



Let my people go!
Ministry of Cpt. Gordon Nelson
The Old Ship of Zion
(Christian-Zionist Publication)
"Godliness with contentment." (1 Tim. 6:6)
"To the Jew first." (Rom. 1:16)

MESSAGE 1 - 2007

CAPTAIN'S RESPONSE TO A LETTER

"LET US LABOUR THEREFORE TO ENTER INTO THAT REST." (HEB. 4:11)

January 4, 2007

Dear Caryl,

Happy New Year!

I'll give you a quick synopsis of the questions you presented. Coming out of the wilderness of religion where the children of Israel wandered for forty years is not an easy task! I hate to be so abrupt, but you're still in the wilderness of Christianity. I have wandered in it for over forty years myself. Only God can lead you out! You'll only be led out by divine providence, *"according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world...having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ."* (Eph. 1:4-5) Children are teachable!

Jesus hangs a "verily" sign out on this truth! *"Verily (this is truth-extra emphasis) I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, YE SHALL NOT ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN."* (Matt. 18:3) It is not enough just to become "born again," where your baby eyes are first opened to "see the kingdom of heaven's" existence. In John 3:3, where your eyes are first opened to SEE, there are two "verily's" (this is truth). *"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, HE CANNOT SEE the kingdom of God."* There is more to this message of Jesus Christ than merely having your eyes opened so you can SEE that a kingdom of God exists.

Earthly father correcteth his son

Now that we can see, the next question is this, How do we get into the kingdom of heaven?

A good child only listens to his parents, and in particular his father. Why father? Because he is the one who gives him knowledge between right and wrong. Once a bent tree is planted, only father can take the bend out. If he doesn't, so let it grow. The bend is engrafted into the tree because mama doesn't reverence her husband, calling him "lord," as Sarah did. (1 Pet. 3:6) Take the bend out of his son, and he will reverence his father. (Heb. 12:9) *"Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge. Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell."* (Prov. 23:12-14)

Mama's boys and girls are without correction

"If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for WHAT SON IS HE WHOM THE FATHER CHASTENETH NOT? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof ALL are partakers, THEN

ARE YE BASTARDS, and not sons.” (Heb. 12:7-8) All these mama’s boys running around in the church today never received any correction from their earthly fathers, let alone to give him any reverence (respect). *“Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence.”* (Heb. 12:9) Having never submitted to an earthly father, when they get born again it is difficult for them to surrender to a heavenly Father, as well. *“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.”* (Matt. 7:21) Young men and women who are incapable of obeying their earthly fathers, will find the rules of marriage detrimental to their lifestyle. Mama girls and boys should be avoided because they cannot accept the responsibility of the marriage contract. When you are unable to obey the Father, you surrender to your carnal mind. *“For to be carnally minded is death.”* (Rom. 8:6) The carnally minded seek another way. *“Verily, verily (two verily’s are to be listened to), I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.”* (Jn. 10:1)

In the same chapter, Jesus declared, “I am the door!” The door to what? The Father’s kingdom! In this world of religion that exists today, it is difficult to even grasp that much truth. *“God so loved the world!”* (Jn. 3:16) God the Father sent His Son as a propitiation for our sins so the fellowship He once enjoyed with Adam could be restored. Jesus was merely the door for your reconciliation to the Father. In today’s theology, it sounds almost blasphemous to give honor to Father God.

“I don’t believe in eternal security”

Now, my sister in the Lord, Caryl, says, “I do not believe in eternal security. I admit I do not know Calvinist doctrine.”

As an ex-Baptist, what do you think you were being taught? Revived Calvinism is the definition of Darby-Scofieldism theology. The Pope of the Protestant Orthodox Christianity is always the President of Dallas Theological Seminary (DTS). Dr. C.I. Scofield is the founder and first President of DTS. The Protestant religion has its own Vatican with its high priests, all graduates from Darbyism’s theological seminaries.

Scripturally, the doctrine of eternal security is only applicable to those who have entered into His rest, a type of the Promised Land. Do you realize that everyone who came out of Egypt (type of the world) under Moses passed through the Red Sea (type of Calvary)? In this time of the end, Christian television achieves the same identical spiritual accomplishment. Christian television can deliver you from Egypt (the world) and cause you to cross the Red Sea (Calvary) into the wilderness of Christianity. How do you get out so you don’t die in the wilderness? TBN, Daystar, Star Angel networks don’t have a clue.

“Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the (Red) sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the (Red) sea; and did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink (they were all born again): for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: AND THAT ROCK WAS CHRIST.” (1 Cor. 10:1-4)

Apostle Barnabas took Paul under his wing

I believe Barnabas is the writer to the Hebrews, and was one of the seventy. *“After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.”* (Lk. 10:1) It is Barnabas who took Saul of Tarsus, this new convert from Phariseism, and taught him many things, among them, the right church to attend-Antioch (Acts 13:1-4), and Christ’s example of sending disciples out “two and two.” Barnabas, as a disciple of the seventy, had been taught “two and two” by his Master. Why didn’t Barnabas sent Saul to Jerusalem?

The writer to the Hebrews gives a sobering warning to the church. *“Let us therefore FEAR, lest, A PROMISE being left us of entering into HIS REST, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them (the children of Israel in the wilderness): but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.”* (Heb. 4:1-2)

Gospel preached to Israel in wilderness

Did you hear what Hebrews is telling you? *“For unto us was the gospel preached, AS WELL AS UNTO THEM.”* (Heb. 4:2) God’s Word declares the gospel was preached to the children of Israel, but they could not enter into HIS REST due to unbelief. *“Moreover, brethren (the brotherhood of elders), I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that ALL OUR FATHERS (of the Old Testament) were UNDER THE CLOUD (Word), and ALL passed through the (Red) sea; and were ALL BAPTIZED unto Moses (both) in the cloud and in the (Red) sea; and did ALL EAT the same spiritual meat; and did ALL DRINK the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual ROCK that followed them: and that ROCK WAS CHRIST.”* (1 Cor. 10:1-4) They had the same spiritual experience you had, but died in the wilderness prematurely. Billy Graham set us on a road of no return to the One World Church.

“But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown (to prostrate, or slain) in the wilderness.” (1 Cor. 10:5) How are these Israelites who all died in the wilderness, any different from the Christians wandering around following some guru of Pentecostalism who owns his own kingdom via a 501(c)(3) non-profit family business? Do you really think God is well pleased as the church is being assimilated into one globalist religion that will follow the False Prophet? (Rev. 16:13) If you own your own church, how are you any different from an archbishop who is appointed by the Pope over each diocese? In fact, Romanism actually offers more freedom. The archbishop is at least accountable to the Pope. Your minister in today’s society is accountable to no one on earth but the IRS. Is it any wonder they believed the same lie the serpent told to Eve? *“Then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be AS GODS, knowing good and evil.”* (Gen. 3:5) Has Eve (the false church) given us an apple?

All these things happened for our benefit

“Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted... Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth (or has eternal life) take heed lest he fall.” (1 Cor. 10:6,12) *“But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.”* (Matt. 24:13)

We are still laying groundwork for our subject of eternal security. I believe in eternal security, but not as John Calvin, Darby-Scofield and Dallas Theological Seminary jam it down our throats. Those who died in the wilderness did not possess eternal security, except for Moses who was a type of *“Christ after the flesh.”* (2 Cor. 5:16)

Moses could not lead the Israelites into Canaan’s land (the Promised Land), and neither can the Christ *“made under the law.”* (Gal. 4:4) The Christ of the four gospels became sin. *“For it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.”* (Gal. 3:13) This Christ can only deliver you out of Egypt (type of the world) and across the Red Sea (Calvary) into the wilderness. (Heb. 4:8) Jesus prayed unto the Father for *“another Comforter.”* (Jn. 14:16)

Only the Apostle Paul can take you into the Promised Land, because he was the only one, aside from Barnabas, who really knew who this “Christ after the flesh” was. *“Now I say that Jesus Christ (after the flesh) was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers (patriarchs of the Old Testament).”* (Rom. 15:8) Jesus’ chief purpose for coming was to confirm to the Jews that He was their Messiah. Apostle Paul, as a minister of the uncircumcision, declared his followers do not even know such a Christ. *“Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.”* (2 Cor. 5:16)

Jesus Christ (after the flesh) is the Jewish Messiah. Jesus Christ (after the Spirit) was the Christ whom Paul preached. *“But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.”* (Gal. 1:8)

Jesus said, *“I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”* (Matt. 15:24) *“These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”* (Matt. 10:5-6) The inscription Rome placed on the cross read, *“JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS.”* (Jn. 19:19)

Apostle Paul preached a gospel of contentment. *“For I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.”* (Phil. 4:11) The rich are never content, they always want more. This is the reason the rich love the “Christ after the flesh” who taught abundant living. *“I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”* (Jn. 10:10) Oral Roberts, the author of the prosperity gospel once said, “All the Bible you ever need is in the four gospels. I have read them over one hundred times.” Oral preached another gospel than that which Paul preached, therefore it is accursed to all who believe it. *“For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.”* (Heb. 4:8) How popular do you think the gospel would be today if they preached, *“But godliness with contentment is great gain...And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.”* (1 Tim. 6:6,8)

Christ after the Spirit

Christ after the Spirit’s voice falls on deaf ears among all our Gentile pastors. They never hear a word! *“Their ears are dull of hearing.”* (Matt. 13:15) Only if you place your hand into the hand of St. Paul can you be led out. Paul, *“one born out of due time”* (1 Cor. 15:8) never met this “Christ after the

flesh” whom the twelve all knew and venerated. The Apostle to the Gentiles makes one of the most remarkable statements in Holy Writ. *“For I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ (after the Spirit).”* (2 Cor. 11:2) Paul and Barnabas could well represent the Joshua and Caleb of the Old Testament.

It is in Hebrews we acquire more truth regarding this personage of Christ after the flesh. The author of the book of Hebrews plainly teaches us that this “Christ after the flesh” never gave you rest. *“For if Jesus (after the flesh) had given them REST, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.”* (Heb. 4:8) As a type of Moses, Jesus could not lead God’s children into this REST. *“And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you ANOTHER COMFORTER, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and SHALL BE IN YOU.”* (Jn. 14:16-17)

Is it possible that Jesus’ prayer to the Father for “another Comforter” is Apostle Paul’s “Christ after the Spirit”? (2 Cor. 5:16) Isaiah seems to confirm this interpretation by identifying the “stammering lips” with the “His rest.” *“For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the REST wherewith ye may cause the weary to REST; and this is THE REFRESHING: yet they would not hear.”* (Isa. 28:11-12)

Remember the Sabbath of rest!

One must cease from his works as God did on the Sabbath. *“For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from ALL HIS WORKS. And in this place again, if they shall enter into my rest.”* (Heb. 4:4-5)

“There remaineth therefore A REST to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, AS GOD did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that REST.” (Heb. 4:9-11) *“Faith cometh by hearing.”* (Rom. 10:17) Abraham had faith because he heard from God. What’s wrong with the church? *“Their ears are dull of hearing.”* (Matt. 13:15) They preach, but have heard nothing! Only God can bring you to that place in Him where you cease your religious religiosity works, and REST in the Comforter sent to earth as a ship to carry us all home, just like Elijah’s chariot of fire. *“Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.”* (Matt. 25:13) *“But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.”* (1 Thes. 5:1) We are not ignorant! We know the times and seasons of Christ’s return.

God uses this story of Israel in the wilderness as a warning to the Christians *“upon whom the ends of the world are come.”* (1 Cor. 10:11) We are that people. We know when Christ will return! It is a pre-wrath rapture, when “the moon turns to blood.” (Rev. 6:12)

“Now ALL THESE THINGS happened unto them (Israel in the wilderness) FOR EXAMPLES: and they are written for our admonition (calling attention to), upon whom the ends of the world are come.” (1 Cor. 10:11) Moses could have led Israel into the land of Canaan in eleven days, but God kept them wandering in the wilderness for forty years! Why? *“For our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.”*

Just how could this story of Israel wandering in the wilderness be for our admonition, unless at the very end time our wandering among churches would be similar to these wandering Israelites? If this is true, then it confirms what Jesus said. *“Strive to enter in at the strait gate (strait gate – narrow [from obstacles close about] Strong’s #4728. The biggest obstacle standing in the way is this Christ after the flesh, a type of Moses): for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.”* (Lk. 13:24) *“Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”* (Matt. 7:14)

The Bible is a giant jigsaw puzzle!

Your next question, Caryl, is “What is meant by first and second advent of our Lord? I don’t believe the Lord will come again until the last trump. Matt. 24:29-31”

The Bible is a giant jigsaw puzzle. It’s mysteries and prophecies are sealed from man’s comprehension “till the time of the end.” God gradually reveals Himself and His doctrines like He did in the wilderness to the children of Israel. They were led about by a cloud (type of the Word) by day and a pillar of fire (type of the Holy Ghost baptism) by night. *“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.”* (Rom. 8:14) *“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in Spirit and in truth.”* (Jn. 4:24) The Israelites were worshipping God in the cloud and by a pillar of fire (Holy Ghost baptism). (Matt. 3:11)

Religion builds boxes to contain God

The church is an organism, not an organization with local church autonomy, having elders as overseers and rulers. *“Let the elders that rule.”* (1 Tim. 5:17) It is religion that builds a box for God to dwell within the confines of their four walls. “Bye, God! I’ll see you on the next Lord’s day!” If you’ve never read John Bunyan’s The Pilgrim’s Progress, you’re in for a treat. *“And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: and the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.”* (Isa. 35:8-10)

Pilgrim’s Progress

The Pilgrim’s Progress gets your mind off of a box relationship with God, and gives you a vision of a highway that leads directly to the Celestial City. It is the only place that the unclean cannot walk. Every ravenous beast that you can imagine lurks in the corners of a box. Even in a confessional booth, young boys are not safe, boxed in with a priest.

We are on a journey, not sitting in some pew watching stage performers! *“My house shall be called the house of prayer”* (Matt. 21:13), but you have made it a stage for pop singers to sell their recordings. Are you made conscious of a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night in such an atmosphere?

Martin Luther caught sight of a cloud (Word) called *“the just shall live by faith.”* (Rom. 1:17) This single revelation of truth caused the Reformation and the birthing of the Protestant religion. The very

leaders, Luther, Knox and Calvin, all built boxes around this cloud of truth. When will man ever learn that one cannot build a corral big enough to contain God? It may work on wild horses, but not on God! God will move on!

Gentiles never see the cloud (revelation knowledge) move, and totally reject the pillar of fire, the baptism of the *“Holy Ghost, and with fire.”* (Matt. 3:11) Yet, they build boxes in memory of when both were in their midst. *“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous.”* (Matt. 23:29)

Martin Luther saw the cloud, *“the just shall live by faith,”* and built a box around that truth, called the Lutheran Church. Martin Luther, John Calvin and John Knox never dreamed the cloud would move on. Why? Because they thought God should be happy always living in their little box, built for His presence.

John Wesley, father of the Great Awakening, sees the cloud move!

John Wesley and George Whitfield of England saw the cloud move. What caused the cloud to move? Further revelation knowledge of truth! *“The just shall live by faith”* is all well and good, but without holiness no man shall see the Lord. (Heb. 12:14) Thus, the holiness teaching caused the “Great Awakening.” This revival was so great that I believe it birthed the Philadelphia Church of Revelation 3:7-13. It is the church of the open door. *“He that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth, and shutteth, and no man openeth.”* God gives a man a ministry by the Holy Ghost and no man can shut that door!

Methodism shut its own door by their interpretation of holiness, which developed into legalism. True holiness is “imputed righteousness,” given by God as a result of correct faith. *“And therefore it was imputed (accounted) to him for righteousness.”* (Rom. 4:22)

Birth of the Philadelphia Church (Rev. 3:7-13) attributed to John Wesley

The Captain names the highway that Pilgrim traveled to arrive safely in the Celestial City. Take the highway called, Philadelphia. The next move of God will be in this Philadelphia Church, convincing these “Jews” who say they are spiritual Israel that they are serving the wrong Christ. If you take a detour either to the right or to the left, you’ll be in Laodicea, who accepts all. Upon Wesley’s demise, Methodism took a left turn. Today, Methodism is a leader in creating a globalistic church. This one world Laodicean church, the “prosperity gospel church” now being presented on worldwide television, is rich and prosperous. (Rev. 3:17)

Azusa Street and Pentecostalism were born from these same roots of holiness churches. Pentecostalism seemed to have divorced itself totally from its roots of John Wesley and Methodism. This was Azusa Street’s biggest error. The movement never really found the highway called Philadelphia. Within this Philadelphia church we read, *“Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews (spiritual Israel, all because they talk in tongues, a type of circumcision), and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.”* (Rev. 3:9) These Jews mentioned in Philadelphia, are none other than these

Pentecostals. Pentecostals, like Jews, rest their case in the law. *“Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God.”* (Rom. 2:17) It is these “Jews” that I am contending with right now.

God is going to raise up a ministry that will cause these Pentecostal “Jews” to repent so they can get on track and return to the highway called Philadelphia. In fact, He stands and knocks on the door of Laodicea, attempting to gain entrance, also. *“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”* (Rev. 3:20) Laodicea is so self-sufficient, it cannot bother to open the door. Laodicea answers the knocking by yelling, *“I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing.”* (Rev. 3:17) Matthew Crouch’s “Hollywood today, Wall Street tomorrow!” is prophetic. TBN, the Catholic Church and the World Council of Churches will be one!

Second advent is the rapture

Jesus warned us, as we approach the second advent of our Lord’s return to rapture the church, *“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting (hangovers from drunkenness), and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.”* (Lk. 21:34) Laodicea is a type of the foolish virgins and the Christians still living in the wilderness of churchianity.

The first advent of Christ’s coming was in Bethlehem of Judea. *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son.”* (Jn. 3:16) In the first advent, and in the second advent to come, the Father sends the Son back to earth. *“But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, BUT MY FATHER ONLY.”* (Matt. 24:36)

Harold Camping

Except Harold Camping; he named the day and the hour. Harold Camping promoted the book by Edgar Whisenant, 88 Reasons Why the Rapture Will Be in 1988, on his radio program. When that didn’t happen, Camping wrote his book, 1994?, explaining why that would be the year of the rapture. Harold Camping gives you a half-truth. The Church Age is synonymous with the Age of Grace. Does Camping quit teaching that the Age of Grace is over? Harold Camping is a false prophet, teaching Calvinistic doctrine. He owns the radio station called Family Radio, just as Paul, Jan and Matthew Crouch own Trinity Broadcasting Network television. In these last days, we have church without government, and a total absence of elders and deacons.

What is the rapture?

“I don’t use the term rapture,” says Miss Caryl.

“Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to ESCAPE all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.” (Lk. 21:36) *“And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: the sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come.”* (Acts 2:19-20)

“Remember Lot’s wife.” (Lk. 17:32) All she did was look back! This is a warning to the church. We have nothing to look back to. Lot’s wife had family members back in Sodom. Many folks will be drawn back by family members that have already made the decision to spend eternity in hell. *“He that shall endure to the end shall be saved.”* (Matt. 10:22)

The scriptures continue, *“I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left.”* (Lk. 17:34-35) The one taken was raptured! *“Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together.”* (Lk. 17:37) Hence, are with the Lord forever.

Jesus can come at any time?

Her pastor says, “Jesus can come at any time.”

We call this doctrine the pre-trib rapture doctrine. It is the sand that falls on the eyes of both the wise and the foolish virgins of Matthew 25:5. *“While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.”* What put the virgins to sleep? The bridegroom tarried.

The bridegroom never tarried. It is man’s conception of when Christ should come that causes us to think He has tarried. Tim LaHaye’s Left Behind series that glamorized the pre-trib rapture doctrine, causes Christians to go to sleep spiritually.

“God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?” (Num. 23:19) If Jesus could come at any time, God would make Himself out to be a liar.

GOD HAS GIVEN US SPECIFIC SIGNS that must transpire first, before Christ can return.

#1 – In Peter’s address at Pentecost, Peter mentioned some of these unfulfilled signs that must yet come to pass before Christ’s return. *“And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke (volcanic action). The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, BEFORE that great and notable day of the Lord come.”* (Acts 2:19-20)

The moon must turn to blood before Christ can return in the clouds. If you listen to the ministries of today, you are made to believe the only sign necessary to be fulfilled is the Jews returning to Israel.

#2 – If you’ll read 2 Thessalonians 1-3, you’ll discover that Apostle Paul already knew how preachers would use this doctrine. Paul is dealing with the subject, *“Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together (as the eagles to the carcass) unto him.”* Read those three chapters, and if you can’t believe what you’re reading, you’re simply a child of the wilderness of religion who will die there.

There are three signs yet unfulfilled:

#1 – The “falling away” represents the foolish virgins who believed Christ could come at any time. (2 Thes. 2:3)

#2 – Revealing of “that man of sin” – You’ll see Antichrist on your boobtube before any such rapture. (2 Thes. 2:3)

#3 – Elijah is the next visitor to planet earth. *“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful DAY OF THE LORD.”* (Mal. 4:5) The Day of the Lord is God’s wrath and judgment. This is all that the church escapes.

There are two more “comings” of the Lord. Ministers who don’t believe in a rapture still talk about a coming of the Lord. The next coming is for the saints. The final coming is when He returns with His saints, and his feet touch Mt. Olivet when He sets up His kingdom to rule and reign for 1,000 years, called the millennial reign of Christ on earth.

The Bible says, *“Let God be true, but every man a liar.”* (Rom. 3:4) Truth is not established by some man’s teaching. *“Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.”* (Prov. 23:23) Jesus said, *“Except a man be born again, he cannot SEE.”* (Jn. 3:3) We are held captive to “evolution” until we are born again. One minute after being born again, one knows evolution as taught as a scientific fact in our public schools is a lie. How did I know it? By revelation knowledge. *“Flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.”* (Matt. 16:17) “Revelation knowledge” sets us free from the thinking process of the carnal mind!

Ye must be born of water to enter!

Jesus adds one more element to your just SEEING. *“Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot ENTER into the kingdom of God.”* (Jn. 3:5) My dear Catholic friends are born of the Spirit, but they’ve never been born of water to enter into the kingdom of God. Many Pentecostals are in the same shape, believing physical exercise in a service profiteth much. The more they roll and holler, the more holy they are. *“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?”* (Jer. 17:9)

When you are born of water, you are born of the Word. The Word becomes flesh and dwells among us. *“But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.”* (Tit. 3:4-5)

The water that you are baptized into is simply symbolic of this “washing of regeneration.” When you are baptized in water, that is the cleanest bath a person will ever experience. *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”* (Mk. 16:16) One is literally being baptized into the Word of God, *“the washing of regeneration.”*

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.” (Jn. 1:14) No matter how much Spirit you demonstrate, if you are not baptized into *“the washing of regeneration,”* you still need to be regenerated to enter the kingdom of God. It is *“not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord.”* (Matt. 7:21-23)

Rev. Ted Haggard's vision of 22 years ago A new Vatican for Evangelicals? Colorado Springs, CO

Evangelical mecca emerged, but the vision may be fading

Paul Asay and Dave Philipps * Colorado Springs Gazette * Jan. 7, 2007

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - Colorado Springs has been called an evangelical mecca, the Vatican of the Religious Right, a New Jerusalem. And it didn't get that way by accident.

God chose this city, the Rev. Ted Haggard said. He said he saw it all in a vision 22 years ago: The city would grow from an unremarkable Western town into a fountain of devotion splashing Christian thought around the world.

One by one, the pieces of his vision fell into place. His church, which started in an unfinished basement, grew to become the largest in the state. Prominent radio personality James Dobson brought Focus on the Family to the city. A landslide of Christian non-profits followed. Colorado Springs was home to two of the most powerful evangelicals in the country.

Haggard was a presidential adviser and political power broker. Last summer, he sat in his book-lined office at New Life Church, smiled and said: "It's happened. My whole vision has happened."

Since then, other things have happened. Haggard and Dobson, Colorado Springs' twin evangelical pillars, have been shaken - one crumbling completely.

Haggard was driven from power by a gay sex scandal in November. A week later, the Republican Party that the city's conservative Christians helped carry to victory in 2004 lost control of Congress, even after Dobson stumped across the country for candidates.

Dobson blamed the party for its collapse. Pundits blamed social conservatives like Dobson. Either way, the religious right's agenda was crushed in the rubble.

And so, in some ways, was Colorado Springs' evangelical reputation. The recent election suggests U.S. values are shifting, leaving the city on the sidelines. Haggard is gone. Dobson is 70. And though Dobson shows little sign of slowing, he won't be around forever.

Without another charismatic voice, it's unclear whether Colorado Springs' title as the Vatican of the Christian Right can survive.

In 1984, a nobody pastor named Ted Haggard had what he described as a vision after three days of fasting and praying on the side of Pikes Peak.

Colorado Springs was already a conservative town. But its political coloration was dictated by its large contingent of active and retired military, not its churches.

Haggard saw a city transformed: There was "a huge, life-giving church" on a hill. Christian organizations poured into the city like crazy, creating "a fountain with young people coming in, having positive spiritual experiences, and going to the darkest places in the world."

Part of his teachings focused on Colorado Springs being a chosen place that needed to be claimed for the Lord. The New Lifers walked the sidewalks, praying and blessing, block by block, business by business, all over the city.

"We walked the city," Haggard said in his book *Primary Purpose*. "We walked it day and night. We prayed over the businesses, we prayed over the government. And it was during that time that the city hired a woman that encouraged parachurch ministries to move here."...

Building a community

- **1947:** Young Life relocates to Colorado Springs from Texas.
- **1953:** The Navigators move into Gen. William Jackson Palmer's Glen Eyrie castle.
- **1980:** Compassion International relocates to Colorado Springs.
- **1985:** The Rev. Ted Haggard arrives and plants New Life Church.
- **Mid-1980s:** Recession hits. Soon, Colorado Springs' Economic Development Council begins courting non-profits.
- **1989:** A wave of Christian organizations comes to town, including the Christian and Missionary Alliance and International Bible Society.
- **1991:** Focus on the Family relocates to Colorado Springs. It's the largest of a slew of organizations to arrive during the early 1990s.
- **May 2003:** James Dobson resigns as president of Focus on the Family partly to have a greater political voice.
- **June 2003:** Haggard becomes president of the National Association of Evangelicals.
- **2006:** Allegations surface that Haggard had a sexual affair with a gay escort. Haggard resigns from the National Association of Evangelicals and is fired from New Life.

-- Colorado Spring Gazette