

RIVERBANK NEWS

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"HELL HATH ENLARGED HERSELF"

By Gordon F. Nelson

(Continued from last month's newsletter.)

"Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it." Isa. 5:14.

O foolish Pentecostals! Do you not know hell had to be enlarged because of you? In Isaiah 5, God gives a parable of Jehovah's vineyard. It is much like the parable Jesus gave in Matthew 21:33-44; the parable of the householder demanding fruit from his vineyard. *"For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant."* Isa. 5:7. It is correctly assumed in the parable of the householder that the vineyard is the church. In either case, God sums up these parables by declaring, *"and he looked for judgement, but behold oppression (due to captivity); for righteousness, but behold a cry."* Isa. 5:7.

This is the cry of slaves held captive by their oppressors! *"And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour* (services 365 days a year with 3 services on Sunday). *" Ex. 1:14. I seldom, if ever, missed a single service in five years. I served with rigour for five years under the tutelage of Dr. Bebe Patten in her brick and mortar program to purchase the City Club Hotel in downtown Oakland. Even after graduation from Patten's Bible College, and on the field, one still feels they're a captive! Their laws have been engraved into human homage; Dr. Bebe Patten becomes your "little god."*

"While they (the Pentecostal religion) promise them liberty, they themselves (Jim Bakker, Jimmy Swaggart, Bebe Patten, Pat Robertson, Oral Roberts) are the servants of corruption (love of money, greed, pride): *for of whom a man is overcome (the law), of the same is he brought in bondage."* 2 Pet. 2:19. This one verse of scripture tells the story of the Pentecostal church as we know it today. Its leaders, through the help of television, become mighty "hunters of souls before the Lord." (Gen. 10:9)

Man relates to the law because he is a sinner. The law told him he was a sinner. The law convicted him, and led him to Christ. *"Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ."* Gal. 3:24. If you are only "born of the Spirit," you are never free of the schoolmarm—the law. The law allows forgiveness of sin, but one cannot enter into the kingdom of God until you are "born of water."

(Titus 3:5 by the washing of regeneration—the Word) Pentecostalism worships the Spirit, while the Fundamentalists are bound to “*the letter (that) killeth*” (2 Cor. 3:6) as a god.

Jesus prophesied to the woman at the well (a type of the bride), “*But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in Spirit* (the KJV has a little “s”) *and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.*” Jn. 4:23. Will this prophecy come alive in your heart? The Father must be pleased with the bride Christ has chosen, or there will be no wedding!

Do you believe the Father would be pleased with a dead-letter bride of Fundamentalism? Or a fanatical spiritualist bride tossed about by “*every wind of doctrine*” that talked in tongues? Eph. 4:14.

Pentecostal preachers are much like lawyers. They seldom, if ever, represent and take up the cause of the poor. Their own personal greed for money and notoriety must precede the “cry of slaves.” The poor must rely on the state to provide a defender; they have no money. Only personal Bible reading opened my eyes to the Defender of the weak, Jesus Christ. Don’t look to some “little god” or “goddess” of Christian television to throw you a bone! Even under the Mosaic Law, provision was made for “*the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow.*” Read Deuteronomy 26:12. Apostle James, speaking for the true church, said, “*Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction.*” Jas. 1:27.

Rev. Kenneth Logie of Oakland, CA, used to stand by the side of dying widows. He would not leave their side until they had signed over everything they owned to Rev. Logie. “*Which devour widows’ houses, and for a pretense make long prayers: these shall receive greater damnation.*” Mk. 12:40.

C. Thomas Patten, the late husband of Dr. Bebe Patten of Oakland, raped Betty Burke, a 15-year-old child evangelist. She told me the story! He lived by the axiom, “If you have plenty of money and smart lawyers, you can do anything and get by.” A philosophy he bragged about openly in the 1,000-seat auditorium of the City Club Hotel. The words hardly left his mouth when God spoke to my heart, “And you’re going to stop him!” Whenever one hears the voice of God, one never forgets the words. They are forever burned into your spirit. Literally, those words become a part of you and form your very personality.

Another one of Carl Thomas Patten’s conquests was a beautiful 17-year-old brunette by the name of Carol Rydon. She had to leave off her education due to her pregnancy. I saw her on her final visit to the Bible School, as she drove off on a trip to Seattle, financed by the Patten’s to have his baby.

Joining one of these man-made “kingdoms of God,” you become a part of its chattel. As a follower and disciple of a “*lords over God’s heritage*” (1 Pet. 5:3), you risk being defiled by the very man you proclaim as “lord.”

Following the rape of Carol Rydon, Bebe Patten demanded her husband get “cut” to protect the rest of her choirgirls. From the platform, Tom Patten, attired in cowboy boots, recalled his old football days. “After the game, we’d pay \$25 for a girl to celebrate our victory, but I can get any girl in Bebe’s choir for five bucks!” And then added, “And I know what I’m talking about.” The entire audience of 1,000 people would laugh heartily, never suspecting anything! They passed it off as a joke coming from a man of the cloth. If it happened to be your daughter, you wouldn’t laugh!

Truth is stranger than fiction in one of these man-owned and directed kingdoms. How dare you call this the “kingdom of God”!

It was Betty Burke, the 15-year-old child evangelist for the Patten’s, that told me, “Tom Patten can no longer father children due to being fixed after the rape of Carol Rydon.” Then added, “And I ought to know!”

Bebe’s timely pregnancy developed while C. Thomas Patten was being indicted for grand theft by the Grand Jury of Alameda County. It follows, based on the Betty Burke testimony, that Bebe’s twins were either test tube babies or the product of John Roberto, who later married her. These “timely births” are probably the incident that spared Dr. Bebe Patten from joining her husband as a co-conspirator in Alameda’s second longest criminal trial in Alameda history. (Only to be exceeded by the attempted conviction of Harry Bridges as a Communist.) The courts had no precedent to assess public reaction to the state interfering in religion. Being a first, the state refused to gamble on public reaction to the indictment of a pregnant woman preacher. The District Attorney was constantly concerned about a public uprising over the masses interpreting this trial as the state persecuting the church. Dr. Bebe’s pregnancy was timed as though it was planned, and she was not indicted along with her husband.

“And he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.” Isa. 5:7. “And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they CRIED, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered....And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.” Ex. 2:23-25.

Don’t you think it is about time God would have respect unto our cries in this 21st Century? God answered their cry with a Moses! *“But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.” Rom. 5:20.* We need to pray to *“the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.” Lk. 10:2.*

In the 23rd chapter of Jeremiah, he prophesied of our sleepy attitude toward the things of God. Both the wise and the foolish virgins, *“While the bridegroom tarried, they ALL slumbered and slept.”* Matt. 25:5.

C. Thomas Patten, husband-business manager of Dr. Bebe Patten, died prematurely six months after serving his time in San Quentin Prison. He was guilty of grand theft and sentenced from 1 to 50 years in prison. He served two years actual time, and was permanently barred from religion of any kind, as was Jim Bakker, both felons.

Dr. Cecil J. Lowry fell over dead in a footing for a cement pour. Dr. Lowry was giving the final inspection before the cement trucks would arrive in the morning for the purpose of erecting a brand new apartment house. I personally talked with the woman next door who threw a blanket over his dead body before phoning 911. This anti-Semitic Assemblies of God pastor would declare openly, “My deacons are only ushers! If you don’t like it, the doors swing both ways, just swing on out of here!”

The Oakland Revival Tabernacle was sold by his wife, Rose, shortly after his death. Rose owns the Trinity Church off the MacArthur Blvd in the Oakland hills off Keeler Drive. She was struck with blindness. She no longer could see the men “vexed” by her skintight skirts gyrating to her banging on the tambourine. Rose was a former student of an Assemblies of God Bible college, and married the president (old enough to be her father). She qualifies to be a 20th century “Cozbi” (Nu. 25:15-18) at Peor.

Blind Rose Lowry then hires a “hireling” to fill her pulpit. This very pulpit could be cursed because the hireling, as a young man, was struck with diabetes. He died shortly thereafter, weighing 450 pounds.

Rev. Kenneth Logie, pastor in Oakland, was arrested by a plainclothes detective at the men’s restroom for propositioning for sex. Imagine how I felt. I was the assistant pastor of his church!

The Rev. Gene D. Boomer’s Rose of Sharon church finally burned to the ground after being sold to five different pastors. In these three-name non-profit religious incorporations, one must purchase the equity of the resigning pastor. The congregation has no say, just keep on buying the church. How stupid can one body of believers be? The building fund was the retirement for Gene D. Boomer’s widow. It proved to be a blessing once this church was completely destroyed by fire.

It was at this same Rose of Sharon that I preached a sermon. It so stirred the heart of one of the members, Bill Morgan, that he sought me out. I never completely understand the “world of the spirits,” but incidents of this nature entice me to know more. Bill Morgan was a German perfectionist. In short, he possessed all the qualities (from the outward) I believed a man of God should have to quality as a minister. “We compare ourselves, among ourselves,” which is sin.

I was guilty of telling God his business, and by comparison told him, "If I were God, I would choose Bill Morgan, not me!" I became discouraged in my own calling, so great was the effect of Bill Morgan's perfectionism on me. After an incident soon to transpire, I never again would ever try to play God. I was cured when I came to Bill Morgan's home, only to see it surrounded with police cars. I saw my hero, Bill Morgan, in handcuffs! The reason? Apparently, he was an exhibitionist. To prove his own manhood, he exhibited his penis to the paperboy. My idolatry was shattered, and I thank God that He knew His own business better than I. Do you want to play God?

The lawless one that is yet to come is much like the Judas goat who owns his own church. One such pastor of a local assembly has had sex with every married woman in his congregation. (This church is not in the Bay Area, so don't speculate!) Several well-meaning ministers have counseled with him, but to no avail. He is like Clinton, ignoring the rule of law. He is a free agent and bound by no rules.

The Bible says, God has set governments in the church. (1 Cor. 12:28) The lawless have scoffed at rules, just as President Clinton has done with his Executive Orders that supersede our Constitution. Why do they do this? Because through their sole operation and ownership of the church, they have been as "gods" to the people. The saddest part is Jeremiah's prophecy, *"And my people love to have it so."* Jer. 5:31.

These are just a few in one locale where I lived, worked, preached, and raised three children. How are the "lords" faring in your city?

Jeremiah the prophet continues, *"For who hath stood in the counsel of the LORD, and hath perceived and heard his word? who hath marked his word, and heard it?"* Jer. 23:18. I trust you mark your Bible! You must meditate upon the words of God. Only these are "born of water."

"Behold a whirlwind (Heb.-scattering storm) of the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind: it shall fall grievously upon the HEAD of the wicked." Jer. 23:19. Why upon the head of the wicked? I believe this whirlwind is a type of a very strange revival. If you own your own church, you are going to be disgraced in this whirlwind.

"The anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: IN THE LATTER DAYS ye shall consider it perfectly." Jer. 23:20. We are living in the latter days, and a whirlwind is coming. Guess what? The bad guys are going to lose! This is a revival that will fall on the HEAD of the WICKED. It will attack the carnal mind! Your good thoughts are not synonymous with God's mind.

"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my

thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isa. 55:7-9.

“For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.” Rom. 8:6-7.

“There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” Prov. 16:25.

Longevity of life is a blessing from God. *“With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.” Ps. 91:16.*

Sin shortens our lifespan upon this earth. We learned to love so much. If we’d have loved God more, we would still be around.

O foolish Pentecostals, don’t you think it is just as wrong to “hire” (Jn. 10:12) as it is to allow one man or woman to rule the church as *“lords over God’s heritage”*? (1 Pet. 5:3)

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? (in thy name spoke in tongues?) and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you. DEPART FROM ME ye that work iniquity.” Matt. 7:21-23.

What single religion is Jesus describing in Matthew 7:21-23? You who are so smart! The Pentecostal religion, of course! No other religion even practices the casting out of devils and prophesying in His name. Who are these that Jesus is speaking these words to, *“Depart from me ye that work iniquity!”* The Greek for “iniquity” is “lawless.” In 1 Timothy 1:9, we read about the lawless. *“Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless.”*

I believe “the lawless one” is a good description of the coming Antichrist. He is like a god that can’t live without the applause of people. Before our very eyes, we have seen our “slippery Bill” perform as President without constraints of the law. Could this be the meaning of *“thou hadst a whore’s forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed.”* Jer. 3:3. President Clinton revealed no remorse for his affair with Monica Lewinsky (a Jewess).

I recall the time Thomas Patten attempted to get me to go to the altar and repent. It was on my final visit to Patten’s church in the City Club Hotel auditorium in Oakland by beautiful Lake Merritt. I had

already been to the District Attorney for Alameda County. I spoke up to him, “You want me to go to the altar and repent? Listen to me, Brother Patten, you are the one that sold the City Club Hotel—not me! You are the one that needs to repent.” He accused the Oakland Tribune of lying after they broke the story in their paper that the City Club Hotel was sold to the Moose Lodge for \$480,000. Patten purchased property for \$240,000. Almost a quarter of a million dollars in profit. In 1945, that was a whole lot of money!

You readers of the *RBN* are so intelligent, let me give you one more to figure out! You did so well on who those were that Christ said, “*Depart from me ye that work iniquity!*” Who are those “*which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie*” in Revelation 3:9? I’ll give you some background for this question. They are mentioned in context with the Philadelphia church of Revelation 3:7-13. Many scholars believe Philadelphia began under the preaching of John Wesley and the Methodist Church, of which Pentecostalism should have associated itself. Pentecostalism is also an offsprig of the old Holiness Movement. Philadelphia, the church of the open door! This period started with the sending forth of missionaries on a scale unparalleled in history. However, in this Gentile church, from the synagogue of Satan come these false Jews. Who are they? Smyrna, also, had these Jews.

“*I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.*” Rev. 2:9. Apostle John prophesied the conversion of these Jews. “*Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, WHICH SAY they are Jews (spiritual Israel), and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know I have loved thee.*” Rev. 3:9. God is promising a revival among these folk (fake Jews) claiming to be spiritual Israel, merely because they speak in unknown tongues.

A natural Jew claims to be of the seed of Abraham by circumcision. Pentecostals believe the oracles of God (the Bible) have been opened to their understanding by the act of “speaking in tongues.” Our flesh was involved in both! God will raise up preachers to preach to these Jews lost in these “synagogues of Satan.” It is only by “*the foolishness of preaching to SAVE THEM THAT BELIEVE.*” 1 Cor. 1:21. These Jews have been “born of the Spirit,” but they need understanding of how to get “born of the water,” so they are qualified to enter the kingdom of God.

Once you mix law and grace, your church has been transformed into a synagogue. You are either saved by grace or perfection! This road to perfection involves the keeping of 430 commandments and judgments. “*For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them....And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.*” Gal. 3:10,12.

O foolish Galatians (Pentecostals)! Do you not know *"hell is being enlarged"* because of you! *"For by grace are ye saved through faith."* Eph. 2:8. It takes faith to keep you from the demands of the law. Any reverting back to the law for justification, and you have unsealed your *"sealed unto the day of redemption."* Eph. 4:30. *"Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are FALLEN from grace."* Gal. 5:4. How many Pentecostals are fallen from grace? We have the promise, *"I will make them to come!"* Rev. 3:9. Will you be part of the solution or part of the problem in this revival that will cause these Pentecostal legalists to repent?

O foolish Pentecostals! Hell was never created for you! It was created for the devil and his angels. God knew how much room He needed to house 1/3 of the heavenly host who had rebelled against God.

In Isaiah, the fifth chapter, we read of God looking over His vineyard. He is not pleased, *"for the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel."* Isa. 5:7. This truth better helps us in understanding the parable of the householder demanding fruit from his vineyard, as recorded in Matthew 21:33-44. *"And he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry."* Isa. 5:7. When God's people begin to cry over their oppressors, God hears their cry. *"The children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage (in Egypt), and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. And God heard their groaning."* Ex. 2:23-24. *"Judgment must begin at the house of God."* 1 Pet. 4:17. What does God find in these synagogues?

It is because there was no judgment that God pronounced six woes upon Israel. One of the woes reads, *"Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine (joy) inflame them!"* Isa. 5:11. This scripture is describing a typical Pentecostal meeting as they bring in the musical instruments. *"And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of his hands."* Isa. 5:12. Do you even know what *"the operation of his hands"* is?

All the musical instruments were present in Isaiah's day to make the joyful sound, *"the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe."* I never have quite understood how Jesus and the Apostle Paul accomplished so much in their ministries and never used the musical maestros of today's evangelism. What kind of ministry do you think Jimmy Swaggart would have without his music? or Jim Bakker without Tammy Faye? In the Pentecostal religion we are totally dependent upon music to become free in the spirit. The Hottentots of Africa, who beat the drums to whip up revival share the same sentiments. They dance, they shout, they praise their god, they rejoice to the beat of the drums to the joy of the medicine man.

Why do Pentecostals qualify as to why hell should be enlarged? Their type of worship, described in Isaiah, is why the prophet said hell was enlarged. All the musical maestros perform on stage in a Pentecostal worship service, much like the beat of a rock and roll concert today. Attending rock and roll concerts is part of the worship, but in church? Some Pentecostal churches no longer believe in the existence of hell, yet in their worship service they depend completely upon the musical maestros to perform their feat.

Pentecostals have a “feel good god” and “*regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of his hands.*” Isa. 5:12. Pentecostal believers, sad to say, are more interested in health and wealth than in government, or who owns the church. This produces a wrong relationship with God, because He cares. And, because He cares, God enlarged hell for those who think true religion is emotional excitement to the beat of drums. God designed hell for the devil and his angels, but man has chosen to defy God.

“The operation of God’s hands” is entirely contrary to the “health and wealth” gospel being preached today. The positive affirmation gospel is a selfish gospel to heap treasure upon our own head. But the “operation of God’s hands” gospel is described in Ex. 22:21-23. “*Thou shalt neither vex a stranger, nor oppress him: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt. Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child. If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their cry.*”

In Isaiah we read, “*Thy princes are rebellious...they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them. Therefore saith the LORD, the LORD of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies...Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, JUDGE THE FATHERLESS, PLEAD FOR THE WIDOW.*” Isa. 1:23-24,17.

The early church had this Old Testament understanding from the law. Can’t you understand why the first church was so involved with widows and orphans. Looking at the church in relationship to this, “*consider not the operation of his hands,*” one wonders if the church is even on the same side as the Lord. God is on the side of the oppressed, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow. On which side are you?

Widows own 90% of the stock market! Their husbands are all dead! I’m not talking about the all-sufficient widows who married correctly; often for security rather than love. This type of widow is as merciless in her thinking as the Pentecostal preacher. “*Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.*” Isa. 1:18. This scripture is not an altar call for sinners, but the attitude of

Christians to change toward widows, the oppressed, and the fatherless. When was the last time you gave a dime for the cause of an orphan, widow or a stranger?

The early church could not sweep all these Old Testament scriptures that plead the cause of the widow, under the carpet. *“Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst.”* Isa. 5:13. God has withheld the rain of the Holy Ghost because we can’t hear the cry of the widow.

“Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.” Acts 6:2. These were all Jewish Christians! They knew which side God was on! Thomas Patten had eight brand new Cadillacs sitting in his driveway the day I decided to put my *“hand in the sop”* as Dr. Patten put it. The cause of the widow never came to the Patten’s attention, but rather to *“devour widows’ houses”* by C. Thomas Patten’s unusual gift of hoisting money out of a congregation.

“Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.” Isa. 5:14.