain times to the Logos, when he was serving Jehovah in a certain or specific capacity. One of his titles is "Michael", which means "like God"... The title, however, especially belongs to the great and beloved Son of God. - Creation, 1927, p.19.**

*(end of article)*

We need two out of print books for our research library.  
*Apostles of Denial* - E Gruss  
*Gentile Times Reconsidered* - Carl Olaf Jonsson  
If anyone can help us with these books we would be most grateful. Also if you have other surplus books on the cults occult or new age that you feel might be of use to our research library please do let us know.

# TRUTH RESTORED - 12

by Mike & Ann Thomas

## Will you Pray about this Book?

Anyone taking "the discussions" with Mormon Missionaries will meet the challenge of the Book of Mormon. "Will you pray about this book and ask God if it is true?" Moroni's promise is,

**...ask God, the Eternal Father in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost. And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things." - Moroni 10:4-5**

The Mormon "testimony" is based on this experience, the starting point for involvement in the Mormon Church.

In principle Moroni's promise extends beyond the Book of Mormon, encompassing "all things" upon which we seek enlightenment. In practice I doubt you will find a Mormon who has read, and prayed about, the Bible. Of course Mormons pray about many things as they seek that inner affirmation that tells them they are being led correctly, that the church is true, and that their leader is a living prophet. They don't, however, pray about the Bible. This is hardly surprising since the Mormon Church bypasses God's word in the very missionary discussions that are meant to teach God's truth.

The whole thrust of the missionary discussions is their account of apostasy and restoration. The Bible is the book of the apostasy, the Book of Mormon the instrument of God's restoration of truth through Joseph Smith. References to the Bible are restricted to questionable interpretations of texts that *a*) confirm apostasy (Acts 20:29-31)<sup>1</sup>, and *b*) confirm Mormon doctrine (Jn.10:14-16)<sup>2</sup>. While the Book of Mormon is presented as "Another Testament of Jesus Christ" and a companion volume to the Bible, in truth this book of the restoration delivers the final blow to the Bible:

**Thou hast beheld that [when] the book proceeded forth from the mouth of the Jew; ...it contained the fulness of the gospel of the Lord...Wherefore these things go forth from the Jews in purity unto the Gentiles...And after they go**

**forth by the hand of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, from the Jews unto the Gentiles, thou seest the formation of that great and abominable church, which is abominable above all other churches; for behold, they have taken away from the gospel of the Lamb many parts which are plain and most precious...and all this they have done that they may pervert the right ways of the Lord, that they may blind the eyes and harden the hearts of the children of men. - 1 Nephi 13:24-27<sup>3</sup>**

The Bible is relegated to a remnant of truth. A book into which many errors have crept, whose dependability is confined to the parts that agree with the Mormon prophets. No, Mormons don't pray about the Bible. They already "know" that it has been corrupted in its transmission, altered by profane and uninspired translators, and misinterpreted by "corrupt professors" whose creeds are "an abomination in the sight of God" who "draw near [to God] with their lips, but their hearts are far from [him]."<sup>4</sup> They know this because the book they *have* prayed about has told them so. By the third missionary discussion the Bible has been effectively dismissed.

By the time the typical Mormon has a Bible in their hands they know that it is wrong without ever having read it. Now the path is clear for establishing Mormon authority in its place. Mormons do read the Bible but their reading is punctuated by commentary from church leaders through manuals and study guides, magazines and conference talks, and church meetings. The Bible is never allowed to speak for itself because it is not reliable. They need someone to guide them and to teach them what it really means.<sup>5</sup>

## Wont you *Please* Pray about this Book?

If Moroni's promise is to be taken seriously, however, we should pray about *all things* that are presented to us as truth. The Bible should be no exception. Here is a book, much of which, Jesus and the apostles quoted extensively. It contains the most comprehensive account we have of the life and ministry of the Saviour, and the estab-

lishment of the church. A book which, contrary to Mormon claims, has been miraculously preserved and extensively authenticated by archaeological evidence. Written over a period of 1500 years by more than 40 authors from all walks of life. Written in different places and differing circumstances across three continents and in three languages. Yet written with harmony and continuity from Genesis to Revelation, telling one story.<sup>6</sup> Any person seeking truth would surely consider a book with such qualifications. Surely no one would dismiss it on the word of two strangers! Sadly many do.

## I Have a Question

### Is the Book of Mormon Prophesied in the Bible?

Last time we looked at Ezekiel 37. Another popular text is Isaiah 29.

**Woe to Ariel, to Ariel, the city where David dwelt! Add ye year to year; let them kill sacrifices. Yet I will distress Ariel, and there shall be heaviness and sorrow: and it shall be unto me as Ariel. And I will camp against thee round about, and will lay siege against thee with a mount, and I will raise forts against thee. And thou shalt be brought down, and shalt speak out of the ground and thy speech shall be low out of the dust, and thy voice shall be as of one that hath a familiar spirit, out of the ground, and thy speech shall whisper out of the dust. - Isaiah 29:1-4 KJV**

Here, it is claimed, is a coded reference to coming events on the American continent. Ariel, the city of Jerusalem, is to be virtually destroyed some time in the future ("Add ye year to year, let them kill sacrifices", or as the NIV puts it, "let your cycle of festivals go on. Yet I will besiege Ariel"). Then, claims the Mormon apostle LeGrand Richards,

**[Isaiah] seems to be carried away in a vision to witness a similar destruction of the cities of Joseph, 'and it shall be unto me as Ariel'. A Marvellous Work and a Wonder, pp.67-69**

Isaiah, then, has a vision of the destruction of Jerusalem and of the Book of Mormon cities, the cities of Joseph. It cannot be Jerusalem spoken of here, it is reasoned, because the plight of whoever is being besieged is being compared with the plight of Jerusalem.

These people will be brought low and would speak out of the ground. Their speech would be "low out of the dust". LeGrand Richards reasons,

**The only way a dead people could speak 'out of the ground'...would be by the written word, and this the people did through the Book of Mormon. Truly it has a familiar spirit, for it contains the words of the prophets of the God of Israel.**

The vision goes on:

And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed. And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned. Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as these people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men: Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid. - Isaiah 29:11-14 KJV

The Book of Mormon, whose bringing forth is counted "a marvellous work and a wonder" by the LDS Church. A sealed book understood only by revelation and not by the wisdom of men. Yet, they have decoded the vision with very little reference to the facts.

Ariel certainly is Jerusalem and her destruction is foreshadowed in this vision. At this point in their history God's people had turned to an alliance with Egypt to protect themselves from Assyria. In this they felt secure but God warned them, that their dependence on political alliances instead of Jehovah would bring about their destruction. Assyria would be the downfall of Jerusalem. In their arrogance they refused to believe Isaiah and were judged for holding their festivals and offering sacrifices, having a semblance of reli-

gion, but ignoring God's mouthpiece.

**And it shall be unto me as Ariel, v2.**

What shall be as Ariel? Jerusalem shall be as Ariel. Jerusalem shall be as Jerusalem? It makes no sense! Yes it does. Bible writers often used plays on words, or puns, to emphasise a point. The Hebrew word for Ariel sounds like the Hebrew word for altar hearth.

**She [Jerusalem] will be to me like an altar hearth - NIV**

Jerusalem, after the fighting and bloodshed of siege warfare, shall be turned into a virtual "altar hearth". No reference here to Joseph's cities in the Book of Mormon. This is exclusively Jerusalem's fate prophesied.

**...and thy voice shall be, as of one that hath a familiar spirit, out of the ground, and thy speech shall whisper out of the dust v4.**

This is a most unfortunate misuse of scripture by the Mormon Church. In Is.8:19 Jehovah expressly forbids his people to "seek unto them that have familiar spirits". These are mediums and spiritualists. Judah had turned, not only to political alliances for safety but to mediums. They boasted that they had made a bargain with death and that, "when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us".<sup>7</sup> This was a form of necromancy, or consultation with the dead. God made it clear that there would be no protection for them in such bargains, "Your covenant with death shall be disannulled and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it".<sup>8</sup> Judah expected to escape death but would herself speak as from the realm of the dead, "out of the dust".

The sealed book? This is saying that God's word had become to them like a sealed book. The key to understanding this is the previous verse:

**For the Lord hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes: the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered. And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed.**

The book is God's word that had become closed to them because God had closed their eyes. Their own wisdom in understanding these events would fail

them, for the book

**[is delivered] to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot, for it is sealed. And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.**

Neither the learned nor the ignorant could read what God had sealed.

**A Marvellous Work and a Wonder**

God will perform **Wonder upon wonder**<sup>9</sup> among his people, the result of which will be that **the wisdom of the wise will perish, the intelligence of the intelligent will vanish**. All they have come to depend upon will come to nothing. What seems like wisdom to them will be shown to be folly. Paul uses part of this same text in reference to God's provision of salvation through Christ:

**For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate. - 1 Cor.1:18-19 NIV**

This, then, is the marvellous work and a wonder. It is the foolishness of God frustrating the wisdom of men,

**For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe...For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength. - 1 Cor.1:25 NIV**

<sup>1</sup> This, and other texts, e.g. Matt.24: 9-11 cannot mean a complete falling away from the truth as this would contradict Jesus' promise in Matt.16: 18.

<sup>2</sup> A misuse of scripture to confirm their claim that Christ visited America after his resurrection (3 Nephi: 15). Jesus' earthly mission was to the Jews (Matt.15: 24). The other sheep are those outside Judaism. This reference pictures the future, world wide, scope of the Church.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. Joseph Smith-History 1:18-19. Here is the true heart attitude of the Mormon Church to Christian Churches. Christians are portrayed as corrupt and abominable.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Smith-History 1:19

<sup>5</sup> Typically a piece of homely advice to Christians on how to deal with suffering (James 1:5) becomes a key formula for discovering truth much like Moroni's promise. See our book *Mormonism, a Gold Plated Religion* for more on this.

<sup>6</sup> For an extensive treatment of this see Josh McDowell's *Christianity, A Ready Defence*.

<sup>7</sup> Isaiah 28:15 <sup>8</sup> Isaiah 28:18

<sup>9</sup> Isaiah 29:14 NIV

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(Continued from page 3)

## HALLOWEEN

### INVOLVEMENT

#### SCHOOLS & YOUTH GROUPS

Some Local Education Authorities either recommend a low-key approach or that the dangers of the occult are also mentioned. There will still be some who'll take the opportunity to highlight, maybe unintentionally, occultic realms.

#### TRICK OR TREAT

This was introduced by Irish immigrants in America and at first was quite malicious. Over the years it turned into harmless pranks, which is often the case today although there can be a destructive and malicious element too.

#### PARTIES

Many parties are harmless without demons waiting to strike. However the themes of most are a preoccupation with the evil supernatural realm.

### REACHING OUT

#### IN THE CHURCH

##### PRAYER

This is essential. Pray for,

An awareness that we fight against principalities and powers which the Lord has defeated.

A positive Christian witness to teachers, scout troop leaders etc.

A lack of involvement in schools, etc.

Protection of local children and that no one gets drawn into the occult.

##### PRaise PARTY

We do not recommend just a party on the 31st as this could confuse children into thinking it is a Halloween party. There is scope however to hold a party that exalts the Lord Jesus and so there is a positive message as well as kids having fun.

#### INDIVIDUALLY

##### AT SCHOOL

Don't be a 'raving evangelical loonies' but present a careful argument showing possible dangers of Halloween. Use helpful literature such as, *Doorways to Danger*. We seek to provide a safe environment for our kids at school and so it is not appropriate to teach our children that experimentation with the occult world is okay. If however they feel they

must talk about Halloween ask them to also warn of the dangers.

##### TRICK OR TREAT

This is 'blackmail to prevent vandalism' and we would suggest is not healthy for Christian children to be involved.

##### OWN CHILDREN

Understand that it can sometimes be difficult for your children with peer pressure and activities at school, etc. Do take time to explain the dangers to them and not just say 'NO!' It will of course help if there is a Praise Party or similar event being run in your locality.

### FURTHER REFERENCE

Hallowe'en: Treat or Trick - David Porter

Hallowe'en In School - Richard Wilkins

Doorways to Danger - Evangelical Alliance

Factsheets and tracts - Reachout Trust

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(Continued from page 4)

## UNIFICATION CHURCH

### PRESENTING JESUS

Be patient, our fight is not against the Moonie but against the god of this world who has blinded their eyes. They believe that Moon is the Messiah, slander will not help. They are warned;

**Christians of today will be the first to persecute the Messiah at the time of the Second Advent. - Divine Principle, p.533.**

We need to ask questions that will sow doubt. They are pressurised and do not have time to think - while you are with them give them that time. Ask,

Why was Moon jailed for sexual perversion?

Why did the perfect marriage take four attempts?

Why does the group that wants to 'unify', hate all Christian churches?

What do you think about Moon being put in jail for tax fraud?

If the Divine Principle is the completed Testament, why does it contradict so much of the Bible?

Ask these questions genuinely and use the answers to make a positive Biblical presentation. Such as,

God's Word will never pass away [Isa.40:8, Matt.24:35] and so the 'what is to come' cannot be a new bible.

The Moonies take the tree of life in Genesis 3 to represent the perfected Adam. Read the context and ask how Adam could have eaten of a symbolic image of himself?

Why is there only one Name given for salvation [Acts 4:10-12], Jesus Christ?

The Bible clearly says that full Salvation has already been accomplished [Col.1:13; 1 Thess.5:23]. Jesus said 'It is finished' not 'I am finished' [John 19:30]. What could Moon add?

Our salvation is not of works, but totally of grace [Ephesians 2:8,9]. Working produces nothing!

The cross of Christ was not a failure because from the beginning it was shown that He had to die. See the Passover [Ex.12] and the scapegoat [Lev.16]. What were these events looking forward to? Surely 'the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world' [John 1:29].

*A more detailed overview of the Unification Church is available in 'Cult Critiques'.*

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(Continued from page 5)

## MARTIAL ARTS

Whereas outwardly Tai Chi appears to be dealing with graceful movement and balance, without the channelling of the Chi it would have no effect.

**Tai Chi Chuan is based on many principles and beliefs... it is deeply concerned with Chi, the vital energy that flows through the body, and it aims to bring balance to body, mind, and spirit through specially devised movements, natural deep breathing, and a calm state of mind. - Reid, p.85.**

## CHI KUNG

Chi Kung literally means, 'energy work' and is the simplest of the soft martial arts. This does not mean however that it is superficial. With origins dating back to 700 BC. its present day form was only developed in comparatively recent times.

**In common with the other soft arts it has a central principle or goal - that is, the cultivation of Chi, the vital energy. - Reid, p.23.**

## HSING I

Little is really known about the development of this art but it also undoubtedly has very ancient roots. It is concerned with controlling the body and the mind together.

Hsing I is heavily influenced by Taoist philosophy and although it has an outward physical appearance it also contains a spiritual depth and like Tai Chi each movement is a form of meditation.

## PA KUA

**Pa Kua is also an art of speed and power. But it can be performed with hypnotic grace and effortless skill... Tung Hai Chuan (1798-1879) was the first recorded master of Pa Kua. He is said to have been taught it by another Taoist... The message of Pa Kua is perhaps more profound than all the other soft martial arts: form is captivity, and the loss of form is freedom. - Reid, p.16.**

Pa Kua means eight diagrams, the simple patterns used in the *I Ching* or *Book of Changes*. Pa Kua relies heavily on inward spiritual life as well as the occultic belief of the *I Ching*.

## EXPERIENCE

Witold Kirmiel is a former Samurai,

born in Poland in 1960 where he trained to be an Aikido teacher. Let him tell his own story.

Since I was 14, I strove after both physical and spiritual strength, and although raised with Catholic principles, I became indifferent towards God. My searching led more towards Eastern traditions, philosophies and religions. At 17 I began training with the Japanese masters in Aikido and Iaido. For more than 15 years I had the opportunity to learn in many different countries, including Japan. In both martial arts I achieved the highest level (Master), yet I still felt as if I was only at the very beginning. I also learned Zen meditation and although this and training gave me strength I felt an increasing inner emptiness. My wife Maria was a Christian and prayed for me but I thought that praying and God were for weak people and that those who were strong should rely on themselves

Even though the Aikido philosophy makes statements about love, pity and harmony, my heart became harder until in March 1993 Maria asked me to go to a Billy Graham meeting. For the first time I heard about the high prize, that God paid at the cross. To my own surprise I went forward to invite Jesus into my heart and from that moment on my life changed.

As I visited the Pentecostal Church with Maria, I was touched and felt tears running down my cheeks but I fought against them, because they were a sign of weakness. I don't know what kind of power it was, that I felt, but it was like the wind blowing around me. As time passed I wanted to know more about Jesus, but I was still very proud and I wanted to find proof of God. One day I said to Jesus: "If You are really so mighty then show me your power."

On 17 May 1993 I felt this 'wind' again. Suddenly, I fell down on my knees with a cry and I started to pray in an unknown language. I didn't know what was happening to me and I tried to stop talking but I could not. I cried, danced and sang for 2 hours, and finally fell exhausted on the floor. For 5 days I could not do anything but pray and read the Bible. For the first time ever I experienced real love and power which I had sought for so long and for the first time I was able to tell Jesus that I loved Him. Since then I am trying to learn more

about Jesus and to follow Him. Although I feel, that I make many mistakes I realise that my life is changing.

## CONCLUSION

First, note this testimony, Witold was fully into the martial arts and yet felt that he had to give them up when he received Jesus Christ as Lord.

Second there have also been a number of clear conclusions reached as we have gone through these notes. These we believe lead us to conclude that many of the principles in the martial arts are not compatible with Christianity and as such we must seriously question whether it is right or wise for Christians to be involved with them.

## BOOKS USED FOR RESEARCH

*The Book of Soft Martial Arts*, Howard Reid, 1994.

*The Judo Handbook*, Brian Caffary & Desmond Marwood, 1989.

*Larson's New Book of Cults*, Bob Larson, 1989.

*Martial Arts Coaching Manual*, David Mitchell, 1988.

*The New Official Martial Arts Handbook*, David Mitchell, 1989.

*Unpublished research of Kevin Hill*, Sheffield University, 1995.

*Testimony of Witold Kirmiel*. Polish Aikido Master.

*Zen Judo - a way of life*, Brian Bagot, 1989.

*The Rider Encyclopedia of Eastern Philosophy and Religion*, 1986.

*New Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 15th ed., Micropaedia, various vols.

*Microsoft Encarta*, CD Rom, 1994.

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# WITNESSING TO THE CULTS - 2

This article is based on *Open The Door, Kingsway 1996*, and *Don't Close The Door, Reachout Trust, 1991*

[A special offer to purchase these two books will be found in the enclosed leaflet.]

## Know the Lord

This is vital if we are to be able to tell those in the cults about Him. We are not just talking here in the sense of knowing *about* the Lord but knowing Him in a manner that makes a difference to the way we live our lives. The cult member spends many hours getting to know their 'belief system' and practices coming to your door. Why should we as Christians be any different?

For us though we are not just to get to know a 'belief system'. The Jehovah's Witness change John 17:3 to read, "This is eternal Life, the *taking in knowledge* . . ." But if you look in your Bible you will find it says *knowing* Him. We are not just to know about or take in knowledge. We are not just to read Scripture as the dead letter of the law. We should remember what Jesus said to many of the religious people of His day,

**You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is these that bear witness of Me - John 5:39.** Through the reading and studying of His Word we are to come to know Him. His character, His actions, His desire. We will then begin to act towards the cults the way that Jesus would. The people we are talking to would see something different to what they have at present and they would want that 'difference'. Former Mormon Anne Thomas put it like this,

**When I began to question and sincerely seek the truth it was like the floodgates opening, and within a very short time my husband and I both came to realize that although we had believed in Jesus Christ and tried to follow Him, we did not have a living relationship with Him... Yet now, in our discussions, my husband and I had come to realize that**

**something vital was missing in our lives... 'Who do we know who has got it? The answer was immediate - our Christian friend John. - Don't Close the Door, p.45.**

When Jesus started talking to the woman at the well in John 4, He did not start with what was wrong with her but He showed clearly that what He had was better than what she had. Five minutes after starting the conversation the woman was asking for what Jesus had.

If you consider the cult member for a minute you will realise that they believe that they are in the only true church. They have the 'closest' relationship to God that anyone can have. Their group 'holds the truth' via some special revelation or other. Why should they leave? Only because they see something better and not just because we tell them they are wrong.

Knowing Jesus in our lives and expressing Him through our lives is vital if we are to see cult members come out. Have you experienced the love of God in your life? Then show it and express it to the cult member. What right do I have to act in any other way?

**Not only does God love; it clearly shows in John 3:17 that Jesus did not come to judge or condemn. That will come in the end, but for now we are still living in the day of grace. What scriptural right do I have to condemn? None. Indeed we are clearly being disobedient to God's word if we do so. Why is it that the moment we meet cult members all we want to do is to tell them how wrong and rotten they are... Jesus has begun to build a bridge of love and trust to the woman (John 4). He has caused her to wonder, because this is not how he was supposed to have acted. Cult members have been told how Christians will react. When we do what is expected and attack and condemn, we are forcing them into the cult. When we love and show interest in them as people it puts a question mark in their life and another piece of the bridge is built. - Open the Door,**

**p.24.**

The disciples, who were constantly with the Lord for over 3 years, needed to learn the reality of knowing the Lord. When in the boat with Jesus asleep they were petrified but even when He rebuked the wind and saved them they still did not know Him. Proof of this is shown later when they had to go through the same episode again but this time without Jesus in the boat!

This time Peter sees that this is the Lord who is triumphant over the winds and the waves and is able to get out of the boat and take a few steps on the water. We may have seen Jesus 'do' things. We may be able to talk about them and describe them in detail. But do we 'know' the reality in our lives that enables us to get out of the boat and do the impossible.

The more we enter into an understanding of who the Lord is and know the reality of what we find in our lives the more we will not only be ready but the more we will want to reachout to those in the cults.

We will look at the 'storm' of fear of being 'out-Bibled' and know the Holy Spirit will lead us into all truth. We will look at the 'storm' of the possibility of 'demons' affecting our lives and know the reality of our security in the name of Jesus. We will look at the 'storm' of condemnation in our lives towards these ones and know the compassion of God for these lost individuals.

There is no substitute for knowing the Lord!

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