



page 5

PLAINLY SPEAKING:  
Samuel Latta talks about  
"Meeting the Challenge  
of Missions."



page 8

APOSTOLIC NEWS:  
Dan Batchelor discusses  
the UPCI's Bible College  
loan program.

also in this issue:

Cover Story	1
Pentecost 2000: Eight Major Trends Affecting The Church	2
Opinions: Challenges of the Small-Town Church	6
Q & A Forum	7
World News	8
Apostolic News	9
News You Can Use	11
Guest Pulpit: J.T. Pugh	14
Smiles	14
Classified Ads	15

# Indiana Bible College Perspectives

Apostolic Information Service

Vol. 6, No.2

## PENTECOST 2000

### Seven Major Trends Affecting the Apostolic Church Into the 21st Century

By Richard C. Brown

**T**he world stands poised on the brink of the 21st Century - and with it, the church. And just as the challenges of the 20th Century church have been unique to it, so likely will the challenges of the next century. But what will those challenges be? What trends - positive, negative or neutral - will make a significant impact on the Apostolic movement as we approach Pentecost 2000 and then move beyond?

That's the question AIS recently put to several leaders within the Apostolic movement. Editors compiled a list of people who are considered visionaries within Pentecost, representing a broad cross-section of leaders. The panel included a district superintendent, a UPCI headquarters official, a Bible college administrator, an Apostolic journalist, a representative from a Non-UPC Apostolic organization (Pentecostal Assemblies of the World), and a pastor of a large, growing revival church. From their responses, AIS editors then compiled a profile of the 21st Century church. What follows is a summary of seven of these trends.



**"We're going to have to begin integrating (minorities) into every area of church life and ministry."**

**--Brother Fred Foster**

thing," said Foster. "But it is something that will make us have to change some of the ways we do things. As the Hispanic, black, and even Asian communities grow, we'll no longer be able to develop little niches for each of them and limit those people to those areas. Instead, we're going to have to begin integrating them

into every area of church life and ministry. More than ever, we're going to have to all come together as one church with one mission."

Brother David Bernard, the UPCI's associate editor, agreed that the explosion of the ethnic population will significantly affect the church. "It goes beyond just ethnic diversity, however," he noted. "It extends also into cultural diversity. Instead of us all sharing one common American culture, I see us as a nation fragmenting. We're going to have not only a larger number of minorities, but a larger num-

*(Continued on page three)*

#### Trend #1: Ethnic & Cultural Explosion

The next couple of decades promise to make the United States more ethnically diverse than ever. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in less than two decades, the white, European descendants will comprise less than half of the nation's population. Both Hispanic and African-American populations are increasing at dramatic rates.

Pastor Fred Foster of West Monroe, LA, cited this fact as a major trend that will affect the church during the next several years. "This increasing ethnic diversity is certainly not a bad



**SOME OF OUR PANEL: David K. Bernard, Morris Golder, Kenneth E. Lamb, Paul D. Mooney, and T.R. O'Daniel**

## OUR NEXT OPINIONS TOPIC: "What About Benevolence Ministries?"

If you have a topic that you would like to see addressed on the "Opinions" page, send your suggestion to: Apostolic Information Service, P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, IN 46247. Or call (800) 8000-AIS.

### Opinions



Larry T. Smith  
Pastor  
El Campo, TX

During my 24 years pastoring in small-town churches, I've found that there are certain benefits - but certain challenges as well.

The main benefit is that it's easier to get to know the people of the community and the community leaders on a closer level. Consequently, you can have a greater impact.

However, there are some challenges to overcome. In a small town, there is always the potential for a negative image associated with your church to be much more destructive. Once you do anything that is perceived to be negative, you have to live with it, because everybody is going to pass the word on you.

The other significant challenge is that you only have a limited number of people to reach. The best way to work around this is to use methods that reach people on a personal level (You obviously can't use the methods of mass advertising that might garner a crowd in a large city). For example, we do some door-knocking, and we use things like the QUEST Survey and Enroll-to-Grow to get inside the person's door. Then we try to set up home Bible studies with everybody, because it is one outreach method that really helps you become friends with people. And ultimately, that's what really works in a small town.



## Challenges of the Small-town Church

**AIS VIEW:** *The small-town church is a well-known church. Therefore, to maximize growth, the pastor in a small-town should take care to maintain a good name in the community and to utilize outreach methods that capitalize on the friendship factor.*

I pastored for several years in a small-town setting, and I found that one of the most challenging factors involved is a mind-set. For instance, people in a small-town church tend to have a limited world. Their concept of what their church can be is limited - and this affects their faith. They have difficulty responding to a large vision. One of the best ways to overcome this is to take your church leaders to places where they can be stretched a little bit: to conferences and rallies, that sort of thing. If you can get your leaders, in their minds, to challenge the status quo, you can start the process of change for everybody.

Another mind-set you have to deal with is people's preconceived notion of what a pastor is supposed to do. In small towns, they have more of a concept of a pastor as somebody to invite over for coffee than they do in a large city. And also, life is not as hectic; they take things more slowly. So as you approach them, you want to try not to be overly aggressive. A smaller town is interrelated to a point that it takes some time for a trust factor to build. And yes, join them for coffee if possible. In a small-town setting, you're going to have to care about people where they are.



Carlton Coon  
Pastor  
Springfield, MO



Michael Law  
Pastor  
Rantoul, IL

In a smaller town, you have an opportunity to get to know the leaders by name. My advice for pastoring in a smaller church is to try to convey a very conservative, businesslike approach. We try to keep our grass cut, our shrubbery trimmed. We have our buses painted a conservative color to make it suit the small-town tastes.



T.C. Bonnette  
Pastor  
Otis, LA

I pastor a small-town country church, and I've found it's easier to participate in community happenings. For example, we have two funeral homes, and I'm able to go to most funerals here, to demonstrate concern to the people. Likewise, I do a lot of hospital visits. Getting to know people is a real key to making it work.



Arthur Vanderhoff  
Pastor  
Hartford City, IN

In a small town, everyone knows who you are. While that can be a benefit, it can also be a problem, because everyone knows what's going on. And a lot of times, they might not have the full story, they just know the half-true gossip. You have to strive hard to accentuate the positives of the church to build a good reputation.



Robert Ison  
Pastor  
Danville, KY

One problem you have with small town churches is that you don't have as many people moving into the area as in larger areas. The best advice for a small-town pastor is to get acquainted with people. Go to hospitals and funerals. And try your best not to offend people. If you try to make people happy, they'll spread the word about you.



David E. Myers  
Pastor  
Perryton, TX

In a small-town, just about everybody is a "Christian" of some sort. They have their own religion, and it's hard to break them out of that, even if they are in false doctrine. Also, in small towns, knocking doors is very ineffective, because they already know who you are. You need to persuade them that *who* you are is *what* they need.



Ricki Pavlu  
Pastor  
Church Point, LA

There are three areas that a person has to establish within a small-town church: outreach, retention, and establishment of converts. I recommend customizing a Bible study to fit your community. And even before you have strong outreach, it's vital to have this strong retention program established. Finally, prepare converts for their own ministry.

## Seven Major Trends Affecting the Apostolic Church . . .

# Pentecost 2000

(Continued from page one)

ber of cultural views as well. This is not a bad thing, but both of these forces working together will nonetheless create a trend that the church will have to address."

According to Bernard, the way of addressing the issue is by examining the particular

**"There will be new opportunities for churches to publish their message in ways never before possible."**

**--Paul D. Mooney**

needs of each cultural group and minister accordingly. "Naturally, as an American, I want us all to have one American culture. But as a Christian, that's beside the point. I have an obligation to go to where people are and minister to them. The mission of the church has to be to find an appropriate method of reaching people where they are."

### Trend #2: Telecommunications Explosion

Only during the past two years, the Internet has exploded onto the scene as a valid means of communicating information. Meanwhile, computer revolutionaries have been developing numerous multimedia products such as the CD-ROM, computers capable of displaying and editing video and sound, high-speed modems (devices that allow computers to communicate via telephone lines), and more. The result is that telephone lines are used to transmit computer information; computers are used to display video and even receive radio stations; and more and more new technologies are being developed that blur the lines between all three: telephones, computers and video. In short, there is a merging of nearly all communications media thanks to the age of the personal computer.

"What's happening, and what will just accelerate from here, is an eventual merging of computer, video and Internet technologies into one technology," said Brother Bernard. "It's going to mean that we can't just make simple stands concerning the use of technology or media. We're going to have to deal with the principles involved and think of creative ways of using technology. Blanket statements against

the use of computers won't even be an option for us unless we're willing to go in a completely different direction than we're currently going."

Indiana District Superintendent Paul Mooney concurred that the telecommunications explosion will dramatically affect the church. However, he stressed the positive aspect of the trend.

"Granted, this whole communications explosion will probably force us to mature a bit in some of our thinking. However, I think the opportunities for us in all of this will far outweigh the negatives. There will be new opportunities for churches to publish their message in ways never before possible."

### Trend #3: Isolation of Apostolics From Other Christian Groups

In March, 1994, a group of evangelical and Catholic

"leaders" (though some would question that term) met to compile the now-infamous document, "Evangelicals and Catholics Together." The document outlined the commonalities between the two branches of Christianity and how they could work together for their common mission. This, however, was but one symptom of an overall trend to bring all "Christians" back together to focus on their common beliefs and down-play their differences. And it's a trend that many on the AIS panel saw as having significant relevance for the Apostolic movement.

"The Charismatics are very ecumenical-minded," Brother Bernard said. "As a result, there's a strong move to bring about some sort of ecumenical dialogue among themselves and even among Trinitarian Pentecostals. They're down-playing their distinctives, such as the doctrine of the initial evidence of the Holy Ghost, to bring this about."

And the result? "This will tend to isolate us and put pressure on us to conform. However, I think that we can take advantage of opportunities that are offered to us for dialogue and present our message in a positive way. Obviously, we have to preserve our distinctives, but we should be open and positive toward dialogue in the sense of sharing our beliefs."

Brother Mooney likewise saw the move as significant. "Whether it comes from the Charismatics or from this whole 'Evangelicals and Catholics Together' thing, it's going to place a perception of illegitimacy on those religious groups who don't participate; they'll be thought of as illegitimate church operations. The positive side of this is that it will reveal for

the world the agenda of some of these people. It could really be a factor for ushering in revival and more people turn to a church that refuses to compromise."

Brother Tom O'Daniel, executive vice-president of Indiana Bible College, said this trend will affect family relations of those in the church. "Saints are going to feel increasing pressure from family and friends who will tell these saints that they'd heard the Apostolic movement is a cult. Pastors need to prepare saints to explain why this type of thing is being said and why it's not true."

### Trend #4: A Battle for Holiness Standards

Brother Kenneth E. Lamb, who writes for *The New York Times* and *The Miami Herald* as well as the monthly "World News" page for *The Pentecostal Herald*, sees the attack from other religious groups as also contributing to the battle over standards of holiness, which is itself a trend that will confront the church. "Persecution of Apostolics for implementing their value system in society will increase," said Brother Lamb. "The mass media establishment is fundamentally a secular-humanist political force which condemns lifestyles based on accepting Scripture as literally true. Apostolics will have to decide whether to sit on the sidelines of the 'culture war' attacking their value system, or else, go to the front lines to defend themselves from this persecution."

Bishop Morris Golder, suffragate bishop with the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, said this conflict over holiness spans all Apostolic movements. "There is a tendency in some quarters to downplay the importance of women dressing modestly and not adorning themselves with jewelry and make-up," he said. However, he noted that with a return to more Biblically-centered preaching, this trend could be reversed.

(Continued on page 14)

### Our Panel:

David K. Bernard: Associate Editor for the United Pentecostal Church International.

Fred Foster: Pastor of the United Pentecostal Church in West Monroe, LA.

Morris Golder: Suffragate Bishop of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World.

Kenneth E. Lamb: Apostolic journalist writing for *The Pentecostal Herald*, *Miami Herald*, and *The New York Times*.

Paul D. Mooney: Indiana District Superintendent and Indiana Bible College President.

Tom O'Daniel: Executive Vice-President of Indiana Bible College.

# Autofinders Of America

**Our Mission:** *To provide individuals with an innovative alternative in auto purchasing, that enables them to purchase or lease new vehicles at wholesale prices in a professional and high-quality manner.*

## What Makes Autofinders Important to Purchasing a Vehicle?

Most people have three things in common when they purchase a car. They pay too much, they waste time, and they hate the experience. Autofinders offers the quickest and most convenient way to save time and money when you buy a vehicle. Autofinders will make dealers compete with each other for your business. No haggling, no hassles, no games.

## Why Should I Use Autofinders to Purchase My Next Vehicle?

As the leader in our industry and community, we at Autofinders of America provide an unparalleled professional atmosphere of honesty, integrity and friendliness which ignites a contagious wave of positive energy, exceeding our customer's expectations in all areas.

Here is our pledge and business policy

**F**ind the right vehicle.  
**I**nquire and locate vehicle.  
**N**egotiate the best price.  
**D**ependable (Integrity first)  
**E**liminate hassle and save time.  
**R**espect for the Customer.  
**S**atisfaction and Service Guaranteed.

## Where Does Autofinders Fit Into My Financial Plans?

On the average people spend approximately 10 - 15 hours of their time to find the right car. Don't take valuable time off. Let Autofinders shop the whole market via fax and the Internet. We guarantee you the best price or your money back.

## Can Autofinders Arrange my Financing?

Autofinders networks with over 20 financial institutions to make financing your automobile simple. Let us help you secure the best rate and options to fit into your financial budget. This service will allow you to know your down payment, monthly payment and your interest rate before you sign any contracts.

## How Do I Know That I'm Getting The Best Price?

Autofinders has the ability to shop for the best price in your area, via fax and the Internet. We will submit the opportunity to several dealers to bid for your business. The best bid wins. How does that sound for auto shopping in the nineties?

## Clients have saved 1000's of dollars using Autofinders of America.

	MSRP	Savings
96 Mitsubishi Montero	\$40,017	\$7117
96 GMC Jimmy	\$25,250	\$3850
96 Dodge 1500 CC SLT	\$23,200	\$2700
96 Toyota T-100	\$15,300	\$3000
96 Honda Accord LX	\$19,200	\$1800
96 Toyota Corolla	\$15,490	\$1680

## Here's what Autofinders clients are saying...

"I have never purchased a car as easily as I did with Autofinders. I saved time and money. But most of all, I received the best price."

Rev. A. Perez

"With all the different information I received from every dealership, I was totally confused. But with Autofinders it was just plain and simple."

Ms. B. Grantham

## How Much Does Autofinders Cost?

When Autofinders provides you with a price, a small commission is built in to cover the cost of our service. Even still, you will find our prices below what you could negotiate on your own.

## How Do I Get Started?

Call 1-800-585-4185 to speak to an automotive consultant. E-mail: [autofind@onramp.net](mailto:autofind@onramp.net). Web: <http://rampages.onramp.net/~autofind/cars.htm> Specify the year, make, and model of vehicle you wish to buy. Let us do the rest.

**W**hy Joseph Palacios Founded Autofinders: Autofinders of America Founder Joseph Palacios is an ordained UPCI Evangelist, and has been in the auto industry for the past 12 years. For years Joseph has been dissatisfied with the traditional buying process. Being a sales consultant with Chrysler the past three years, his clients have expressed that if there was a simpler way to purchase a car, they would try it. With an open ear to his customers he has developed a buying system with the customer being number one in the buying process. He has made buying a car so easy and simple, that any one can purchase a vehicle and know that he has received the best price and service in the market. This concept will revolutionize the way people purchase their vehicles in the 90's.

# Meeting The Challenge Of Missions

**AIS INTERVIEW**  
*With Samuel Latta*



**E**ditor's note: Samuel Latta, 59, has been in the ministry most of his life, having preached now for over 44 years. He has pastored several churches in the United States, although much of his ministry during the past several years has been in the area of foreign missions.

Brother Latta recently began serving the Foreign Missions Division as "Missionary Evangelist," with the objective of travelling to various foreign fields motivating and encouraging the national workers there. Not long ago, Brother Latta spoke to AIS by telephone about the state of world missions in the Apostolic movement. Portions of the interview are printed below:

.....

**Brother Latta, what has been your involvement in missions through the years?**

Back in 1965, after we'd pastored in Moline, Illinois for five years, God opened the door for us to go to Liberia. So we served there for a term, having raised financial support for ourselves, even before the time of Partners in Missions.

**When did you first feel a burden for Liberia?**

While I was pastoring in Moline, we had a missionary come by who showed us some pictures of Liberia. During this sister's presentation, I noticed that all of our Apostolic works were back in the bushes. So I thought, "We've got to get the work into the capital city," because I noticed that we would educate the kids in the backwoods area while they were in the sixth grade, but then they'd go to the capital city to finish their education, and we'd lose them.

**And what was your response?**

We raised \$10,000 to build a new church in the capital city. The ironic thing is that I raised the money for that building not knowing that I would soon be the missionary there!

**But your experience in missions didn't end there ...**

No, I was also involved in Nigeria and Ghana when they opened up to missionaries. In fact, I baptized the original General Board of Ghana, and we prayed a lot of people through in Nigeria.

From there, we returned to Illinois and I took the pastorate of the church in Bloomington; the church elected me pastor while I was still in Africa. We served there seven years and then

went back to what was then Rhodesia; it's now Zimbabwe. We had the unusual experience of serving there under four national flags!

**That was when?**

1976. We were there for 10 years.

**Explain your current burden and responsibilities with Foreign Missions.**

My burden now is something I had approached Foreign Missions about many years ago. All of your Fortune 500 companies, your educational system, and all successful corporations, once or twice a year, pull out their leadership and send them to some central location for continuing education. Likewise, to help our American pastors avoid burnout, we have events for them every year such as *Because of the Times*, *Landmark*, and your own *Mid-America Revival Conference* in Indianapolis. There, they are challenged, motivated and preached to.

**And on the foreign field?**

On the foreign field, our national pastors have nothing like this.

**And you see this as a need to be addressed?**

Absolutely. Our missionaries work so hard and wear so many hats. We put our men through Bible schools, but for the most part, the schools consist of a dingy room somewhere for a couple of nights a week for a couple hours for a couple of years. We graduate these men and saddle them with the responsibilities of pastoring people. But these pastors have the same stress as American pastors compounded by problems like witchcraft, ancestor worship, demon possession, and gross poverty. And they don't have a break. So I have felt for some time that we need some kind of continuing education and motivation for these national pastors. That is my burden and the area to which God has directed me as a "Missionary Evangelist." I intend to go to the field and help the missionary strengthen the national preacher.

**What can we as a movement do to strengthen missions?**

Aside from the program I've just mentioned, we have to pray for the missionaries. I'm so happy about this World Network of Prayer we've got going now, because it all starts and stops there. If we can just push this idea of regular prayer, we'll have revival; there's power there!

**Is there a way to improve deputation?**

Probably so. One key, for instance, would be for our pastors to decide within themselves if they really believe that world evangelism is what we're all about. If so, these brethren need to consider opening their churches for missionaries on off-nights. The district director's hands are tied, because he has to work with his regional director. But his hands are also tied, because too many local pastors are not willing to have missionary services on any night other than their regular midweek service night. However, if these pastors could make some special services available for missionaries, it wouldn't take us two years to knock out our budgets.

All I want are places to preach, because God gives me people to help with my burden anywhere I go. I just need the services. I don't care if they're big or small churches; I'll preach there and thank God for them.

**How can the younger generation of Pentecostals help in missions?**

Our Bible colleges are doing a tremendous job. They are reaching out to missions in a greater way than ever, so I would just encourage them to keep at it.

Also, we should continue with missions programs like Youth on Mission. I chaired the committee that formed this program after noticing how well that sort of thing worked with groups like the Peace Corps. We started off with Youth in Action, and then the International Youth Corps evolved out of that. Finally, Youth on Mission evolved from that.

Ultimately, whether it's the young people or us older ones, it all comes down to keeping our burden for missions. When we become missions-minded and start caring about those beyond our own door, it revives us. **AIS**

.....

*Brother Latta was interviewed for AIS by Brother Tom O'Daniel, Executive Vice-President of Indiana Bible College.*

**IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION...**

for any of these columnists, please address it to AIS Managing Editor, P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, IN 46247. Or call (800)8000-AIS.



Paul D. Mooney

■ **Ministry**

*Do you think there is a lack of interest in strong theological preaching these days?*

Yes, without a doubt. With regard to doctrine, the temptation to be a coward is enormous. Even among us, some say "modify the message, shade it down; we don't have to be so strong on the baptism issue or the Godhead question."

Gary Larson's cartoon of "the boneless chicken ranch" causes me to laugh just thinking about it. In his one-frame cartoon, Mr. Larson depicts the idea of boneless chickens by drawing chickens sprawled out all over the place, none of which have bones, of course, and consequently are not able to stand up. I fear that some churches' frantic efforts to dispense with strong theology and doctrine in these times is about as absurd as Mr. Larson's boneless chicken ranch. Without true doctrine, we cannot stand up to the ambiguous form of Christianity that is taking shape in our society.

These are treacherous times! A diabolical attack is going on against anyone who dares to believe that there is an absolute source of truth or revelation. One becomes, in the minds of some, a dangerous person if he or she takes a stand that has a strong doctrinal base. Many are more interested in super-hyped, so-called prophetic pronouncements than in good strong theology. Many are content to turn church into some sort of psychic phone line where the fad is to make little predictions about people's personal lives that never get much deeper or specific than "God's gonna bless ya, God's gonna use ya."

A real preacher will preach doctrine. He will build on the "foundation of the apostles and prophets." The same truth that took the ancient world by storm will create a new era of revival for today's modern people.



T. W. Massengale

■ **Outreach**

*I'm needing to get more of my saints involved in outreach. Any suggestions?*

I have found that the greatest degree of involvement is realized by planning an "outreach commitment service" once a quarter. Some might argue that four times a year is excessive, but research has proven that people are reluctant to commit to anything for longer than three months. And, after all, evangelism is the primary purpose of the church. If we can't devote four services a year to our primary purpose, then we need to reexamine our own burden for souls!



T.R. O'Daniel

■ **Theology**

*Do Trinitarians really believe in three Gods?*

Not officially. Officially, their statement is one God in three co-eternal, co-equal persons. However, there is a wide divergence of belief within Trinitarianism concerning the Godhead. On one end of the continuum are those who believe similarly to our Oneness view, even though they use Trinitarian terminology. On the other end is a view that definitely borders on tritheism (belief in three Gods).

The question is, what do they mean by the word *person*? Those who come closest to Oneness theology use the word "mode" as a synonym for person. In contrast, social Trinitarians speak of a divine society or three personalities within the Godhead, a view that is open to an accusation of tritheism.

David Bernard in *The Oneness of God* lists questions to ask Trinitarians to see if they have a functional acceptance of Oneness. One question is, "Do you expect to see only one God in heaven, namely Jesus Christ?" An affirmative answer tends toward Oneness. Still, a functional acceptance of Oneness is inadequate because their non-biblical Trinitarian terminology does not distinguish them from those whose belief is tritheistic. Also, their theological practice includes baptism in the titles Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Some claim the difference between Oneness and Trinitarian views centers on semantics and is therefore irrelevant. However, actions indicate beliefs. Any belief that removes the name of Jesus from baptism is one we reject as being contrary to New Testament teaching and practice. Thank God for the revelation of Scripture that the fullness of the Godhead dwells in Jesus Christ. Our practice must be consistent with this belief.



O. C. Marler

■ **Family**

*The feeling that I have not treated my parents right has haunted me for years. Although I have never hit them, too often I "talk back" when my mouth gets the better of me and say things I later regret. I pray about it, but I just can't seem to control my tongue. My parents, whom I dearly love, tell me that I will pay for my wrong. I am confused and deeply frustrated.*

The world today says that we should give vent to our frustrations - expressing rather than suppressing them. However, even though this sounds good, acting out our feelings often causes us to step outside our Christian responsibility.

When your parents say something that angers you, even though you cannot keep from feeling the anger, you can control your reaction. In Ephesians 4:26, the Apostle Paul said, "Be ye angry, and sin not . . ." There is an interval between the time you feel the anger and the time you respond to it. You have a moment to choose between snapping back or saying, "Lord, help me get myself under control."

Snapping back will continue to hurt yourself and your parents. Making a quick acknowledgment to God at the moment of anger will more likely cause you to answer responsibly and with love.

Respecting and honoring our parents is right. But our tongue - the unruly member - sometimes gets in the way of our good intentions. The Bible instructs us that the person who bridle his own tongue has control of his entire being.

The secret in gaining such control lies at the moment of our anger. We need to season our response by obediently acknowledging God and then responding in love.

as possible. Any saints that were absent from the commitment service should be sent one in the mail with a good cover letter from the pastor.

Some may be reluctant to commit in writing to outreach. However, if they are willing to commit in writing to pay their mortgage or rent, should they not be willing to make a simple commitment to God? The Bible says, "Commit thy way unto the Lord . . . and He shall bring it to pass." When a person commits on the A.C.T.I.O.N. form, he or she is saying, "I will try," nothing more. And that is all God expects of us - to try. God will not judge us for what we *cannot* do, but rather what we *can* do.

If you would like a sample of the A.C.T.I.O.N. form, have your pastor request or download file OPEM07.TXT from AIS.



## ***Hymnal Made 'Politically Correct'***

**T**he "politically correct" crowd has already re-written some history books to be more sensitive. Plus, the Bible now has a more "inclusive" version [See "Strange World" below]. What's next? How about church hymnals?

The United Church of Christ, according to Newsweek, has now released a hymnal "to meet contemporary views on equality, nonviolence and acute social sensitivity." The denomination claims that theirs is the first to "balance masculine with feminine images of God."

Some examples: Rather than using masculine hymns like "Praise the Father Giving Life," they have opted for songs like "Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth." The words "Son of God" have been replaced by "Child of God" in the Christmas carol, "Silent Night." Also, in "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," the first line concludes, "Glory to the Christ-child bring," rather than "Glory to the newborn King." The original was deemed too male chauvenistic.

**POLITICS**

## ***Three States Attack Same-Sex Marriage***

**R**esponding to news that Hawaii is considering legalizing gay marriages, three states are taking action to oppose the idea. According to *National & International Religion Report*, California, Washington and Idaho lawmakers are considering measures that would invalidate same-sex marriages performed in other states. In most areas of the country, marriages performed in one state are recognized in all others, meaning that gay marriages performed in Hawaii would be recognized in other states.

### **News In Brief...**

- ◆ Evangelical Press reports that the Tennessee State Senate approved a bill calling for the 10 Commandments to be posted in all public schools as well as taught to public school children.
- ◆ In the first legal use of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Montana ruled in February that marijuana can be used as a sacrament.
- ◆ Senator Bob Dole announced that, if elected President, he will revoke President Clinton's abortion-related executive orders.

## ***R-Rated Computer Games Increasing***

**A**IS has found that computer games featuring graphic violence, sexual situations and obscene language are flooding the market, based on survey results of computer game consumers.

In early March, AIS editors asked members of the America Online computer network to investigate and see what games are selling well. These members were also asked to assess how well games that might be labeled "Rated R" sell. The overwhelming opinion was that "Rated R" games dominate the market. Examples:

- Phantasmagoria. This game, which says it's for ages 13 and over, features live-action characters in a rape scene, gory scenes such as a woman being force-fed blood-soaked human organs, a woman being beheaded, and more. It also features a substantial amount of obscene language.
- Doom and Doom II. One of the most popular games ever, the Doom series is loaded with occult symbols such as pentagrams and upside-down crosses. The final level of Doom II takes the player into Hell itself to fight demonic entities. This is widely seen as the first game to incorporate realistically gory death scenes. And incidentally, the most widely distributed version of the first Doom was revision 1.1.666.

- Mortal Kombat III. This one was cited for extreme violence and New Age themes. Characters, who each have various Martial Arts talents, kill one another through gruesome forms of body mutilation (heads ripped off, impaling, etc.).

- Heretic. This is a game inspired by the Doom series. It was cited as offensive because it features witchcraft and occult imagery in a positive light, plus has all the excessive gore of Doom.

- Leisure Suit Larry. There are several games in this series, which some Christians found dangerous because it's cartoonish characters appeal to children. However, most found that the content was not suitable for children, as the games portray graphic sexual situations and nudity.

- Ripper. Offensive language and graphic depictions of gory violence highlight this live-action video game, which tells the story of Jack the Ripper reincarnated in the 20th Century. The box indicates that the game is for "mature" audiences.

One positive note for pro-family forces: More and more games are utilizing a rating system on their boxes advising which age levels should play the game. It is, however, uncertain how effective this is in deterring young buyers from purchasing an offending game.

**STRANGE WORLD**

## **PICK A BIBLE, ANY BIBLE**

**S**ome more examples, from the world of the weird and bizarre, that we live in a fallen - and sometimes downright mind-boggling - world:

• Not happy with the Bible you've been reading for years? Don't worry - Doubtless a version will be rewritten for your tastes soon. Consider these recent examples:

1) *Rappin' With Jesus: The Good News According to the Four Brothers* is a paraphrase of the four Gospels aimed at African-American teens. A portion of Matthew reads: "Jesus was born in a little town called Bethlehem 'round the time this dude named Herod was king. Three wise brothers heard 'bout the little brother's birth, too, 'cuz it had been said a really righteous King of the Jews would be born. "Who is this brother y'all talking 'bout?" Herod asked his boys... They told him, 'Right in the heart of Bethlehem, a

"What's Happenin" Brother will come to lead the Almighty's people."

2) Meanwhile, Zondervan's *New International Reader's Version* is a recent Bible translation written at a second grade reading level, the lowest ever on the market.

3) Many have now heard about *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*. It's filled with gender-neutral references to God and removes references to "darkness" in deference to dark-skinned races like Hispanics or African-Americans.

• The January issue of *Aspire* magazine tells of a new media outlet for communicating a message of "safe sex": greeting cards. The magazine says each of these cards, created by Michael J. Berginc, "has a handy condom glued inside to encourage a friend to practice protected sex. The cards have found a sales niche in college bookstores."

## V.A. Guidroz Presents Counseling Ministry: 'Intimacy in Life'

APOSTOLIC MINISTRIES

By Richard C. Brown

Nationwide, the divorce rate has been about 50 percent for many years. In Austin, Texas, however, the divorce rate has been going down substantially. Sociologists in the area credit the decline to a Christian counseling ministry used by more than 80 churches, and that Pastor V. Arlen Guidroz has now adapted to his own congregation.



V. Arlen Guidroz

"We have introduced into our congregation a program that we call 'Intimacy in Life,'" said Brother Guidroz, pastor of The Life Church in Dallas, Texas.

"Intimacy in Life" is a Family Life ministry adapted from the Center for Marriage and Family Intimacy, located in Austin, TX. For several years, the Center has been conducting seminars showing Christian leaders how to help their congregations forsake the negative patterns of their past and to relate to each other according to Christian principles.

"We have created a separate department in our church to institute this ministry," said Guidroz. "We do it on two levels. We teach the principles of intimacy on a large-scale level, such as in a congregation setting, and in several

small-group settings, like a support group."

Guidroz said he, his wife, and one other family at first went through an eight-week leadership training session. In that session, they were reminded that "much of what we do in our relationships is a reflection of exactly what we learned in our families." He said the Intimacy program helps both leaders and counselees to determine the hurts and anger that have led to negative patterns and to "discover the needs for intimacy that we all have." The program teaches how to leave the old habits of the past behind and teaches ways to change those patterns, so that as a result, those in the program begin building relationships based on God's methods instead.

"After we finished training for the leadership aspect of it," Brother Guidroz continued, "my next step was to preach a sermon on intimacy. Then we began to help our church couples to have a 'staff meeting' each week among themselves. In those meetings, they talk about themselves, their lives and their plans for the future. I also urge them to have and to plan daily devotions. It's proven that couples who have some kind of daily, spiritual time together have a divorce rate of only one in 1,014 rather than the one-in-two rate that is the nationwide standard."

For more information about Brother Guidroz's program, call him at (214) 352-9954. Or for information about the training offered by the Center for Marriage and Family Intimacy, call (800) 881-8008.

## Bible College Scholarships, Loans Available

BIBLE COLLEGES

By Jeff Thomas

June 1 is the deadline for potential Bible college students to apply for scholarships from the UPCI's Division of Education, according to Brother Dan Batchelor, director of Association of Christian Teachers and Schools.

It was in August, 1995 that the Bible College Loan program was born, with a \$200,000 grant from The General Board of the UPCI and Superintendent, Brother Nathaniel A. Urshan. The response was so great, it took the Division somewhat off guard, though they assure students now that they are fully prepared to handle the load.

The program makes no-interest loans available to qualified students attending one of the nine Bible Colleges endorsed by the UPC. For years, one of the obstacles facing students wanting to attend Bible college has been lack of finances. Nonaccredited schools typically cannot receive any kind of federal assistance. That was one of the problems the loan program was designed to address.

For the 1995-1996 school year, \$100,000 was lent to 56 students to apply toward their tuition. According to Brother Batchelor, "these are no-interest loans to be repaid upon leaving or graduating Bible college."

The Division of Education reports that all loans require a signed contract by the student and a co-signature from either parents or pastor.

Batchelor said a scholarship fund has also been established by the Division of Education. While still in its infancy, two students have received \$1,500 scholarships through this program to attend the endorsed Bible college of their choice. "We hope to raise \$100,000," Batchelor said, "to enable the fund to offer 100 scholarships in the near future." Applications may be obtained from the Division of Education. Write: Bible College Loan Program, Division of Education, 8855 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, MO 63042-2299. Or call: (314) 837-7300.



Dan Batchelor

## 'Radiant Living'

LADIES MINISTRY

Sister Joanne Cook has found that women's ministry is not just something for ladies who are saved - it's an effective outreach as well.

Only a few years ago, Sister Cook, wife of Pastor Dennis Cook in Howell, MI, wrote a course entitled *Radiant Living*. She researched the subject from a variety of sources, including Sister Joy Haney's "Radiant Woman" materials. The course is actually a Bible study designed to be taught in a group session in order to disciple women. "It could be women who have been in church for a while," said Sister Cook, "or it could be women who are brand new."

Sister Cook said the inspiration for her



Joanne Cook

study came as a result of her and her husband looking for an innovative outreach method to help their home missions church grow. "We designed this class realizing that there were a lot of women who were home and perhaps lonely, and they would like to study the Bible in a nonthreatening way. So I wrote this as an introduction to the Word of God for them." The church now runs *Radiant Living* classes throughout the year. All women in their church have either gone through it or go through it after they are saved. "We do it once a week on Wednesday morning," Sister Cook said.

She also noted that the church's first converts came as a direct result of the *Radiant Living* materials and class. Those interested in the *Radiant Living* materials may purchase the course book for \$21.95 by writing Crossroads Apostolic Church, 712 Cardinal Ct., Howell, MI 48843.



- AIS members tell what they like and don't like about *Perspectives*.
- Gordon Mallory's new book approaches Oneness doctrine from a different angle.
- Statistics show pressures that can cause stress among pastors.

**PREACHER'S PICKS**

Recently we asked Bible college administrators what resource books should be in every minister's library. Brother T.R. O'Daniel, Executive Vice-President of Indiana Bible College, offered these:

- *Kingdoms in Conflict*, by Charles Colson
- *Integrity: How I Lost It and My Journey Back*, by Richard Dorch
- *A Tale of Three Kings*, by Gene Edwards
- *God's Empowering Presence*, by Gordon D. Fee
- *Why Johnny Can't Tell Right from Wrong*, by William Kilpatrick
- *The Disciplined Life*, by Richard Shelley Taylor

■ **perspectives readers' preferences**

During the past few months, Apostolic Information Service has conducted a survey among readers of *Perspectives* concerning their preferences for the magazine's contents. Results of the unscientific poll show diversity among readers' views, but certain common themes as well. Among the survey's findings were the following:

■ **book review**

*The Name of the One True God*, by Gordon G. Mallory, 1996 Reach Publications, Sacramento, CA, 174 pages, paperback. To order call: (986) 686-2600.

Gordon Mallory tells how God gave him a miraculous revelation of the absolute Oneness of the Godhead. However, his book, *The Name of the One True God*, shows that to him, this "revelation" is not an extra-biblical revelation. It is, rather, based firmly in the Word of God.

The author has two main premises in his work: 1) That God is absolutely one, not having plural "centers of intelligence;" and 2) the name of that one God is now revealed to us as Jesus. This is not quite the systematic presentation of Oneness theology that you'd find in David Bernard's *The Oneness of God*; it's more limited in scope. However, Mallory does an effective job in showing the logical contradictions and yes, the absurdity, of much Trinitarian doctrine.

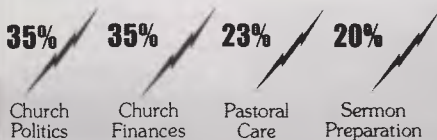
● The five most popular features of *Perspectives*, in order, are: 1) Cover Story, 2) Opinions, 3) Plainly Speaking, 4) Apostolic News, and 5) World News. At the bottom of the list was, not surprisingly, Classified Ads.

● The three pages that readers felt were "most beneficial" to their ministry: 1) Cover Story, 2) Opinions, and 3) a tie between the Q & A Forum and Plainly Speaking.

● As for weaknesses, the following were cited: 1) One person commented that we should approach local pastors about advertising in the Classified Ads to add some variety. 2) Another commented that Cover Stories need to put more emphasis on how growing churches have succeeded. 3) Somebody else found the page formats too "crammed." 4) One person expressed a wish for more Biblical teaching. 5) Yet another person said the magazine is "too much slanted toward IBC." 6) And finally, one person said the "Smiles" page is the greatest weakness.

■ **american pulse: pastors & stress**

What factors cause the most stress, and detract from effective ministry, in a pastor's life? According to a recent survey, here are the number of pastors who say certain factors cause them stress:



Source: Your Church Magazine



# Church Law

By Owen Taylor

Tax advisers are often asked about gifts from churches - namely, if a church gives a cash gift to the pastor that is taken from special offerings, does the pastor have to report that as income?

And the answer to this is not always clear. Consequently, many ministers are confused and don't know their liability. Unfortunately, I probably won't be able to make any friends with my answer.

A recent case, *Goodwin v. U.S.*, dealt with a situation that may be pertinent to the answer to the question. The issue in *Goodwin* was "special occasion gifts" and whether such gifts are taxable income. The 8th Circuit affirmed a lower court decision to tax special occasion gifts made by a church to its minister and his wife.

The gifts were made three times a year through special offerings collected by church officials. The court ruled that regular, sizable payments by persons to whom the taxpayer provides services are to be regarded as taxable compensation. It is expected that the taxpayer will voluntarily add this income to his reported income because it will not be reported on a W-2 or 1099.

On the other hand it seems safe to say, based on the language of the court, that irregular, small gifts fall into the category of "gift" and not income. Small gifts are not, of course, taxable income. When does the amount of a gift become "sizable"? It's not spelled out in the Regulations. It seems to be an area of common sense and good tax planning.

Owen Taylor is an Apostolic attorney. Call him at (410) 757-8080, or write: Christian Freedom Foundation, 1304 Harmony Lane, Annapolis, MD 21401.



# PENTECOSTAL GROWTH DYNAMICS

## ◆ Four Kingdom Building Ministries

This three part workshop motivates your saints into a powerful ministry for the 90's. Mary the prayer intercessor; A Samaritan soulwinner; Aquila and Priscilla home Bible study



teacher and Barnabas the encourager.

(Notebook with 3 cassette tapes)

## ◆ Barnabas New Convert's Course

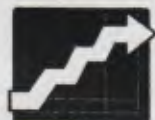
12 lessons that give vital answers to establish converts foundation in Christ.

Use this to assimilate them into consistent Christian living. Each lesson is simple, applicable and comes with a student book!



## ◆ Operation G.R.O.W.

Here is the answer to your Pentecostal outreach! In-house ministries of hostesses, ushers and altar workers. Outreach



ministries include phone follow-up, visitation follow-up, Home Bible studies and your New Life Class. Complete with IBM

program and instructions.



S. A. Carley, Pastor

## ◆ Home Bible Study Workshop

Teaching Home Bible Studies is still the most effective evangelistic tool. This three session workshop makes getting and teaching Home Bible Studies

a reality! Learn how to channel your burden into winning people to God! (Notebook with 3 cassettes)



## ◆ Altar Worker's Workshop

Praying in the altar is something every Pentecostal should know how to do.

After this two session workshop you will know how to approach people in the altar and how to pray with them to receive the Holy Ghost! You will become a sharpened sickle of harvest anywhere you go. (Notebook with 2 cassette tapes)

**On-Site Presentations Available**

\_\_\_ Four Kingdom Building Ministries. \$20.00

\_\_\_ Barnabas New Converts Course. \$20.00

\_\_\_ Barnabas Student Book. \$6.00

\_\_\_ Operation GROW. \$25.00

\_\_\_ The Home Bible Study Workshop. \$17.50

\_\_\_ Altar Worker's Workshop. \$15.00

**Pentecostal Growth Dynamics**

5213 92nd Street Lubbock, TX 79424

Shipping 18% \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

# The Ruin of a Compromiser

Selected Sermon Outline by J.T. Pugh

Guest  
Pulpit

TEXT: Mark 6:14. "...I wilt that thou give me in a charger the head of John the Baptist. And the king...would not reject her..."



J.T. Pugh is pastor emeritus of First Pentecostal Church in Odessa, TX, an author, and a frequent conference speaker.

**S**piritual warfare is a very real and a very mysterious affair. In each person's soul is a fight between right and wrong; between the expedient and that which is best. It is, in a sense, a battle for the conscience.

**IN THE STORY** of John the Baptist and King Herod, we have an interesting contrast that teaches us much about compromise and the conscience. One of the fellows involved was a king; the other was the son of a country priest. One lived in a palace, and the other in a wilderness.

Herod was a man of shallow religious impressions. He had heard of John the Baptist's preaching in the wilderness. And amid all the complexities of this man arose a curiosity for the kind of religion John preached. So one day, he sent a messenger down and said, "Tell John to come up here." This happened not once, but several times; there was something about John that Herod respected.

Until one day, John said something that caught the king off guard: "King, it's not right for you to have your brother's wife; that's an area you're going to have to straighten up."

When his wife, Herodious, heard this, she hit the ceiling. "You are the craziest man I ever saw, Herod," she told her husband. "Why do you have that backwoods fellow in here? He's trying to break up our home!" And she told him, "Before the sun goes down, I want you to have the head taken off that man."

There was an immediate war between conscience and convenience. And finally after a while, King Herod made a compromise. He told his wife that if she would just be quiet about John he would have John arrested and put in jail. And for the moment, that was good enough for her; that was all she wanted at that time.

Then, the day came that the king held a party. During the party, he and the crowd got to drinking, and finally, he danced with Salome, his step-daughter. During the dance, Herod told her, "I'll give you anything you want." Salome said she would have to ask her mother.

Herodious was delighted. "You go out there," she told her daughter, "and tell him you want the head of

John the Baptist on a charger."

And so, Salome went out and told Herod her request. Immediately there was a strike at the most sacred part of Herod's life, because even in the midst of the filth of his life, there was always the clear sounding note of his conscience. But here, the devil was reaching for it. So the man who never intended to go that far ordered the executioner to bring to him John's head.

**COMPROMISE** is just that way. I have observed that anytime you let the devil get his foot in the door, sooner or later, the rest of him will be there. One compromise always leads to another. Sin always mixes up our sense of values. In Herod's mind, he felt the killing of a man would not be as bad as breaking his promise to that dancing girl. Likewise, when we begin to do things that are wrong, soon it gets to where very few things are wrong in our eyes. Watch out! Once you get into compromise, you're not

**"Any time you let the devil get his foot in the door, sooner or later, the rest of him will be there."**

through with it: Compromise is the hand of hell that will haunt you.

**I REMEMBER** one time Jesus told Simon Peter, "Simon, Satan hath desired to have you that he might sift you as wheat. But I've prayed for you that your faith would not fail you." Peter's sin did not begin when he denied that he knew Jesus. It began with the compromise of a prayer-less life. This then degenerated into one compromise after another.

Prayer-less people are always pawn for Satan. It's easy to compromise when you don't pray; it's easy to become carnal when you don't pray.

**THERE CAME THE DAY** in Herod's life when the chit-chat around the court centered around Jesus and the

works He had done. Here we can see how Herod's compromise came back to haunt him. While others were speculating who Jesus was, with a sudden crash of cymbals, a horrible thought came to the king. He said, "It is John the Baptist, whom I have beheaded." The Greek in this passage puts the emphasis on "I." Herod had to admit that he was the man who had done it. His hands were the bloody hands.

Even this was not enough, though, to satisfy Herodious. One day she came against Herod again with her sharp tongue, saying, "You deserve a better office than you've got. You should go to Rome." And so, against his better judgment, Herod went to Rome.

Unfortunately, the Emperor was not in a good mood the day he came in; he grabbed Herod and had him thrown into banishment. And that was the end of Herod.

**THERE WAS ONCE** a man who found a large snake and developed an affinity towards it. He took that snake and kept it; in the winter, when it was cold, he kept it on his person. He even kept it inside his shirt. As the snake grew up, the man began to train it and teach it tricks. He developed quite a show with it. He had a cage for it, and on signal, he would open the door and the snake would slither out across the stage to him. The climax of the act was when he gave the snake a signal to entwine itself around him. Then he would give the signal and the snake would uncoil and let the man go.

One night, though, during this act, the man blew the whistle and the snake wrapped itself around him, began to wind around his throat and cover his mouth. But when he gave the signal for the snake to uncoil, it didn't. Suddenly, there was a muffled scream from the man, who toppled to the floor, a pile of crackling bones. That thing which he had held so close to himself became his death.

The Bible says that God will bring every wicked sin into judgment. Be careful: The secret sin that you hold so close to you, if left unconfessed and hidden, will be the thing that brings judgment to you. **AS**

## OUTLINE

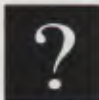
- I. Introduction - The Battle for the Conscience
- II. John and Herod (Herod's respect for John's message)
- III. The Temptation to Compromise
  - A. Herod's Partial Compromise
  - B. The Tempter Comes Back - Asks for Further Compromise
- IV. The Nature of Compromise (Always Asks for More)
- V. Peter's Compromises
- VI. Herod's Death
  - A. Brought by Compromise
  - B. Judgment Always Comes

*Indiana Bible College maintains a growing electronic database of research and Bible study files to assist pastors, students and church leaders. All files in the database are free (AIS members only, please) and can be accessed by modem (dial (317) 781-7700) or by voice telephone ((800)800-AIS). When ordering by phone, specify photocopy or computer disk, and have your User ID and Password ready. (A small photocopy/computer disk fee will be added to your monthly statement.)*



### **bible study files**

BSFM10.TXT	4569	Backsliding & Divorce Prevention. 12 things couples need to be aware of.
BSFM11.TXT	3812	Bricks that Build a Marriage. Seven essential keys for a successful marriage.
EVPR41.TXT	3608	Signs Of The End Times. Interesting perspective of the Last Days by Dr. James Dobson.
BSGA04.TXT	8745	Appealing to One in Authority. How we should relate to those in authority.
SHB26.TXT	8766	Biblical Interpretation. Helpful article on correct biblical hermeneutics.
EVPR45.TXT	15104	Understanding Biblical Prophecy. Exhaustive article on correctly understanding prophecy.
BSFS05.TXT	6048	Jesus On Fasting. Short, but good, article on Jesus' views of fasting.
BSRP15.TXT	9030	Jesus On Seeking Righteousness. Study of Jesus' words on the pursuit of righteous living.
BSGR06.TXT	7847	Jesus On Grace. The teachings of Jesus relative to the doctrine of grace.
BSGA07.TXT	10114	Rejecting Authority. Discussion of the problems of rejecting authority.



### **controversial issues files**

CUCH11.TXT	7296	Errors Of The Positive Confession Movement. This article exposes a Charismatic doctrine.
CUNA23.TXT	43200	The Gnostic Jesus. In-depth refutation of New Age concepts of an impersonal God.
CUGE09.TXT	40932	Hate Begotten Of Hate. Article exposing Black Muslim as a racist religion.
ISAM15.TXT	8376	A Christian Nation? This article examines Thomas Jefferson's view of America as Christian.
CUSA56.TXT	8376	Children & the Occult. Fascinating discussion of how occultists target children.



### **apostolic doctrine files**

ADGH21.TXT	39777	Who Is the Holy Spirit? Three articles on the Oneness view of the Holy Spirit.
ADHG09.TXT	14484	When Your Spirit Is Dull and Dry. How the Spirit can revitalize your life.
ADTV21.TXT	5804	Safeguarding The Nest. An article that says we need to protect our children from television.
ADNB18.TXT	2316	True "Amazing Grace." Article on the Apostolic view of grace.
ADNB17.TXT	27586	So Great Salvation. Outstanding, well-organized booklet giving Biblical details of salvation.
ADHS27.TXT	3364	Because of the Angels. Outline sermon about hair being the covering of the head.
ADHS47.TXT	4312	Letter From A Mother. A mother challenges the ministry to lead children back to God.
ADNB09.TXT	5612	No Other Gospel. Short but powerful article on the importance of truth.



### **church management files**

LADV11.TXT	5677	The Unselfishness of Mom. A very nice study of biblical mothers.
FAMM04.TXT	7608	Nutrition & Christianity. How to maintain our bodies as temples of the Holy Ghost.
FACR28.TXT	3478	Battles Parents Must Win. Parenting sometimes requires a battle of wills with children.
LETM09.TXT	3965	Do It Now. Helpful tips on overcoming procrastination. Great for leadership training!
CNGE22.TXT	5562	Handling Church Conflict. Interesting article about conflicts and how to solve them.
LTBU08.TXT	8192	Is Your Church Incorporated? The benefits and "how-to" of incorporating your church.
YMCY03.TXT	8808	When Youth Leave The Church. Fighting the problem of youth backsliding. Good!
OPSW27.TXT	3965	A Passion for Souls. Filled with illustrations that give you a desire to win souls.
OPRE02.TXT	20562	Church Crusade Handbook. Excellent ideas for planning your next revival crusade.
OPLE01.TXT	2192	Move-ins Letter. Example letter to explain the church programs to new move-ins.
NCTR06.TXT	33536	40-Day Study. Simple, self-taught-at-home new convert spiritual growth program.



### **computer software files**

*The following files are from our CD-ROM collection. Since these don't have the normal AIS file name, give the program title printed in bold below when ordering these programs.*

CD-ROM	375586	<b>WordWork.</b> Easy to use New Testament cross reference program.
CD-ROM	1.1 Meg	<b>Words of Jesus.</b> Outstanding VGA game that helps you memorize Jesus' words.
CD-ROM	121662	<b>Studying Your Bible.</b> Program that offers practical advice for Bible study.
CD-ROM	439444	<b>Children's Church Programs.</b> Great collection of programs for Children's church & Sunday school.
CD-ROM	145437	<b>Christian Networks Listing.</b> Good collection of religious bulletin board services.

*The following files are available for direct download from the AIS Computer Network:*

WPUT12.ZIP	142954	<b>Appointment Book.</b> Helps organize time & appointments.
WPUT14.ZIP	33088	<b>Word Processor Word Counter.</b> Counts words for any ASCII text file.

**AIS Subscribers: Receive all text files on this page for only \$3.95!**

**WORD TO THE WISE:**

*“People with humility don’t think less of themselves; they just think about themselves less.”*



**Top Ten Clues**

that your sermon may be in trouble:

10. The public address system picks up a cellular call between your secretary and the “Homiletically Challenged” Hot Line.
9. The hearing-impaired person in the back row exclaims, “Pipe down, Reverend.”
8. You deliver the entire sermon in Aramaic and people still say, “I enjoyed your sermon this morning.”
7. The choir director’s pizza finally arrives.
6. Your most faithful member interrupts you to say, “I read this exact sermon in Preaching Magazine last week.”
5. The first person to yawn during your message is *you!*
4. You dream that you’re preaching and wake up to find out that you are.
3. Someone’s pager goes off and the entire congregation leaves.
2. Your spouse stands up and says, “That’s not true!”
1. The congregants, as they leave the church, say, “Pastor, every sermon you preach is better than the next one.”



*Pastor Ribble goes a bit overboard in promoting the Sunday morning tithe march.*

**There were two** old farmers who really loved baseball. They watched every game they could during the season and spent nearly every day of the off-season reminiscing about great games from years gone by. One day, their discussion turned to speculation over whether there was baseball in Heaven. Finally, the two of them made a pact that when one of them died and went to Heaven, he would try to get a message back to the survivor.

Shortly thereafter, one of the two fellows had a fatal heart attack during the excitement of a close game. A few days later, the survivor had a very vivid dream in which his dearly departed friend was sending him a message.

“Old buddy,” he said, “I have some good news and bad news. The good news is that there *is* baseball in Heaven. The bad news is that you’re pitching tomorrow.”

.....

**One man tells** of a Cincinnati pastor who gave a lovely eulogy at a funeral. He concluded by saying, “As we all know, Herb’s body is just the shell. The nut has gone to heaven.”



**One discouraged pastor** complained that he had determined, by watching his more carnal church members, that people will buy into anything these days: “I have this one guy who actually believes in numerology. He thought it meant something that his birthday was May 5, he has five children, and he lives on 55th Street. On his 55th birthday, he went to the racetrack and was astonished to find that a horse named *Numero Cinco* was running in the fifth race. So five minutes before the race, he went to the fifth window and put down five thousand dollars in five-dollar bills on Horse Number Five, *Numero Cinco*. Sure enough, the horse finished fifth.”

.....

**Handy safety tips:** Don’t ride in automobiles; they cause 20 percent of all fatal accidents. Don’t stay at home; 17 percent of all accidents occur in the home. Don’t walk on the street or sidewalk; 14 percent of all accidents occur to pedestrians. Don’t travel by air, rail or water; 16 percent of all accidents happen on these. However, only .001 percent of all deaths occur in worship services. Thus, the safest place for you to be is in church.

For subscription or advertising information, call (800) 8000-AIS, or write: AIS, P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, IN 46247. Subscription: \$12.95 per month for entire service, including Perspectives magazine, "Ministry Dynamics" cassette, 10 "Idea Sheets, and unlimited access to the AIS Computer Service. \$22.95 per year for Perspectives magazine only. Apostolic Information Service and IBC Perspectives are registered trademarks of Indiana Bible College. All rights reserved. Indiana Bible College is affiliated with the United Pentecostal Church International.

## **Pentecost 2000:** Seven Major Trends Affecting the Apostolic Church Into the 21st Century (Continued from page three)

Brother O'Daniel also saw strong holiness stand ards as coming out the victor in the culture war. According to O'Daniel, people's disenchantment with compromise in other religions will help in this regard. "Other denominations are going to take another look at our doctrines and holiness stand," he said. "Their disenchantment with their own denomination's compromised stand will cause many of them to seek out our churches."

### **Trend #5: The Dominance of Non-Christian Religious Views**

Whereas the United States was once considered a Christian nation, sociologists have begun speaking of America today as "Post-Christian America." And for good reason - Hundreds of non-Christian influences now dominate throughout the country.

"A short time back, Canada was forced to officially declare that their country was no longer a Christian nation," noted Brother Foster. "This was because of the arising of so many other doctrines, and this same trend is now happening in the United States. For instance, the Muslim religion is the fastest-growing religion in our country today, and this is a force that the church is going to be confronted with in coming years."

Brother Lamb likewise said that dangerous religions and philosophies will challenge the church's positions on many issues. According to Lamb, "the society will split between those who strictly adhere to Scripture and those who abandon it. In particular, the Gay Revisionist

movement, which would seek to re-cast the Bible in its image, and Wiccan goddess worship will infect so-called mainstream churches, which will cave in to their intimidation tactics." Brother Lamb felt, however, that this represents a great opportunity for Apostolics: "We must have a high-profile position already in place to welcome those to reject denominations that go decadent."

According to Bishop Golder, the logical outcome of these non-Christian influences will be massive deception. He said the church will have to guard saints' minds carefully, lest they begin embracing the deceptions. "Many false teachings and concepts of the Bible are being taught strongly; New Age teaching is but one example. Also, many new translations of the Bible are designed to soften the truths of the Bible. Not only that, but we also have a growth of some of the eastern religions in America. The only solution for this is that our Pentecostals have to get grounded in the basics of the doctrine."

### **Trend #6: The Urbanization of the Church**

The 1993 Los Angeles riots and the 1995 unrest following the murder acquittal of O.J. Simpson only brought to light tensions that already existed in the inner cities of America. In those and many other cases, the only taming force has been Christian churches. Therefore, Brother Bernard said that in the next couple of decades, more and more churches will spring up in the inner cities. "To a great extent, we started as a rural movement, but now, more of our churches are starting in urban areas. This will change our methods and the way we conduct outreach and services to a certain extent. It shouldn't change our doctrine, but it should make us more in tune with the needs of other cultures and ready to help with their unique needs."

### **Trend #7: Innovative Forms of Evangelism**

"Young ministers are going to bring a new approach to organizational work," Brother Mooney noted. The national organizations are going to become more service-oriented, as the local church becomes the source for orchestrating new ministries."

Brother O'Daniel, too, saw the emergence of the local church as the impetus for revival, rather than depending so much on organizations. "Special ministries will continue to increase in number. The result is that saints and pastors will have to discern which ones they will support at their local church."

One of the innovative forms of evangelism that Brother Lamb said would become more prevalent is that of the national crusade. Already, in the denominational world, ministers such as Billy Graham have shown how effective this approach can be. Closer to home, Brother Billy Cole has led several crusades in foreign countries, with the result being tens of thousands being converted. "The [North American] church is going to have to consider funding these kinds of mass rallies featuring the best Apostolic evangelists and musicians as a series of 'tours' through major cities. A coordinated approach involving sophisticated stagecraft and marketing must be utilized to ensure high turn-out, follow-up and retention."

"The result of all these new ways of doing things," Brother Mooney noted, "will be a real unleashing of the church." And perhaps that is the best news of all about Pentecost 2000. Because even with all the challenges the Apostolic movement will face, the movement has shown itself ready to adapt - and ready to bring revival to the 21st Century.

## *The Holiness of God*

by Curtis Young

### **A Teaching Tool for the 90s!**

- For new convert's class
- Youth Class
- Adult Class

**A Biblical perspective to strengthen the foundation:**



\$2.00 each + postage  
10 for \$18.00 + postage  
Church: (504) 357-6233  
Home: (504) 296-8119

Order from:  
First Pentecostal Church  
3155 Victoria Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

**Advertising Rates:**

The IBC Perspectives is sent monthly to approximately 4000 pastors throughout the United States and Canada. Suggested subscription price is \$22.95 a year, however we will send it free of cost to anyone who sends in an offering to help with postage. One time magazine advertising rates are as follows: Full page ad (page 4 & 10 only), \$450.00. Half page ad, \$300.00. Quarter page ad, \$200.00. Three inch block ad (page 15 only), \$65.00. Two inch block ad, \$40.00. Classified ad, \$8.00 per line, 3 line minimum. One time *Revival Ad Pack* prices are as follows: \$200.00 per ad slip (single sided, 20 lb. paper, *we print*); full page tri-fold (20 lb paper, *you print*) \$200.00. Other *Revival Ad Pack* options are available. Call for details. All prices are based upon photo ready copy. Halftone photos extra. Considerable discounts are available if the ad runs more than one time. Call our advertising desk for prices: (317) 781-7712, Mon. - Fri., 9am-4pm. Or write: AIS, P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, IN 46247.

**First Annual School of Home Missions!**

Join the Home Missions Division on the campus of Indiana Bible College June 10 - 28, 1996  
for three weeks of in-depth home missions training!

Write: School of Home Missions P.O. Box 47917 Indianapolis, IN 46247

**Advertise on  
The Internet!**

Ad Page on the INTERNET  
only \$99.00 for one year,  
and receive

FREE second year!

Two years of advertising for  
only \$99.00. Only churches,  
church products, and church  
activities, please.

FOR INFORMATION:

Contact Jory Lester  
(800) 275-7312.

E-Mail:

rlster@ix.netcom.com

Web site:

http://www.

adpages.com/church

Subscribe to  
*Melody Lines!*

A quarterly newsletter  
written by and for  
Pentecostal musicians.

- Resources
- Keyboard helps
- Worship service ideas
- No subscription fee!

Write:

**Pentecostal Musicians**  
P.O. Box 472  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

*Radiant  
Living*

By Joanne Cook

Excellent ladies'  
training material,  
with years of proven  
results. \$21.95 plus  
\$3.00 postage and  
handling.

Write:

*Crossroads Apostolic Church*  
712 Cardinal Ct.  
Howell, MI 48843

**Need to lose** some weight or  
make some great extra money?  
Call us about new patented, All-  
natural products! (800) 683-  
1837, PIN # 1953.

*Designs  
For Worship*

Call or write for a booklet of  
church floor plans and front  
elevation designs by:



**John H. Ward**  
(601)256-5997  
P.O. Box 163  
Becker, MS  
38825

Join the Mississippi District on a  
***Spiritual Journey to Israel!***

✪ November 1996

✪ Jordan-Petra Add-on

✪ Lowest Cost Anywhere!

✪ New Orleans, New York, Memphis Departures

✪ Best Quality

✪ See Prophecy Fulfilled!

✪ Spiritual, Educational, Renewal

✪ Pastors FREE with 5 Paying Passengers



Join G.R. Travis, James Nation, and many of the Mississippi District  
Board on the journey of a lifetime! Celebrate with Israel the  
3000 Anniversary of Jerusalem as the City of David!  
Special Visits to many sites connected to Bible prophecy.

**1-800-484-9434** Passcode 7102

James Sandy, Coordinator

What really matters is not "Who" you are  
or "Where" you come from...



Rather "Whose" you are  
and "Where" you are going!

**Are you ready for the trip?**

## **Indiana Bible College**

3350 carson Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46227 (317) 784-8069

---

### **Apostolic Information Service**

Indiana Bible College  
P.O. Box 47917  
Indianapolis, IN 46247

NON-PROFIT ORG.

**PAID**

INDIANAPOLIS, IN  
PERMIT NO. 447