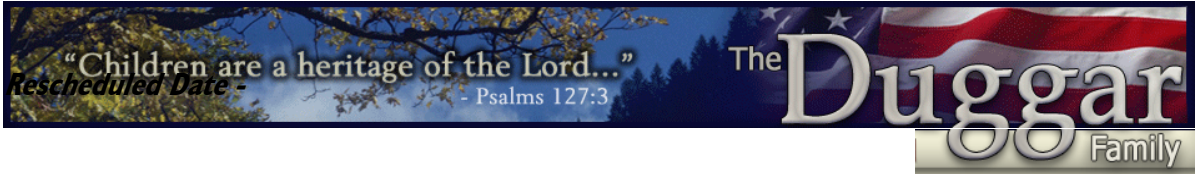


REMINDER

BE PLANNING NOW TO BRING SOMEONE TO MEET -



Sunday Morning - August 2, 2009

- Duggar-family Musicians Will Play and Sing For Our Service!***
- Jim Bob Duggar Will Be Speaking In The Morning Service!***
- Michelle Duggar To Give Devotional At Rebekah White's Baby Shower At 1:30 p.m.***

PLAN NOW TO BE HERE!



IN DEFENSE OF BIBLICAL, HISTORICAL CHRISTIANITY

by Dr. Thomas Cassidy, Pastor
First Baptist Church - Spring Valley, California
(fifth in this series - continued from last week)

THE PETROBRUSSIANS

Peter Du Bruys, who died in 1126, was a student of Peter Abelard (1079 - 1142) at the University of Paris. From around the year 1105, he began preaching in the South of France, doctrines which ran contrary to the Church of Rome. His converts were called Petrobrussians by the Catholics.

The chief antagonist of Peter de Bruys was Peter the Venerable (1092 - 1156) the abbot of Clugny who listed five "heresies" of the Petrobrussians:

1. They declared invalid the baptism of any person before they reached the age of discretion. They taught believers baptism, and practiced rebaptism of those who joined them from the Catholics.
2. They declared Church buildings and consecrated alters as useless.
3. They were opposed to the adoration of images and rejected the use of crucifixes.
4. They denied transubstantiation.
5. They rejected prayers, alms, and good works for the dead.

In addition, the Petrobrussians rejected the Catholic use of tradition, teaching the authority and literal interpretation of Scripture alone as sufficient. They saw the "church" as being a body composed of regenerated, baptized people, and rejected the Catholic doctrines of penance and celibacy.

Peter Du Bruys became extremely popular in Languedoc where he preached for twenty years. He was seized and burned, by the Roman clergy, at St. Gilles in 1126.

THE ALBIGENSES

The name "Albigenses" is taken from the French town of Albi, 70 kilometers north-east of Toulouse, on the river Tarn. Albi was a major center of Catharist (Purist) activity.

The doctrines of the Albigenses, when taken from their own writings, rather than from the writings of their enemies, was very baptistic. These people rejected the Catholic concept of the "Church" and formed simple congregations with pastors in the place of leadership.

Enemies of the Albigenses thought they had no churches because they had no formal, visible organization of officers, etc. A (Catholic) synod at Toulouse in 1191 and at Albi in 1165 condemned the Albigenses for their rejection of infant baptism.

With regard to the Word of God, the Albigenses accepted the scriptures over tradition. There have been many (false) charges made against the Albigenses, the most frequent of which was that of Manichaeism. This no doubt came about through the connection of the Albigenses and the Paulicians. No hard evidence is available to support this charge, except the dubious

statements of their enemies. In his book, "The Glorious Recovery of the Vaudois, lxvii, London, 1857, Acland writes:

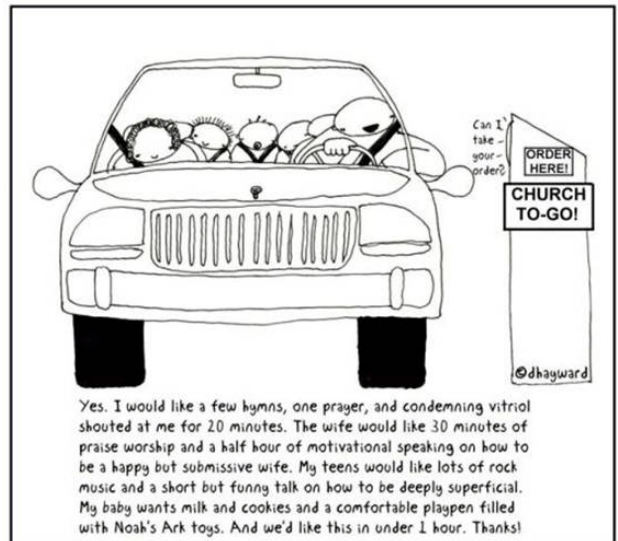
"Care must be taken at this point, and too prompt credence should not be given the accuser. The Roman Catholic Church sought diligently for excuses to persecute. Even Luther was declared by the Synod of Sens to be a Manichaeen. The celebrated Archbishop Ussher says that the charge 'of Manichaeism on the Albigensian sect is evidently false.' It would be difficult to understand the Albigenses from this philosophical standpoint. They were not a metaphysical people. Theirs was not a philosophy, but a daily faith and practice ..."

The Albigenses were some of the most persecuted people on Earth in their day. The Catholics at first attempted to "convert" the Albigenses through ecclesiastical coercion. This failed largely because the Albigenses knew the Word of God! The Catholic Councils of Lateran II in 1139 and Tours in 1163 condemned them as heretics.

The Count of Toulouse, Raymund IV, was forced, under threat of excommunication and interdict, to join in the crusades against his own subjects. This crusading army was led by the cruel Simon De Montfort and Arnold, the abbot of Citeaux. As an example of mans inhumanity to man, this period was one of the blackest spots in history. "Their thirst for blood and their unbounded rapacity continued to rage in spite of the feeble attempts of the pope to check them." (G.P. Fisher, History of the Christian Church, page 194).

One instance will serve to show the nature of these persecutions. The town of Beziers was before the attacking armies. Rather than systematically seek out the Albigenses from the Catholic population the papal legate gave the order to "kill them all. The Lord knows His own." The blood thirsty crusaders obliged. Women and children were not spared. Almost 20,000 innocent people were slain in just this one attack.

Further campaigns of terror were conducted in 1215-1218, 1226-1229, and 1232-1233. At the last, the business of the



inquisition was entrusted to the Dominicans, called "the hounds of the Pope." So widespread and devastating were these crusades, that the testimony of Christ was all but exterminated in the South of France. Those who did escape fled to Italy and Germany where they sowed the seeds of the Anabaptist movement in Europe. Some returned from whence they came - to Bulgaria, where the Bogomils continued to exist. The Albigenes were also called **Paterines**, meaning "sufferers."

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

by Evangelist David W. Cloud

□ **RICK WARREN'S TRAITOROUS ECUMENISM** - Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church in southern California, recently took his radical ecumenical agenda before the annual convention of the *Islamic Society of North America*. He urged Muslims to join him in "interfaith projects."

Though Warren told his church that he was imitating Jesus by speaking to the Muslim convention, in fact he became a traitor to Jesus. In a letter to the "Saddleback family," Warren said, "*If you want to have a Christ-like ministry, you have to associate with the people Jesus did--unbelievers!*"

It is true that Jesus associated with unbelievers, for He "*came to seek and to save that which is lost*" (Luke 19:10). Jesus ate with sinners and dined with Pharisees, but He didn't appear before a conference of Pharisees and Sadducees or pagan religionists and call upon them to join Him and His followers in a joint ministry of social works. Rather, Christ proclaimed that He is the only way of salvation and warned that those who tried to come to God by another way are thieves and robbers (John 14:6; 10:1-11). He preached repentance and reproved men for not repenting (Mark 1:15; Luke 13:1-5; 10:13; 11:32). He warned constantly of eternal hellfire (e.g. Mat. 5:22, 29, 30; 10:28; 11:23; 13:40-42; 23:33; 25:41; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 10:15; 16:23).

Rick Warren is not following in Christ's footsteps, because he refrains to preach like Christ preached. If Warren were walking in Jesus' shoes, he would not be invited repeatedly to speak at major world forums. Jesus was only popular with the crowds until they heard His message (John 6:60-66); after that they called for His crucifixion!

Rick Warren complains frequently that he is persecuted by "fundamentalists" who oppose his contemporary, ecumenical philosophy, but like compromisers everywhere, he confuses godly reproof with persecution. In the recent pastoral letter, Warren said, "*Every time I speak to any non-Christian group, I get criticized by well-meaning believers who don't really understand how much Jesus loves lost people. They are more concerned with their own perceived purity than the salvation of those Jesus died for.*"

This is slanderous. Warren's conservative Christian critics understand how much Jesus loves lost people, but they also understand that lost people are not going to be saved by an ecumenical social agenda but by the preaching of the gospel, and the fact is that Rick Warren did not preach the gospel to the Islamic Society of North America.

□ **CODEX SINAITICUS DIGITIZED**- Codex Sinaiticus, the oldest extant near-complete copy of the New Testament, has been digitized and placed on the internet. The fourth-century Bible gets its name from the Monastery of Saint Catherine at Mount Sinai, where it was discovered in the 19th century by German textual critic Constantine Tischendorf. Today the surviving pages of the codex are located in four places, the British Library (347 pages), the University Library in Leipzig, Germany (43 pages), the National Library of Russia (six fragments), and the Monastery of Saint Catherine at Mount Sinai (12 pages and 40 fragments). For the past 150 years modern textual criticism has favored the Sinaiticus and its bed-fellow, Codex Vaticanus of the Vatican Library, and a small number of other manuscripts of similar character over the vast majority of the roughly 5,500 Greek manuscripts and lectionaries extant.

Writing in 1883, John Burgon observed, "...especially B [Vaticanus] and Aleph [Sinaiticus], have within the last twenty years established a tyrannical ascendancy over the imagination of the Critics, which can only be fitly spoken of as a blind superstition" (The Revision Revised, p. 11). This handful of Egyptian manuscripts preferred by modern textual critics was called by John Owen in the 17th century "the spurious brood" and by John Burgon in the 19th century the "little handful of suspicious documents" (The Revision Revised, p. 78) and the "little handful of singularly licentious documents" (Ibid.) and "those eccentric exemplars" (The Traditional Text of the Gospels, p. 31).

Since the discovery of the Egyptian papyri in the 20th century, the number of **Alexandrian** manuscripts has increased; but compared to the vast number that support the Traditional text represented by the old Protestant versions such as the King James in English, they still represent a very tiny and "eccentric" minority, that not only disagree with the majority but also with one another.

Codex Sinaiticus includes two heretical writings, the *Epistle of Barnabas* and the *Shepherd of Hermas*. The Epistle of Barnabas is filled with heresies and fanciful allegorizing, claiming, for example, that Abraham was familiar with the Greek alphabet and that water baptism saves the soul. The Shepherd of Hermas is a gnostic writing that presents the Adoptionist heresy that the Christ Spirit came upon Jesus at his baptism. Sinaiticus also exhibits gnostic influence in John 1:18, where "the only begotten Son" is changed to "the only begotten God," thus perpetuating the ancient Arian heresy that disassociates the Son Jesus Christ with God Himself by breaking the clear connection between God of John 1:1 with the Son of John 1:18. We know that God was not begotten; it was the Son Who was begotten in the incarnation.

Beware - all "bibles" are not The Holy Bible!



NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Mary Byars
 Cradle Roll 2: Larry Byars
 6:00 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Rebekah White
 Cradle Roll 2: Nathaniel White
 Wed. Eve. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Hannah White
 Cradle Roll 2: LeAnna White

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of July 12, 2009

Sunday School ----- 18
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 31
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 29
 Wed. Eve. Service, 07/15/09 ----- 26

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of July 12, 2009

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 862.00
 New Hymnals Fund ----- \$ 23.00
Total Received for Week of 07/12/09: \$ 885.00

**Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed
 to operate the church
 EACH WEEK,
 as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00**

FUND DRIVE REPORTS

NEW HYMNAL FUND

Offerings Received To Date: \$ 1,459.00

NEW PIANO FUND

Offerings Received To Date: \$ 570.00

PARSONAGE RENOVATION FUND

Total Received, To Date: \$ 335.00



WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*



Please Remember To Be Faithful to Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start *today* - *OK?* Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter, Custodian
 Larry Mathews, Caryn Quinnelly, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford,
 Nathaniel & Rebekah White ----- Outreach
 Flowers ----- Hannah and Shirley White

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