

RIVERBANK NEWS

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"GO YE THEREFORE, AND TEACH ALL NATIONS!"

By Gordon F. Nelson

*"Teaching them to observe ALL THINGS whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you
always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:19-20*

I'm sure the great emphasis on evangelism and pastoring has eclipsed the other gifts God has given to the Church. Jesus was a teacher. *"And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings (the Sermon on the Mount), the people were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one having authority."* Matthew 7:28-29. *"Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: the same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God."* John 3:1-2.

The most neglected gift to the Church is the teacher. Sunday schools were a by-product of the Dwight L. Moody revival. This most neglected gift is to the Body of Christ that compares *"line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little, there a little"* (Isaiah 28:10) to establish Biblical doctrine for the believers.

"But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high...and GAVE GIFTS UNTO MEN... And he gave some (to be), apostles; and some (to be), prophets; and some (to be), evangelists; and some (to be), pastors and teachers." Ephesians 4:7-11.

Without the teacher, all the other ministries are false prophets. The teacher is not the rock, but he is ever conscious of the building being upon that foundation. A wise man will listen and take heed to this ministry gift given to the Church.

The Apostle Paul was a "masterbuilder." *"I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon."* The Assemblies of God "hireling system" was not *"taking heed how they buildeth thereupon."* 1 Corinthians 3:10. *"Let the elders rule!"* (1 Timothy 5:17) -- not the people nor the preacher. *"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ"* -- the Rock. 1 Corinthians 3:11. *"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings (Gk.-logos, topic, or subject of discourse) of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock."* Matthew 7:24.

ROCK
Matthew 7:24
God will build

SAND
Matthew 7:26
They will build
“lords” & “hirelings”

Whenever you build a house, you build from the bottom up.
Only the Church attempts to build from the top down!

Where there is no “teacher-gift”, “*every man did that which was right in his own eyes.*” Judges 17:6. If the “teacher-gift” were in operation in the Church, Walter Martin’s C.R.I. would be bankrupt! Hank Hanegraaff spends most of his energy on the Pentecostal Church that is built on sand (Pastor). The largest Christian network of TV stations, owned by Paul and Jan Crouch (family non-profit incorporation), Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) is built on sand.

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It is exactly like our local Christian programming, Channel 42. “*And everyone that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house on sand* (family-owned non-profit incorporation): *and the rain descended* (on Ronn Haus’ Channel 42), *and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.*” Matthew 7:26-27.

Unless the house is built upon all the five-fold ministries given to the Church, it is built upon sand. It is just a matter of time, inflation, greed, lust for power to bring the building down. It was founded upon the sand.

Let’s say the hub of a wheel is the least important part of a wheel. In a similar fashion, the teacher is listed last, but like the hub is the glue to hold it all together. I’d like to believe the RIVERBANK NEWS fills a void that is absent from the Church--the teacher.

I will have had my 75th birthday by the time you receive this issue of the RIVERBANK NEWS. Over 55 years in this one religion, but even that does not qualify me as a teacher. What qualified a shepherd boy to be king over Israel? His education? I think not! It was Goliath’s head! David, a stripling of a youth, walking around dragging Goliath’s head by his hair! A sign of victory! In 1 Samuel 22:10, we read of Doeg the Edomite, who was set over the servants of Saul, giving David Goliath’s sword. This guy carried the evidence with him that he was a “giant killer.” It was no mouthing at the mouth!

I know why this Pentecostal Church doesn’t work. I have the evidence--my Goliath’s head, Dr. Bebe H. Patten’s late husband, C. (for Cash) Thomas Patten. I stood up one time before the entire Trinity Church in Sacramento and told them about the “head of Goliath.” C. Thomas Patten said publicly, “If you have plenty of money and smart lawyers, you can do anything and get by,” defying the

God of Israel. He had no more than uttered those words when God spoke to me, “And you’re going to bring him down!” Wow! What a God we serve!

Most of the teaching in Pentecostal circles is influenced greatly by the C.I. Scofield Bible and the innate desire “to be like the religions that surround us.” Hence, Baptist theology became the head, while us “tongue-talkers” were the tail. It was a case of the blind being led by the blind.

When God poured out the Holy Ghost at Azuza Street in Los Angeles, it was to “*purify unto himself a peculiar (Gr.-being beyond usual, special) people, zealous of good works.*” Titus 2:14. “*But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a PECULIAR PEOPLE; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*” 1 Peter 2:9.

“*Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles’ wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a PECULIAR TREASURE unto me above all people.*” Exodus 19:4-5. It was God’s desire that Israel be a “peculiar treasure” unto himself, and the Church as His Son’s bride, a “peculiar treasure” to Jesus. What happened? “*For the LORD hath chosen Jacob unto himself, and Israel for his peculiar treasure.*” Psalm 135:4.

Israel’s desire was to be like the nations that surrounded her, all ruled by kings. Pentecostals, known only as Holy Rollers, desired more acceptance by the respected religions. “*Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, and said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now MAKE US A KING to judge us like all the nations.*” 1 Samuel 8:4-5.

Israel understood that God would no longer be their ruler; as in a real theocracy! They well understood about why the chief cornerstone was absent from the very top of the pyramids of Egypt. However, the Church today is as the prophet declares, “*For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have closed.*” Matthew 13:15.

No one today can duplicate the pyramids of Egypt! No one knows who built them! Some Church historians believe that Enoch, with the help of angels, built the pyramids. They stand as ghosts in the desert of time ever heralding the message the Church refuses to hear: keep the place for the “chief cornerstone” empty! Why? Was it to proclaim a message from God?

The only significant difference between the Church and Israel in this regard, “*Make us a king!*” is that Israel knew she was rejecting God. The Church, with it’s many “lords,” does not! “*But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us.*” 1 Samuel 8:6.

John Hagee of San Antonio, Texas rails on the Baptist preachers because of their democratic process in “hiring” a preacher. John Hagee is deceived into believing his “family owned non-profit” organization is a theocracy. Israel rejected a theocracy when they rejected Samuel as their Judge.

Even after Samuel makes Israel aware of the cost to having a king, they still insisted, *“we will have a king over us; that we also may be like all the nations.”* 1 Samuel 8:19-20. Samuel predicts a day they will regret. *“And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day.”* 1 Samuel 8:18.

Could that judgment prophecy of Samuel be applicable to our day as well? We are without excuse for allowing these “kings” to rule over us in our temples of worship. Every woman and young boy can be a target of sexual abuse in such an environment (without government).

Earl Paulk, of Atlanta, Georgia, has shocked Christians recently by his pro-abortion platform. Too many of his own sons, who are bishops in his kingdom, probably needed abortions for their sex out of wedlock in the congregation.

Your total rejection of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire does not go unnoticed by God.

“Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk (of the Word).” Isaiah 28:9. *“But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”* Hebrews 5:14. *“For precept (Heb.-commandment or injunction) must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: for with stammering lips and ANOTHER TONGUE will he speak to this people...yet THEY WOULD NOT HEAR.”* Isaiah 28:10-13. Your total rejection of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire does not go unnoticed by God.

The denominations are all built on sand due to their recognition of only “two gifts”, Pastor and Evangelist. These cannot bring revival!

To me, the Bible is like a 10,000-piece jigsaw puzzle. All the pieces fit! But, one rule you will soon learn as you progress, “Every promise in the Bible is conditional.” Unless you accept this rule, you will have pieces left that don’t fit anywhere. It is only the teacher that becomes concerned over the “left over” pieces that do not fit or complete the puzzle.

It was during the Great Depression when jigsaws were so popular! Whole families would work one puzzle with over a thousand pieces. It is what we did for entertainment once we tired of “Amos and Andy” on radio, and Popeye in the comic strip. Nobody worked--there was none. When you finally completed a puzzle that took an entire month, you did like the woman in Luke 15:8 that had lost one

piece of silver. *“And when she hath found it, she called her friends and her neighbors together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.”*

One scripture caused me to take this approach in studying the scriptures, *“Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition.”* Mark 7:13. I had to re-examine my entire belief system and throw out that which didn’t literally conform to scripture. To my amazement the doctrines I had to learn to discard was pulpit preaching, designed to tickle the ears of the hearers. Is it any wonder that God commands, You (is implied) *“Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life* (unconditional eternal security): *and they are they* (the radio and TV preacher) *which testify of me.”* John 5:39.

The Pilgrim’s Progress, by John Bunyan, is of great benefit to those still struggling with this issue. As long as Pilgrim is not detoured to the right or left and remains on the road, he’ll get to his destination of the Celestial City. When you finally find the truth, you will enter into “rest.” *“That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the slight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.”* Ephesians 4:14.

“But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.” Isaiah 28:13. *“The unlearned and unstable wrest (Gk.-to wrench, pervert), as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.”* 2 Peter 3:16. It takes the teacher to *“rightly divide the word.”*

Isaiah 28:13 is referring to those who destroy the truth, but because of their natural education and abilities, are able to use the same method of the true prophet; *“precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little, there a little”* and all the time *“denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”* 2 Timothy 3:5.

Dr. J. Vernon Magee, graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary (DTS), is an example of the skillful use of the “precept upon precept, line upon line,” but in the midst of his teaching blasphemes the Holy Ghost by saying, “all manner of stammering lips (or speaking in tongues) is of the devil.”

What do these DTS boys think the *“falling away”* (2 Thessalonians 2:3) is? Believing “unconditional salvation,” how can one “fall away”? Who do you think is involved in this entire ecumenical move toward Rome? The “fallen away Church”, which is Laodicea. Suddenly, when you accept ecumenicalism, you are *“rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing.”* Revelation 3:17.

Three lies lay the foundation for the undermining of your faith:

#1 - Unconditional Eternal Security;

#2 - You will see Christ before the appearance of Antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2:3). (Jack Van Impe is out of step with them because he believes Christ cannot come tomorrow.)

#3 - Salvation by *“works of righteousness which we have done.”* Titus 3:5.

“Whom shall we teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine?” Isaiah 28:9. Did God say to call up the DTS boys? No, Isaiah said, *“For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.”* Isaiah 28:11.

No man has any authority from heaven to preach or teach in His Name until first they have been *“endued with power from on high.”*

Pilgrim, don't you believe the most important instruction that Jesus Christ would give his disciples would be spoken just prior to His ascension. Preachers love to preach on “the last seven words that Christ spoke before his death,” and totally ignore the seven words of instruction prior to His ascension.

“Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, UNTIL ye be endued with POWER (Gk.-dunamas, where we get our word dynamite) from on high.” Luke 24:49. No man has any authority from heaven to preach or teach in His Name until first they have been *“endued with power from on high.”*

Peter and John, unlearned and ignorant fishermen, never sat at the feet of Gamaliel! But they were in a crowd of 120 that gathered in an Upper Room on the Day of Pentecost. *“And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father.”* Acts 1:4.

Many of them did not even know, by the questions asked of our Lord, why they had gathered together in this Upper Room. Some thought perhaps Christ was going to conduct a “Prophecy Conference” or possibly a “Restoration Meeting.” *“Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?”* Acts 1:6. The triumphal ride of Jesus on a colt apparently never ceases to be in their thoughts. We missed the timing, but could this be the time?

Jesus responded to set them at ease. Forget your prophecy! *“It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father has put in his own power.”* Acts 1:7.

Even sinners today, are more concerned over prophecy than the salvation that Jesus has provided. They have made no effort to repent, but wonder who the Antichrist is? As we near the year 2,000 AD, more and more people become curious about the “signs of the times,” none of which can save of itself! Only the Holy Ghost convicts of sin and tells them they are headed toward a Devil's Hell.

Immediately following the ascension, the 120 obey and go to the Upper Room and wait for “The Promise.” It was paramount that they be witnesses of both the ascension of our Lord and the descent of the Holy Ghost. “*Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven?*” Acts 1:12. Then they went to the Upper Room! “*But ye shall receive POWER, after that which the Holy Ghost is come upon you.*” Acts 1:8. Then and only then, are you equipped and ordained for ministry! “*Ye shall be witnesses unto me both (first) in Jerusalem (the place you reside), and in all Judea (all of California), and in Samaria and (then Mexico and Canada), unto the uttermost part of the earth.*” Acts 1:8.

The receiving of this “gift of the Holy Ghost” is the only way we know where Jesus went. He might have landed on Mars or Jupiter and set up a kingdom. The “speaking in tongues” that is so despised, is the evidence Jesus made it to the throne of God. “*Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of (Himself? Nay! -- For the benefit of my dear “Jesus Only” friends) God (the Father); angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.*” 1 Peter 3:22.

The only hope of the Church is not the Pope of Rome, as Billy Graham declares, but another visitation of a “*rushing mighty wind.*” Acts 2:2. “*Awake, O north wind; and come, thou south; blow upon my garden, that the spices thereof may flow out. Let my beloved come into his garden, and eat his pleasant fruits.*” Song 4:16.

In Isaiah 28:13, these that “fall backward,” using the same techniques of the true prophet, “line upon line,” eventually are “snared”! John Calvin, probably the greatest theologian of any era, created another “Dark Ages” by his “line upon line” theology. Look to your history! Calvinism has never produced revival. George Whitfield and John Wesley won the war! We do not have to fight this battle again; just believe the giant is dead! “*Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do ALWAYS RESIST the Holy Ghost: as your fathers (Darby-Scofield-Larkin) did, so do ye.*” Acts 7:51.

The only hope of the Church is not the Pope of Rome...but another visitation of a “*rushing mighty wind.*”

I have read the book through, and DTS loses this one. They are those that “*fall backward, and be broken* (Heb.-to burst of a broken heart), *and snared, and taken* (into Laodicea).” Isaiah 28:13. You won’t win this one, for Joel declares yet another Azuza Street. “*And it shall come to pass AFTERWARD (after the Church repents of the sins pointed out by the RIVERBANK NEWS), that I will pour out my spirit.*” Joel 2:28. I’ll guarantee you, this time around Delilah (the Assemblies of God) will not be able to poke the Church’s eyes out by the presentation of her darling, cute “hireling” from the local Bible College. Samson is a type of the final Church that goes out in victory! It is 100 years since Azuza Street. Pentecostalism has been “treading at the mill” of denominational heresy for 100 years. During that time,

her hair (God's sign of authority) has been growing. Like the Jews in the battle of "Gog and Magog" (Ezekiel 38), God has to remind the world that both Israel and the Church are His.

Billy Graham is unprecedented in the history of America's evangelism. He has the distinction of being the very first Fundamental Conservative Evangelist to amalgamate with the World Council of Churches (WCC).

"And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man." Luke 17:26. How was it in those days? *"There were giants in the earth in those days...when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown."* Genesis 6:4. It was this ungodly union of the "sons of God" with the "daughters of men" that bare children who became "giants"!

William Randolph Hearst, a Freemason, first propelled Billy Graham to stardom through his Hearst syndicated newspapers. Did Mr. Hearst know something about Billy that we do not?

Monkey see, monkey do. Oral Roberts soon followed his example by his Methodist ordination. Methodism is one of the leaders of the World Council of Churches. Soon after, Oral had this testimony. *"I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing."* Revelation 3:17. And another giant is born.

Little do they know that Christ is on the outside of the door to Laodicea. Jesus is knocking to gain entrance. But, Laodicea is caught up in the pageantry of the WCC and the glamour of Rome to even answer the door. *"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock."* Revelation 3:20.

Please, answer your door, Laodicea!