

REMINDER

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HEAVEN, HELL, AND EMERGENT HERESY

by Eric Barger

When one does a careful evaluation of the teachings of Emergent leaders, such as Doug Pagitt, Rob Bell, and Brian McLaren, it becomes apparent that they do not believe that Heaven, as described in the Bible, actually exists. Even clearer is their denunciation against the notion of a literal Hell. Their focus is only on the "here-and-now" existence of this life and experiencing the "journey" and "conversations" it presents.

Pagitt, for example, bristles at the notion that Heaven and Hell are actual places. According to Pagitt, God interacts with all people the same way. When asked what happens to the "good Muslim" when he dies, Pagitt told commentator Todd Friel, "God's going to judge the life and repair and restore and heal the life of everybody in the same way." Pagitt then stated that God will interact with Christians in the same way that He will with Muslims after they die. He is very clearly stating that every orthodox idea of Christianity has been mistaken and that in the end God reconciles ALL people, regardless of what they believe or even if they believe. This is the heart and soul of so-called "reconciling" universalism.



Emergent godfather, Brian McLaren, made his feelings on Hell and the Cross known to "Bleeding Purple Podcast" interviewer, Leif Hansen, in this well-traveled statement: *"The Cross is almost a distraction and false advertising for God."* (<http://www.enteuxis.org/leifh/bleedingpurple21b.mp3>)

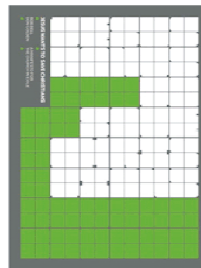


McLaren also told Beliefnet Online interviewer Sherry Huang, *"For many Christians, their faith is primarily about what happens to people after they die. That distracts them from seeking justice and living in a compassionate way while we're still alive in this life. We need to go back and take another look at Jesus' teachings about hell. For so many people, the conventional teaching about hell makes God seem vicious. That's not something we should let stand."* (www.beliefnet.com/story/165/story_16589_1.html)

Rob Bell muses his redefinition of Hell, saying, "When people use the word hell, what do they mean? They mean a place, an event, a situation absent of how God desires things to be. Famine, debt, oppression, loneliness, despair, death, slaughter--they are all hell on earth." (Velvet Elvis, p.148)

In an interview discussing their 2009 book, **Jesus Wants to Save Christians: A Manifesto for the Church in Exile**, Bell and co-author Don Golden say that the Church in America is in exile today. Bell and Golden say that by participating in our culture (they call America an "empire") and by supporting our government/military system and by using oil, we are "oppressors" and create suffering for others. They conveniently ignore the fact that America, in particular the Christians in her, have done more to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ than any other nation in history - hands down! But in emergent/leftist thought, anything smelling like capitalism must be shunned

(continued inside)



Jesus Wants to Save Christians
A Manifesto for the Church in Exile



Rob Bell and Don Golden

(except for enjoying the many benefits life in the USA offers). This is nothing less than 1960's, counter-culture, hippie liberalism now being referred to as "Evangelical Christianity!"

One might wonder how a nice evangelical kid from Wheaton ended up as perhaps the most popular leader in the heretical Emergent Church. Bell and his wife, Kristen, say that their Christian world became constricting - in Kristen's words, "black and white...." And how did the Bells find their way out of the black-and-white world where they had been so successful and so dissatisfied? "Our lifeboat," Kristen says, "was A New Kind of Christian by Brian McLaren."

If you wish the same fate that has befallen the Bells, all one has to do is abandon the teachings of God's inerrant Word and adopt what McLaren, Pagitt (and now Rob Bell) are selling.

How much documentation will we have to produce and how many more reasons will be needed for postmoderns with any scrap of biblical understanding to come to their senses and realize that Emergent Christianity isn't really Christianity at all? Instead, it is cultic, deceptive and eternally damning.



AFA Makes it Official: Don't Shop at the Home Depot

(from the American Family Association)

For several years, The Home Depot has given its financial and corporate support to open displays of homosexual activism on main streets in America's towns. And, it says it will continue to do so!

"At the end of the day here, we're not going to...forbid our associates to be involved in these pride festivals in any way." - Stephen Holmes, company spokesman. (Note: The associates participating in these parades were clearly doing so as representatives of the company.)

Rejecting several requests by AFA to remain neutral in the culture war, The Home Depot has chosen to sponsor and participate in numerous gay pride parades and festivals. Most grievous is The Home Depot's deliberately exposing small children to lascivious displays of sexual conduct by homosexuals and cross-dressers, which are a common occurrence at these events.

The goal of every homosexual organization supported by The Home Depot is to get homosexual marriage legalized.

The Home Depot says it is committed to furthering the homosexual agenda.

Stephen Holmes, Home Depot Spokesman said, ***"The bottom line is, it (remaining neutral) just runs counter to our inclusive culture...and that's where we stand."***

TAKE ACTION:

1. Sign the Boycott Pledge at BoycottTheHomeDepot.com.
2. Call your local store manager. Let him know that you will not be shopping in his store until the company stops supporting

the homosexual agenda. You can find his number by going to their website, homedepot.com, and looking under "Store Finder".

3. It is very important that you forward this alert to your friends and family members.

NOW THERE'S ANOTHER WAY TO "MARK" EVERY PERSON, AS DESCRIBED IN THE BOOK OF THE REVELATION WE'RE STUDYING ON SUNDAY MORNINGS -

WAL★MART®

The Wall Street Journal reported this week that Wal-Mart, the nation's largest retailer, has declared war on our privacy. The giant retailer has announced it will begin placing item-level RFID (Radio Frequency IDentification) tracking tags on clothing sold in its stores. Here is an excerpt from that article:

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. plans to roll out sophisticated electronic ID tags to track individual pairs of jeans and underwear, the first step in a system that advocates say better controls inventory but some critics say raises privacy concerns.

Starting next month, the retailer will place removable "smart tags" on individual garments that can be read by a hand-held scanner. Wal-Mart workers will be able to quickly learn, for instance, which size of Wrangler jeans is missing, with the aim of ensuring shelves are optimally stocked and inventory tightly watched. If successful, the radio-frequency ID tags will be rolled out on other products at Wal-Mart's more than 3,750 U.S. stores.

Before now, retailers including Wal-Mart have primarily used RFID tags, which store unique numerical identification codes that can be scanned from a distance, to track pallets of merchandise traveling through their supply chains.

But the company's latest attempt to use its influence—executives call it the start of a "next-generation Wal-Mart"—has privacy advocates raising questions.

While the tags can be removed from clothing and packages, they can't be turned off, and they are trackable. Some privacy advocates hypothesize that unscrupulous marketers or criminals will be able to drive by consumers' homes and scan their garbage to discover what they have recently bought.

They also worry that retailers will be able to scan customers who carry new types of personal ID cards as they walk through a store, without their knowledge. Several states, including Washington and New York, have begun issuing enhanced driver's licenses that contain radio-frequency tags with unique ID numbers, to make border crossings easier for frequent travelers. Some privacy advocates contend that retailers could theoretically scan people with such licenses as they make purchases, combine the info with their credit card data, and then know the person's identity the next time they stepped into the store.

"There are two things you really don't want to tag, clothing and

identity documents, and ironically that's where we are seeing adoption," said Katherine Albrecht, founder of a group called Consumers Against Supermarket Privacy Invasion and Numbering and author of a book called "Spychips" that argues against RFID technology. "The inventory guys may be in the dark about this, but there are a lot of corporate marketers who are interested in tracking people as they walk sales floors."

Smart-tag experts dismiss Big Brother concerns as breathless conjecture, but activists have pressured companies. Ms. Albrecht and others launched a boycott of Benetton Group SpA last decade after an RFID maker announced it was planning to supply the company with 15 million RFID chips.

Robert Carpenter, chief executive of GS1 U.S., a nonprofit group that helped develop universal product-code standards four decades ago and is now doing the same for electronic product codes, said the sensors have dropped to as little as seven to 10 cents from 50 cents just a few years ago. He predicts that Wal-Mart's "tipping point" will drive prices lower.

Proponents, meanwhile, have high hopes for expanded use in the future. Beyond more-efficient recalls and loss prevention, RFID tags could get rid of checkout lines.

"We are going to see contactless checkouts with mobile phones or kiosks, and we will see new ways to interact, such as being able to find out whether other sizes and colors are available while trying something on in a dressing room," said Bill Hardgrave, head of the RFID Research Center at the University of Arkansas, which is funded in part by Wal-Mart. "That is where the magic is going to happen. But that's all years away." ■

BUT IS IT, REALLY...?

"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

- Revelation 13:16-17

And yet more signs we're rapidly approaching the Rapture:

HALF OF ISRAELITES WANT THE HOLY TEMPLE REBUILT

According to a new poll, half the Israeli public wants the Third Temple to be built. Only 23% are opposed. The poll was taken in advance of Tisha B'av, which is the commemoration of the destruction of the First and Second Temples on the same day of the year (Arutz Sheva, July 18, 2010). This statistic is a dramatic change from the past, when only a small percentage supported the temple's rebuilding.

In 1986, David Shipler wrote in his book Arab and Jew, "During my five years in Jerusalem [1979-84], the idea of building a Third Temple in place of Al-Aqsa and the Dome of the

Rock evolved from a wild notion held by a very few fringe militants into a goal embraced and legitimized by parts of the established right wing." Several organizations in Israel are dedicated to this task. The Temple Institute has fashioned most of the articles necessary for the Temple's operation, including a \$2 million menorah made from 95 pounds of gold. It currently is located at the Western Wall Plaza just across from the Temple Mount. The rebuilding will probably occur when the Antichrist makes a peace covenant with Israel. Each biblical reference to the Third Temple is given in connection with the Antichrist (e.g., Daniel 8:11-12; 9:27; Matthew 24:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:2).

☛ **BOOK EXPOSING "THE SHACK" NOT ACCEPTED BY CHRISTIAN MEDIA** - The book *"Burning Down The Shack"* by James De Young is *"too hot for the U.S. church establishment,"* according to WorldNetDaily. *"Making mega-millions off a novel seen by many as 'heretical' wasn't a problem for America's Christian publishing, bookstore and broadcasting establishment, but a nonfiction book critiquing the best-seller was turned down by Christian publishers, avoided by Christian bookstores and boycotted by some of the largest Christian radio networks"* ("The Book Too Hot," WorldNetDaily, July 6, 2010).

The book exposing The Shack's heresies has been largely boycotted even though it was purposefully designed to be a soft-hitting critique. De Young says that he became convinced that *"if he were to write a meaningful response, he had to acknowledge chapter-by-chapter the book's good points and then 'bring the reader around to questioning what the chapter really is all about and the doctrinal errors in it.'"* He said that he decided on this approach as opposed to "being totally confrontive" because other books that have been critical of The Shack have been "dismissed as being extreme, and, therefore, people don't read them."

As it turns out, his soft approach hasn't worked, either. The reason is that American Christianity has fallen in love with The Shack God and rejected the God of the Bible. The Shack God is non-judgmental and lets people live pretty much as they please. He is cool and loves rock & roll, doesn't require repentance from sin, and doesn't send people to hell. Evangelicalism fell in love with the cool non-judgmental god 50 years ago, and CCM is merely a noisy reflection of this apostasy.

I find it interesting that evangelicals such as De Young think that they have the right to test things like The Shack with God's Word, but they are highly critical of fundamentalists who do the same thing. They say that we go too far. It is acceptable to take a mild stand for a few of "the cardinals" of the faith, but it is "extreme" to take all of the Scripture seriously. Well, then, let me be very extreme, because God requires that we love all of the truth and not just a bit of it! Was the Psalmist an extremist when he wrote, "Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false" (Psalm 119:128)?

- Evangelist David W. Cloud

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Mary Byars
 Cradle Roll 2: Larry Byars
 6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Hannah White
 Cradle Roll 2: Shirley White
 Wed. Eve. Service ----- Volunteers Needed!!!

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of July 18, 2010

Sunday School ----- 18
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 36
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 30
 Wed. Eve. Service, 07/21/10 ----- 19

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of July 18, 2009

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,061.00
 Insurance Fund ----- \$ 76.00
Total Received for Week of 07/18/10: \$ 1,137.00

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

INSURANCE FUND REPORT -

Monthly Requirement ----- \$ 273.08
 Amount Received This Month ----- \$ 180.00
Amount Still Needed By The End Of This Month: \$ 93.08

AND THE LORD ADDED TO THE CHURCH -

Sunday, July 18, 2010

Mr. Dwayne English ----- by Statement

READ YOUR BIBLE DAILY -



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,
 Dwayne English ----- Outreach
 Flowers ----- Hannah and Shirley White