

The DEFENDER - July 2015

“... defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

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IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast.



From the Director's Desk: A Higher Calling

As we celebrate another birthday for America (239 and counting) this month, there's a natural tendency to look to the future with the hope that we can once again regain some of the glory and luster of our storied and illustrious past. And with the 2016 elections fast approaching, there may also be a tendency on the part of some patriotic Americans to consider entering the fray, if not on a national level, then certainly on a state or local one. In fact, for the first time in many years, opportunities may abound for the election of virtual unknowns to many seats of power throughout the fruited plain. Americans are tired of the recycling of the same compromising, do-nothing, sell-out politicians year after election year. As evidenced by the large number of GOP hats already in the Republican Primary ring, people are ready for real change in our nation. Although I don't know what chance Donald Trump, Carly Fiorina, or Ben Carson have in securing the Republican presidential nomination, it's refreshing to see the faces of those who are not career politicians offering solutions to the myriad of problems our nation faces.

And now within this wide open field of political hopefuls comes the call from well-meaning Christians for pastors to enter the fracas. To bring their knowledge of the Word of God along with the power of the Holy Spirit to rescue our land from plunging further into the abyss of moral decay and godlessness. The American Renewal Project is aiming at recruiting 1000 pastors nationwide to run for elected office next year. To bring God into the equation as we try to return our nation to its Judeo-Christian moorings. As good as this may sound, let me be clear, as a pastor myself, I do **NOT** support this plan of action. Ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ are called to preach. We're called to shepherd our flocks, not to make compromises and backroom deals with special interest groups. The only groups that we're called to have a special interest in are the unsaved and the unlearned. Once we lead others to Christ we're instructed to teach them the truth of God's Word. The Great Commission says to go into all nations (evangelism), baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (salvation), and then teaching them to observe all things which Jesus has commanded us (sanctification).

Train up your flocks, pastors, so that they will then be educated to properly choose a candidate to vote for. Less than half of the 80 million people who claim to be evangelical in America are registered to vote. And of those, many remain on the sideline on Election Day because Jesus isn't on the ballot. Light a fire under your congregations, pastors, so that we can effect a grass roots change in our country. But do it from your pulpit, not a state or federal office building. Pastors have been called into the ministry by the Lord. It's not an occupation we chose sitting in a high school guidance counselor's office. There is no higher calling than spreading the gospel. Don't sell your birthright (God knew His plans for you before you were born) for a mess of pottage (Genesis 25:31-33). Unlike Esau, consider the long range consequences of what you're about to do.

Rev. David Lewis

“Another Jesus” Calling Part II – Contemplative Meditation and False Christs

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

“For if he that cometh preacheth ANOTHER JESUS ... another spirit ... or another gospel ... For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light ... his ministers ... as the ministers of righteousness ... (2 Cor. 11:4, 13-15).

“What shall be the sign ... of the end of the world ... Jesus answered ... many shall come in MY NAME, saying I am Christ; and shall deceive many” (Matt. 24:1-5).

Warren B. Smith, author, teacher and conference speaker, was formerly a follower in the New Age movement. Now a Christian, Warren has written extensively on the subject of spiritual deception and has spoken on radio, television and at seminars and conferences. All his eye-opening publications are available through Lighthouse Trails Publishing.

Smith relates in his book, “Another Jesus” Calling, that he first became alarmed by Sarah Young’s book, “Jesus Calling” in 2013. It troubled him to read that Young claimed to be receiving personal messages from “Jesus.” Young admitted that this began after she had read “God Calling,” a book Warren knew well as a book that was “channeled,” which is an ancient occult practice revived in New Age circles.

Having been deeply involved in the Occult/New Age culture and being delivered out of it by God’s evangel of Grace, Smith became deeply concerned after reading “Jesus Calling” because Warren found it presented New Age practices and concepts as being completely normal for Christians. Worse, he said, it contained no warnings. Warren indicated that Young’s “Jesus” had subtly introduced Occult/New Age channeling, spiritual dictation, creative visualization, meditation, divine alchemy, co-creation with God and “Practicing the Presence,” like it was everyday fare. Warren’s conclusion was that “Jesus Calling” seemed to be “an obvious attempt by our spiritual adversary to get an even further foothold inside the Christian church.”

When the Lord warned of counterfeit Christs (Matt. 24:1-5), He was not speaking only of charlatans like Waco’s David Koresh or The People’s Temple’s Jim Jones; men too unbelievable for most people who could not accept their false claims of divinity.

What the deadly adversary of men’s souls really prefers is to remain in the shadows in the greater more subtle deceptions in the world AND in the church right now – a deception of voices purporting to be “Jesus,” or “God,” or the “Holy Spirit” – speaking through books, during seekers quiet times of meditation, contemplative prayer times and while “Practicing the Presence.” Our foe’s evil plan from the beginning was for his “seed,” the counterfeit Christ (Gen. 3:15) to one day introduce new revelations of a New Age/New World religion (Rev. 17) to a troubled world desperately seeking answers.

Just as scripture warns that there are the pleasures of “sin for a season” (Heb. 11:25) so those saved out of the occult and the New Age warn that spiritual experiences that come in the name of “Jesus” are not necessarily from Him – experiences that can feel “wonderful and uplifting,” while actually being deception and evil from the “prince of the power of the air” (Ep. 2:2-3), the seducing spirits (1 Tim. 4:1) that should always be “tested” (1 John 4:1-3) to make absolutely certain that what anyone experiences spiritually is from the only true and living God. Every born-again child of God (Ep. 1:3-4) can quench the devil’s darts (Ep. 6:16) and cause him to flee (James 4:7) when calling on the true Jesus’ name and quoting God’s Word (John 3:16 et al.) “for greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world” (1 John 4:4).

It is not just a friendly suggestion when scripture challenges every Christian to “study to show thyself approved of God ... rightly dividing the word of truth ... and to know also that in the last days perilous times shall come...” (2 Tim. 2:15, 3:1) ...when “they will NOT endure sound doctrine ... and shall be turned unto fables...” (2 Tim. 4:3-4). It is a command that we are NOT to be ignorant of Satan’s devices (2 Cor. 2:11) but rather to do as the Bereans (Acts 17:1) and making absolutely certain we are in the true faith (2 Cor. 13:5) and to be sure the VOICE we are asked to follow of man OR spirit is not that of a seducing counterfeit shepherd (John 10:4-5).

Since “Jesus Calling” became an international best seller (over 10 million copies) Warren B. Smith saw the imperative to examine the book that started Sarah Young on the path that led to “Jesus Calling.” That book was the channeled New Age book, “God Calling.” Warren listed only some of his many concerns by an occult book influencing the heritage of God.

Of course, Smith first addressed the fact that “God Calling” was composed by an occult channeling process known as spiritual dictation. The messages in this “Daily Devotional” was channeled by two women in England in 1937. They chose to remain anonymous and were simply called, “Two Listeners.” They claimed their source was Christ Himself so their book could have been also called “Jesus Calling.” Sarah Young said that “God Calling” gave her the desire to receive messages during meditation and eventually “Jesus” gave her the messages that became “Jesus Calling.”

There is a 39 chapter warning about occult channeling in the “Encyclopedia of New Age Beliefs” that labels it Mediumship – forbidden in Scripture (Deut. 18:9-12). “God Calling” is cited as being a New Age channeled book, one filled with denials of biblical teachings – dangerous for Christians.

Warren noted the New Age terminology in “God Calling,” such as: Universal Spirit, Supreme Being, Divine Powers, Spiritual Forces, God-Power, spiritual plane, channels, Spirit-Consciousness, Spirit Communication, Secret of Prosperity, Law of Supply, Sonship, spiritual level, oneness, among many others. These truths laced with deceptive corruptions are communicated to “seekers” through “inner voices,” “whispers,” spiritual dictation, automatic writing, channeling, and more.

In a follow-up book to “God Calling” – “God at Eventide,” “Jesus” states: “You are not to know any differences of race, color (fine so far), or creed.” The latter is contrary to scripture (Mark 13:21-22; 2 Cor. 6:14-18; Ep. 5:11; 1 Tim. 4:1-2). The “God Calling” “Jesus” claimed

oneness and unity of God and man and man to man. The Jesus of scripture taught the contrary (Matt. 10:34-36). Jesus taught the narrow way, not universalism (Matt. 7:13-14).

The occult/New Age teaching is that God is in everyone as does the “Jesus” of “God Calling.” The God of the Bible does NOT universally reside in every person which is why Christ told Nicodemus, “Ye must be born again” (John 3:5-8). Only then does the Holy Spirit dwell in us (John 14:16-17). That man is in any way divine is an ancient lie (Gen. 3:5).

The Bible teaching from the true Jesus is to pray that GOD’S will be done. “God Calling,” using the same health, wealth and happiness, name it and claim it false teaching that slithers out of cable TV’s “religious channels,” suggest that man can have his will be done by “speaking the word.” This “create your own reality teaching” is a basic New Age/occult concept called “The Law of Manifestation,” allegedly achieved by “creative visualization.” God holds all these occult concepts in contempt and promises judgment upon practitioners (Deut. 18:10-12).

“God Calling” elevates spiritual experiences over God’s written Word allowing deception to fill the vacuum. Absurdities appear in “God Calling” – “Jesus needs us more than we need Him,” “Jesus will introduce new truths” because “man’s thoughts of me need revolutionizing,” and man should “cultivate the silence” and “meet Jesus in the silence” to name a few.

“God Calling” deceptively weaves Christian terminology with a masking of leaven to appear plausible (Gal. 5:7-9). For Sarah Young to describe “God Calling” as “a treasure to me” and to recommend it is incomprehensible. Her book, “Jesus Calling” picks up where “God Calling” left off according to Smith. Now, both “God Calling” and “Jesus Calling” are bringing occult meditative practices, channeling and spiritual dictation to the attention of Christians and hence into the church. The antidote is to “seek to know the truth” (John 8:31-32, 14:6).

In the 21st Century, false teachers have come into the visible church like a flood (Is. 59:19). Thankfully, Christian researchers, like Warren B. Smith, have provided tools for Christians to raise a standard for God’s true Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ and to equip believers to be “Watchmen on the Wall” as we see “that Day approaching” (Heb. 10: 24-25).

Keep looking up.

Main Source:

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“Another Jesus” Calling

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**“Ye shall know the truth and the
truth shall make you free.”
(John 8:32)**

The Battle Belongs to the Lord

By Nancy Long

*"In heavenly armor we'll enter the land,
The battle belongs to the Lord!
No weapon that's fashioned against us will stand,
The battle belongs to the Lord!"*

*When the power of darkness comes in like a flood,
The battle belongs to the Lord!
He's raised up a standard, the power of His blood,
The battle belongs to the Lord!"*

*When your enemy presses in hard do not fear,
The battle belongs to the Lord!
Take courage my friend,, your redemption is near,
The battle belongs to the Lord!"*

Chorus -- *"We sing glory, honor, power and strength to the Lord.
We sing glory, honor, power and strength to the Lord!"*

(Text and music be Jamie Owens-Collins)

2 Chronicles 20:15b -- *"..... for the battle is not yours, but God's"*

Psalm 62: 6 -- *He only is my rock and my salvation: He is my defense;
I shall not be moved."*

Psalm 91:2 -- *" I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress:
my God; in Him will I trust."*

1 Peter 5:7 -- *"Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you."*

It would do us all a great service, a wealth of good, if we would just remember these lyrics as truth, **"the battle belongs to the Lord"**. Nothing can be more plainly stated, or clearly expressed, but often, it seems, we have quite the struggle with the simplicity of this message.

The young boy, David, who later became Israel's King David, directed these words to Saul, "*The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine*" Then said David to the Philistine (Goliath), "*Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield; but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: **for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands**" (1 Samuel 17:37 and 45-47).*

Israel faced its enemy in 2 Chronicles, chapter 20, recognizing God's divine protection, seeking His Almighty hand. David, as well, fought his fight with Goliath, knowing assuredly that the Lord is sovereign and in control of all things.

Whether we find ourselves in an emotional battle, or a mental struggle, a physical challenge, or a relational trial or even political battles within our own United States of America, this beautiful country that appears to be snowballing down a steep hill, picking up speed with each passing day not to worry, though, not to tremble, not to fear God's Word exhorts us to be anxious for nothing (Phil. 4:6a). Victory is for sure! **The battle belongs to the Lord!**

It behooves us to remember to do what we can, yes, "*put on the whole armor of God*" (Eph. 6:11), *another* yes but in the end, it's God's battle, not ours! So states the hymn, written by Maryland born, Methodist minister, Charles A. Tindley:

***"When your enemies assail, and your heart begins to fail,
Don't forget that God in heaven answers prayer;
He will make a way for you, and will lead you safely through,
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there."***

The conflict, or trial, or attack we might be facing today is ultimately not ours, but God's. "Turn it over to Me," He says, "and leave it there" "Cast **all** your care upon Me. Trust Me. Rest in, and lean on, My everlasting arms. I love you." **The battle belongs to the Lord!!**





Take Back America

Political correctness is proclaimed throughout our land today,
And there's a perpetual backsliding sweeping over the U.S. of A.
Gullible people have meekly accepted the leadership of godless men.
They stood back and quietly allowed the legislation of sin.

When the laws of our country oppose the word of the Lord,
We find ourselves standing under the shadow of His sword.
Yes, He is a God of love, but if you will only look,
It is written, He will punish evil, it's written on the pages of His book.

Speak out against abortion, and against homosexuality.
Don't wait for someone else to speak, it's up to you and me.
Stand up for righteous living, and petition God above.
We can take back America, thru prayer and Christian love.

America

America, I love you, land of my birth.
America, I love you, the greatest land on earth.
I love your mountains, majesty, and your seashores sparking white,
I love to see the sunrise, chase away the dark of night.
Then, see Old Glory waving, o'er the land of the free.
Yes, America, I love you, you are home to me.
America, dear America, I pledge to you my all,
And I pray that God will bless you, and never let you fall.

Hank Arthur

Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.

The Defender is available, free of charge, on audio CD.
Please contact us if you would like to receive a copy by mail.

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In Defense of Truth is heard in Baltimore on:

WRBS AM 1230 - Sunday at 6:30 a.m.

Listen Online: <http://www.InDefenseOfTruth.org/broadcast> for details.

We are now on internet radio: www.evangelismradio.com (various times).

Listen also to IDOT's "Moment of Truth"
airing Monday through Friday during morning drive time
on WCBM AM 680 in Baltimore.

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WRITE TO US!

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Upcoming Events!

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult Sunday School	10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Tuesday Bible Study	1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 PM
Outdoor Movie Night (July 17th)	8:30 PM