

TRUTH SEEKER

PSALM 119:105

WITH BOB MOREY

"...earnestly contend for the faith." Jude 3

November 1999

- "...and knowledge will be increased."
 - An Exegesis of Daniel 12:4
- Campbellism and the "Church of Christ" churches
- G.U.A.R.D.
- · Dr. Bob Under Fire
- News from Around the World
- · We've Got Mail!

MYTH BUSTERS! Did Freemasonry start

out as a religion

Centuries ago?

Answer on page 6

AN EXEGESIS OF DANIEL 12:4

By Dr. Bob Morey

Introduction

This verse has been a source of controversy from the intertestmental period to today. There are two classic interpretations of the text.

Interpretation #1 The Book of Daniel would be "sealed" until the end times. Then many people will begin to study the book carefully. As a result of "running to and fro" in the Book, the prophecies and mysteries of Daniel will at last be known.

Interpretation #2 The Book of Daniel would be sealed until the end times. At that time many people will be able quickly to travel all over the earth and there will be an explosion of knowledge in general.

The key issue: Do the phrases "many will go back and forth" and "knowledge will increase" modify: (a) the Book of Daniel or (b) the end times? If (a), then interpretation #1 is correct. If (b), then interpretation #2 is correct.

"But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase." (NAS)

Aramaic text : יָאָתָה דְנֵיֵאל סְתֹם הַדְּבֶרִים וְחֲתֹם הַסְּמֶר עריעה קון יְשִׁסְּפֵּב רְבִּים וְתִרְבָּה הַדְּעַה:

LXT Daniel 12:4 καὶ σύ Δαυτηλ κάλυψον τὰ προστάγματα καὶ σφράγισαι τὸ βιβλίου ἔος καιροῦ συντελείας ἔος ἄν ἀπομανώσιν οἱ πολλοὶ καὶ πλησθη ἡ γῆ ἀδικίας

LXT Daniel (ΤΗ) 12:4 καὶ σύ Δανιηλ ξιμόραξον τοὶς λόγους καὶ σφράγισον τὸ βιβλίον ξως καιροῦ συντελείας ξως διδαχθώσιν πολλοὶ καὶ πληθυνθῃ ἡ γινῶοις

VUL Daniel 12:4 tu autem Danihel clude sermones et signa librum usque ad tempus statutum <u>pertransibunt plurimi et</u> multiplex erit scientia

1. The Aramaic phrases:

A. FUEL EXCEPT "many shall travel quickly"
The verb weet is a polel imperfect 3mp of
we. The polel form of this Aramaic verb
means to run around quickly, to travel to
and fro quickly. It is only found once in all
of Scripture.

- B. The LXX has two variant readings.
- a. Theodotion's LXX text has "many shall be taught and the knowledge will be increased." (διδαχθώσιν πολλοί και πληθυνθή ή γνώσις). There is no reference to traveling at all. From the syntax, it would seem that

he had in mind that the Book of Daniel would be taught to many people.

b. The traditional LXX text has "the many shall be left behind and unrighteousness will fill the earth." (ἀν ἀπομανῶσιν οἱ πολλοὶ καὶ πλησθῆ ἡ γῆ ἀδικίας) There is no reference to traveling.

The LXX refers to a specific group called "the many." (οἱ πολλοι) Who are they? Why were they left behind? When will they be left behind? What does it mean to be "left behind"? But the LXX is clearly not a translation of the Aramaic at this point. So, its significance is purely historical and biblical.

- The Latin follows the Aramaic. "many will travel around and knowledge will be multiplied."
- The Hebrew equivalent is found in several passages:

Amos 8:12 And people will stagger from sea to sea, And from the north even to the east; They will go to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, But they will not find it.

יְתְנָה וְלֹא יִמְצָאוּ: וְגָעוּ מִיֶּם עַרִייָם וּמִצְּפוּוֹ וְעַרִימְוֹנְתוּ מִיֶּם עַרִייָם וּמִצְפוּוֹ וְעַרִימְוֹנְתוּ יְצוֹעוּ

LXT Amos 8:12 καὶ σαλευθήσονται ὕδατα ξως βαλάστης καὶ ἀπὸ βορρὰ ξως ἀνατολών περιδραμοῦνται ζητοῦντες τὸν λόγον κυρίου καὶ οἱ μὴ εθρωσιν

VUL Amos 8:12 et commovebuntur a mari usque ad mare et ab aquilone usque ad orientem<u>circumibunt</u> quaerentes verbum Domini et non invenient

The Hebrew clearly means that they shall run quickly to and fro trying to find the Word of the Lord but will not find it. The Greek reads "run around" as does the Latin.

Jeremiah 5:1 <u>Roam to and fro</u> through the streets of Jerusalem, And look now, and take note. And seek in her open squares, If you can find a man, If there is one who does justice, who seeks truth, Then I will pardon her.

אַסיּמָשׁ אָמּינָה עשָה מִשְּׁפָּט מְכַקְשׁ אַמּוּנָה וְאָסְלַח לָה: אַסיִּמְטָאַר אָישׁ אָס־יָשׁ עשָה מִשְׁפָּט מְכַקְשׁ אָמוּנָה וְאָסְלַח לָה:

LXT Jeremiah 5:1 περιδράμετε ἐν ταῖς ὁδοῖς Ιερουσαλτμ καὶ ἴδετε καὶ γνώτε καὶ ζητήσατε ἐν ταῖς πλατείαις αὐτῆς ἐὰν εἰρητε ἄνδρα εἰ ἔστιν ποιών κρίμα καὶ ζητών πίστιν καὶ ἵλεως ἔσομαι αὐτοῖς λέγει κύριος

VUL Jeremiah 5:1 <u>circuite</u> vias Hierusalem et aspicite et considerate et quaerite in plateis eius an inveniatis virum facientem iudicium et quaerentem fidem et propitius ero eius

Once again the word in Hebrew, Greek and Latin is used in the sense of running to and fro trying to find something and not finding it.

Zechariah 4:10 For who has despised the day of small things? But these seven will be glad when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel-- these are the eyes of the LORD which range to and fro throughout the earth.

פִּי מִי בַז לְיוֹם קְמַצּוֹת וְשָׁמְחוּ וְרָאוּ אֶת־הָאֶבֶן הַבְּּדִיל בְּיֵד וְרָבָּבֵל שִׁבְעָה אֵלֶה עֵינֵי יְתוָה הַמָּה <u>מְשׁוֹשָׁמִים</u> בְּכָל־הָאֶרֶץ:



LXT Zechariah 4:10 διότι τίς έξουδένωσεν εἰς ἡμέρας μικράς καὶ χαροῦνται καὶ διψονται τὸν λίθου τὸν κασοιτέρινον ἐν χειρὶ Ζοροβαβελ ἐπτὰ οὐτοι ὀφθαλμοὶ κυρίου εἰσὶν οὶ ἐπιβλέποντες ἐπὶ πάσαν τὴν γῆν

VUL Zechariah 4:10 quis enim despexit dies parvos et laetabuntur et videbunt lapidem stagneum in manu Zorobabel septem isti oculi Domini qui <u>discurrunt</u> in universa terra

The eyes of the Lord, i.e. his sight, moves back and forth taking in all of the earth. The Greek has "to look upon" while the Latin has "run about."

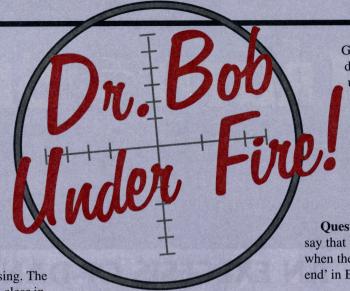
2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose

Continued on pg. 2

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Question: From a reader in Cherry Valley, CA. "How was Abraham aware of the name Jehovah for God (Gen. 22:14)? This fact contradicts Exodus 6:2-3. which has God speaking to Moses saying, 'But by my name Jehovah I was not known to them."

Answer: The problem you are having is due to the English translation you are using. The Hebrew text of Exodus 6:3 is clear in stating that the Patriarchs did not understand the significance or meaning or the name YHWH. The name Yahweh or "Jehovah" did not take on its special significance until after the Exodus. The Hebrew text does not say that the name per se was never heard of before Moses. It uses a word that means the meaning or significance of the name.



Question: From a reader in Santa Ana, CA. "How could Genesis 1:27 speak of male and female being created in God's image when Eve was not created at that time?"

Answer: Genesis chapter one does not give us a chronology of creation events in reference to mankind.

Genesis chapter two gives us the details while chapter one gives us a brief summary statement. Genesis 1:27 summarizes the creation of both Adam and Eve after everything was created. He looked at all he had made and pronounced it good.

Question from CA: "How can you say that the world will come to an end when the Bible says, 'world without end' in Ephesians 3:21?"

Answer: The Greek text does not have the word kosmos (world) but aion (age). The KJV's "world without end" is faulty because none of those words are found in the Greek. In the context, "aion" refers to the eternal state.

Any questions? Write us at: P.O. Box 7447, Orange, CA 92863

AN EXEGESIS OF DANIEL 12:4 CONTINUED.

heart is completely His. You have acted foolishly in this. Indeed, from now on you will surely have wars.

יְהֹנָה עֵינָיו מַשִּׁמְּמוֹת בְּכָל־הָאָרֶץ לְהִתְחַזֵּק עִם־לְבָבָם שָׁלֵם אֵלְיוּ נְסְבַּלְתָּ עֵל זֹאת כִּי מֵעַתָּה שׁ עִמְּךְ מִלְחָמוֹת: כּי

LXT ὅτι οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ κυρίου ἐπιβλέπουσιν ἐν πάση τῆ γῆ κατισχῦσαι ἐν πάση καρδία πλήρει πρός αὐτόν ήγνόηκας ἐπὶ τούτω ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν **ἔσται μετὰ σοῦ πόλεμος**

VUL 2 Chronicles 16:9 oculi enim eius contemplantur universam terram et praebent fortitudinem his qui corde perfecto credunt in eum stulte igitur egisti et propter hoc ex praesenti tempore contra te bella consurgent

The figure of speech is the same as in Zech 4:10. God's eyes, i.e. sight, go back and forth quickly taking in all the earth. The Greek has "to look upon" while the Latin simply puts "surveys" or "contemplates."

- 1. One of the basic rules of syntax states that the nearest antecedent is the referent unless there are compelling reasons to go elsewhere. Therefore, the phrase ישטמו רבים modifies the words עַר־עָח "end of time" and not הַּסָפֶּר "the book."
- 2. The Aramaic word and it Hebrew

equivalents mean running to and fro in the sense of traveling, not reading across the pages of the book. 3. Thus the phrase is saving that when the "end of time" comes, people will be able to travel to go from one part of the earth to another with speed and ease as never before.

B. תַּרְבֶּה הַדָּעַת

1. The Aramaic has the definite article "the" in front of the "knowledge" (הַּדְּעַת) Thus it is knowledge. What "knowledge"? Again, it may not be knowledge in general but a specific kind of knowledge. It could be the knowledge of the Book of Daniel, i.e., prophetic mysteries.

Whose knowledge? Probably "the many" who run around all over the place seeking it. I noticed that the word in various forms is used by Daniel in 8:25; 9:27 as well as in 12:2, 3, 4, 10. Surely the "many" of 12:4 must relate to the "many" mentioned elsewhere. If so, then this needs further investigation.

2. In the LXX (Th) The placement of the definite article "the" in front of the word "knowledge" (πληθυνθη ή γνώσις) may indicate that Theodotion understood the phrase to mean that in the end times

knowledge of the book of Daniel will increase because many will be taught its secrets.

- The text in the LXX "unrighteousness will fill the earth" (πλησθή ή γη άδικίας) is an example of the times when the LXX paraphrases and comments rather than translates. Perhaps the authors felt that an increase in education only made sin more available. Who knows?
- 4. The Latin "et multiplex erit scientia" states that knowledge in its many varied forms will be multiplied greatly. It clearly has in view knowledge in general.

Conclusion

My position combines the two classic interpretations. The prophetic mysteries found in the Book of Daniel would be sealed until the end of time. The "end times" would be characterized by two things: First, people will be able to travel quickly from place to place as never before the knowledge of the prophetic mysteries found in Daniel would increase dramatically. The definite article would tend to rule out knowledge in general. If the "sealing" of knowledge is seen as the opposite to the "unveiling" of knowledge, then what was once sealed is now made known, i.e. prophetic mysteries.



By Mike Stephens

In our last issue, we discussed the primary principle in witnessing to one who distorts, misrepresents, or perverts the Gospel of Christ: He has the burden of proof.

To reiterate. Christians often fall into the trap of stomping out the lighted match that the cultist has thrown on to the rug. But remember that you don't have to disprove anything until he has first proven it. Even many who have had years of experience in dealing with cultists, free-thinkers and know-it-alls seem to miss this point. Simply remember this communication technique: If you wish to convey a certain point to the person, put it in the form of a question.

For example, if you already know why Joseph Smith was a false prophet, don't tell the Mormon why. Instead, ask him why he believes Smith was a true prophet. It's often a good idea to get him to define "true prophet" and "false prophet."

Wrong: "Joseph Smith was a false prophet!

Right: "What makes a false prophet?" This is where he might get a little nervous. He must be very careful how he answers this question.

I once had some LDS missionaries in my living room telling me about Smith, the 'restored church,' etc. At one point, I switched the conversation – which largely consisted of questions they were firing at me - to asking them questions, thus putting the burden on them. I politely inquired, "If Joseph Smith was a prophet of God, then did he make any prophecies?" One of the young "elders" confidently assured me that Smith did in fact make prophecies. He then showed me a page in his Doctrine and Covenants book where Smith supposedly predicted the Civil War. I followed along in the complimentary copy they gave to me (If you're interested, the D&C passage is in section 87).

In moments like these you must really be on your toes! Part of the prophecy read. and I quote, "And the time will come that war will be poured out upon all nations. beginning at this place." When he was

reading out loud he rapidly said "And the time will come that war will be poured out upon the nations, beginning at this place. For behold..." And I said "W-w-wait! Could you please read that again?" He read it again, wording it the same way. Politely, I interrupted saying, "I'm sorry, but my copy says 'upon all nations, beginning at this place."

He admitted that he read it incorrectly. Then I said. "You mean all wars since then began here in the United States?" Hesitantly, he said, "Well, yes." He then looked down at his D&C in bewilderment. At that point, his partner chimed in to break the deafening silence.

In the next Truth Seeker, I'll tell you what happened next!



Over 100 Protest Anti-Hinduism Booklet

More than 100 people protested outside one of the nation's largest Baptist churches Sunday over a booklet that urges, Southern Baptists to pray for Hindus' deliverance from the

Attorney Amit Misra is a leader of the coalition of local Hindu groups that organized the protest. He was quoted as saying, "We want all people to understand that religious intolerance is rearing its head in this country." Misra complains that the booklet asserts Hindus as having no concept of sin. The booklet also declares that Hindus "worship gods which are not God." Another declaration in the booklet that is being viewed as "religious intolerance" is, "Pray that the darkness and the power of Satan will be broken."

Editor's Note: Southern Baptists, keep up the good work!

Pastors Take Issue with Mayor's "Earth Religions Awareness Week"

The Associated Press

Asheville, N.C. - A Mayoral proclamation recognizing Earth Religions Awareness Week was criticized by local pastors who say the event invites paganism and witchcraft into the town.

Mayor Leni Sitnick apologized to offended clergy but says the designation for the week of October 25 will not be rescinded.

She said, "I don't tell anyone how to believe, but I support everyone's right to freedom of religion." The pastors were among a group who protested at City Hall. Pastor Ken Lewis of West Asheville Baptist Church said, "We just wanted to make a positive statement that we believe Jesus is Lord."



THE POPE VISITS ORTHODOX COUNTRY

In his latest travels, Pope John Paul II visited the In his latest travels, rope joint rate it visited the Caucasus and presided over a Georgian Mass on Tuesday, November 2nd. It was the first papal visit -tuesday, inovember ziid. It was the thist papar visit to the region and only the second time a pope has set foot in a predominantly Orthodox country in Orthodox patriarchs were invited to the Roman

Catholic service. Not one attended.

Oklahoma Panel Questions Evolution

A state committee in Oklahoma has voted to require that all newbiology textbooks carry a disclaimer saying that evolution is a "controversial theory." One member said that not enough attention is paid to alternative explanations on the origin of life and the universe.

The action by the Oklahoma State Textbook Committee makes Oklahoma the latest state to challenge the long-cherished and guarded method of how Darwinian evolution has been taught as "science" in government schools. This last summer the Kansas Board of Education passed new teaching and testing standards, which eliminates the word "evolution" from curriculum. Kentucky's Education Department deleted the word "evolution" from its standards. However, critics say they compromised by simply replacing the word with the phrase "change over time."

Editor's Note: The secular media has had a heyday with these stories, often citing their geographical locations and saying things like, "What else would one expect from the South?" and "Wasn't this settled a long time ago?" and "We must be evolving backwards again!"

Campbellism and the Church of Christ

By Dr. Bob Morey

Part One THE RESTORATION MOVEMENT

The "Restoration" Movement began in the 19th Century under the leadership of Thomas Campbell, Barton Stone, Walter Scott and Alexander Campbell (1788-1866).

The importance of these "Restorers" was based on their claim that:

- The Christian Church disappeared in the 1st Century. The "true" Gospel was lost at that time.
- The Roman Catholic Church and all Protestant Churches are apostate organizations and are not to be viewed as "Christian" churches.
- All the historic creeds and confessions are worthless and should be ignored.
- God raised up Alexander Campbell to "restore" the "true" Gospel and to reestablish the Christian Church. He restored the pure "Apostolic" Church.
- The Millennium was going to be ushered in during their lifetime by the "Restoration" Movement.
- The "true" Gospel teaches that "baptism unto remission of sins" is essential for salvation. The "Restorers" spoke of this as "baptismal regeneration."
- The "baptism" given by all other churches is not saving. You have to be re-baptized in accordance with the Campbellite doctrine of baptism to be saved.
- 8. Only Bible names should be used in the name of a church. It is wrong to use such names as Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, etc... Even though they first called themselves "Reformed Baptists," they later took up such names as "Disciples of Christ," "the Churches of Christ" and "The Christian Church."
- 9. Nothing should be allowed in the Church unless there is a "book, chapter and verse" for it. On this basis the "Reformers" were opposed to the use of musical instruments in worship, missionary societies, etc... This point has led to thousands of church fights and splits. The "Churches of Christ" split off from the "Disciples of Christ" over such issues and have never stopped splitting since that time.
- 10. Some Campbellite theologians have denied the omniscience of God by teaching that God does not know the future. (For example see: The Gospel Plan of Salvation, by T.W. Brents published by the "Gospel Advocate" Company in Nashville, Tenn.)

Significant Dates in Campbellite History

- 1809 Thomas Campbell censured by the Presbyterian Church for false teaching.
- 1809 Thomas Campbell writes "Declaration and Address" for the "The Christian Association of Washington." It functioned

- as a "creed" for the young movement.
- Alexander Campbell arrives in America and joins his father's association.
- 1811 The Association becomes an independent church after being rejected by the Presbyterians once again.
- 1812 The Campbells are re-baptized by a
 Baptist preacher at Buffalo Creek. This
 was fifteen years BEFORE Scott
 originated the doctrine of "baptism unto
 remission of sins."
- 1813 The Campbells join the Redstone Baptist Association.
- 1820 Alexander Campbell represents the Baptist Church in a debate with John Walker, a Presbyterian.
- 1823 August: The Redstone Baptist Association prepares to censure the Campbells for false doctrine but they resign and set up an independent Baptist Church.
- 1823 October: Alexander Campbell debates McCalla still claiming to represent Baptists. The Campbells now call themselves, "Reformed Baptists."
- 1827 Nov.: Walter Scott preaches "baptism unto remission of sins." William Amen was the first one "baptized unto remission of sins" Scott's followers call themselves the "Christians."
- 1832 Campbell's "Disciples of Christ" openly unite with Scott's "Christians."
- 1849 Controversy over missionary societies splits the "Restoration" Movement.
- 1860 Controversy over musical instruments splits the movement.
- 1906 The "Churches of Christ" listed as a separate denomination apart from the "Disciples of Christ" and the "Christian Church." The Campbellites popularize Scott's doctrine of "baptism unto remission of sins."
- 1920 Over a hundred controversies split the movement on such issues as musical instruments, head-coverings, communion cups, schools, orphanages, Sunday School, divorce, re-marriage, etc.

Part Two

The Campbellite Origin Of The Major Cults

I. Campbellism And Mormonism.

The evidence is clear that Mormonism arose out of the Campbellite "Restoration" Movement.

- The leading figures in early Mormonism were originally preachers in Campbellite churches and many of them had personally worked with Alexander Campbell: Sidney Rigdon, Parley Pratt, Oliver Crowdery, Orson Hyde, Lyman Wight, Edward Partridge, John Corril, Isaac Morely, John Murdock, etc.
- 2. So many thousands of "Disciples of Christ" joined the Mormons that

- Alexander Campbell called Mormonism "Satan's counterfeit" of the Disciples of Christ
- 3. Joseph Smith was taught the "Restoration" concept and its peculiar doctrines by Sidney Rigdon. When Joseph Smith adopted most of the points of the "Restoration" Movement, he put himself as the "Restorer" of the Gospel and the Church in the place of Alexander Campbell:
 - a. The Church and the "true" Gospel was lost in the 1st Century.
 - b. All subsequent churches are apostate.
 - c. Joseph Smith "restored" the Church and the Gospel.
 - d. A church should use Bible names. The Mormons first called themselves the "Church of Christ." Most Mormon denominations still use such names.
 - e. You must be baptized "unto remission of sins" by a Mormon priest to be saved.
 - f. Smith challenged Alexander Campbell to a public debate on the issue of who was the true "Restorer."

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- Anti-Mormon Scholars: Shadow Or Reality, (by the Tanners) pp.66-68. Origin of Campbellism, (by J. Milburn)
- Campbellite Sources: Memoirs of Alexander Campbell, vol. II:344-347
- II. Campbellism And Christadelphianism.

Dr. John Thomas, a prominent "Disciple of Christ" and personal friend of Alexander Campbell decided that if we should throw out the creeds and use only Bible names, then why should we believe in the Trinity? He went on to deny the deity of Christ, the personhood of the Spirit, the bodily resurrection of Christ, Christ's physical return to this world, the immortality of the soul. He taught "soul sleep" and denied the doctrine of Hell. He did not believe in a paid clergy but each member was viewed as a minister.

He was able to persuade many other "Disciples" to join him in establishing the "Christadelphians" or "Brethren in Christ." His movement was composed of Campbellite and Millerite churches.

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III. Campbellism and Jehovah's Witnesses: Benjamin Wilson was a "Disciple of Christ" who followed Dr. Thomas into Christadelphianism. Although he never

studied Greek, he published a Greek-English interlinear called The Emphatic Diaglott.

It was Wilson who introduced Charles Taze Russell to those very doctrines which have become the central theology of the Jehovah's Witnesses. The Watchtower Society even published and used Wilson's interlinear for many years. Campbellism through Christadelphianism is the origin of the Jehovah's Witnesses.

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Part Three The Doctrinal Errors Of Campbellism

While there are many doctrinal issues that divide the evangelical from the Campbellite, the greatest point of controversy is their view of baptism.

The Evangelical believes that salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Human works such as baptism, church membership, etc... are not necessary for salvation. While obedience to God's Law has a role to play in assurance of salvation, it has no role to play in salvation. Baptism like circumcision is a outward rite which symbolizes an inner state. While both ceremonies symbolize regeneration, they do not accomplish it.

In opposition to evangelical doctrine, Campbellite theology teaches "baptismal regeneration." It is claimed that water baptism by immersion of adults only unto remission of sins does not merely symbolize regeneration but it actually accomplishes it. Faith is not enough. Obedience to God's Law must also take place or salvation is not possible. Unless you are baptized in the exact way they dictate (immersion, adults only), for the exact purpose they have in mind (unto remission of sins), and by the right person (a Campbellite preacher) not only is your baptism invalid but you are not yet saved no matter how sincerely you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior!

To add baptism to faith is nothing more than adding works to grace which is impossible according to Rom. 11:6. The attempt to evade this by claiming that baptism is part of faith is not linguistically or grammatically possible. If obedience to God's commands such as baptism is what "faith" is, then why stop with baptism? What about all the other commands of God such as "love your wife?" A works-salvation can never say when enough works have been done!

The Reasons Why Baptism Is Not Essential **For Salvation**

- 1. If the Campbellite doctrine is true, then the Restorers were not saved men! Thomas Campbell, Alexander Campbell, Walter Scott and Barton Stone were never baptized "unto the remission of sin." While they repudiated their infant baptism where they were baptized by the Baptists, they never repudiated their Baptist baptism and rebaptized according to Campbellite baptism.
- Jesus never baptized anyone. If baptism is essential for salvation, then Jesus never saved anyone.
- 3. Paul did not view baptism as part of the Gospel (I Cor. 1:14-17).
- 4. John's baptism did not save anyone even though it was "unto remission of sins" (Mk. 1:4 cf. Acts 19:1-5).



- 5. Since there is only one God, there is only one way of salvation (Rom 3:28-30). This means that whatever is necessary for salvation today was also necessary during O.T. times.
- The Gospel of justification by faith alone apart from obedience to God's commands is taught in both O.T. and the N.T. (Rom 1:1-2). Abraham: before the Law (Rom. 4:1-5) David: after the Law (Rom. 4:6-8) Habakkuk: in the Prophets (Rom. 1:17)
- Baptism is the N.T. parallel of circumcision just as the Lord's Supper is the parallel of the Passover (Col. 2:11-12). Since circumcision was not essential for salvation, then neither is baptism.
- 8. Abraham was saved BEFORE he was circumcised in order to emphasize that salvation was by faith alone apart from obedience to God's commands and that the Gentiles would be saved by faith alone apart from obedience to any command such as baptism (Rom. 4:9-11, 16, 23-5:2).
- Cornelius was saved and baptized by the Holy Spirit before he was baptized (Acts 10:44-48). This passage clearly refutes baptismal regeneration.
- 10. Baptismal regeneration:
 - a. makes salvation depend on the availability of water
 - b. makes salvation depend on the availability of a Campbellite preacher

- c. confuses the symbol with the reality
- d. makes faith and obedience and the same thing
- e. is based on a superstitious and magical view of baptism.
- 11. The thief on the cross was saved without baptism. The Campbellite argument that he was saved under the O.T. way of salvation is not possible seeing that Christ had already died on the cross and finished the atonement before the thief died. The thief belongs on the N.T. side of the cross and not on the O.T. side.
- 12. Campbellites claim that the word "unto" in Acts 2:38 (eis in the Greek) always means "in order to obtain" and is always "forward looking." In this way they make remission of sins follow the act of baptism in a cause and effect relationship. Baptism causes forgiveness of sins.

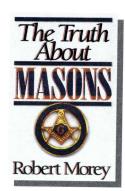
The problem with this idea is that Greek scholars do not see this as the meaning of "eis." Liddell and Scott, Thayer, A.T. Robertson, Dana and Manty, Vine, etc... state that "eis" is often used in the sense of "in reference to something already previously existing or accomplished." In this sense, baptism is done AFTER and BECAUSE of remission of sins. Once our sins are forgiven, then you should be

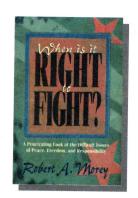
That the Greek scholars are correct is seen from the way "eis" is used in the N.T.:

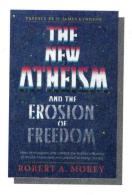
- a. Matt. 3:11 "baptism unto (eis) repentance" You get baptized because you have repented. You do not get baptized so you can obtain repentance. The order is, "repent and be baptized."
- b. Matt 12:41: "they repented at (eis) the preaching of Jonah" Obviously, the preaching came first and then the people repented in response to that preaching.
- c. Matt. 28:19: "Baptizing them in (eis) the name of the Father and of Son and of the Holy Ghost" The Triune God exists before one is baptized.
- d. Mk. 1:9: "baptized of John in (eis) Jordon" Jesus did not come into possession of the Jordon River as He was baptized. The Jordon existed long before baptism was invented.
- e. I Cor. 10:2: "baptized unto (eis) Moses" Moses existed before the "baptism" in the Red Sea. The people were not "baptized" in order to obtain Moses. Their "baptism" was in response to his leadership.

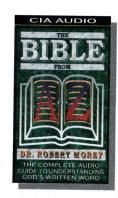
CONCLUSION

As long as the Campbellites teach that baptism is essential for salvation, they will be viewed as a cult by evangelical Christians. Salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, apart from obedience to any of God's commands. Works are the evidence of salvation instead of the basis of it.









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Speaking the Truth

November 1999

November is a wonderful month in which to give thanks to the Lord for all his many mercies.

Thanksgiving Day is not just a day for feasting and watching football. It is a time to give thanks to God for all the many spiritual and material blessings he has given to us freely because of Christ. Our family takes turns stating the things for which we are thankful. Anne and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all your prayers and support during our move to CA and getting settled here. Moving the office has been difficult and half the inventory is still in PA!

The book, Fearing God, is finally printed and on its way to our office. Our health is fine. PTL! Our beautiful and talented daughter, Ruthanne, may be transferring from Philadelphia College of Bible to Cal State Fullerton for her last semester. She will be moving back home! John has decided, after much prayer, to go to Masters College next year. Things are happening so fast that we can hardly breathe. But thanks be to God for the victory!

We had a fruitful trip to Toronto, Canada. Special thanks to Tony Costa and Shadab Khoker for setting up a series of speaking engagements. The Toronto Baptist Theological Seminary was kind enough to invite me to address the entire faculty and student body on Islam. Pray for George Batarseh and other brave Canadians who are fighting Islam. Anise Shorrosh and I teamed up and did a seminar on Islam at the Bellflower Church of God on the 15th. What a delight to fellowship with this Palestinian soldier for Christ. There is a world congress on ministering to Muslims to be held in Lebanon next year. Pray for wisdom as I have been asked to speak to the delegates on how to use the Hadith to refute Islam.

Keep us in your prayers as we continue to preach the Gospel to the lost.

Dr. Bob and Anne Morey

Coming in the December Issue of The Truth Seeker:

- · Seventh-day Adventists
- Healing: The Biblical View

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