# Destiny Newsletter

PUBLISHED BY CHRISTIAN DESTINY

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#### IN ALL BEGINNINGS--GOD

July 2006

# THE BASIS OF EVERYTHING

There is a universally applicable statement which cannot be ignored. It was given to us to apply to all cases of all things at all times in all circumstances. It is the simple, profound and universal truth that is found in the first verse of the Word of God. That statement is, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Gen. 1:1). Proper attention to this statement and proper application of its principle to the circumstances of life has made a vital difference in the lives of millions and could make a decisive difference in the lives of all who live. The truth that everything was originated by God brings great understanding when believed. Conversely, it is fatal to ignore.

There is no realm of thought, no study, no discipline that can be anything but a failure which ignores the first principle, "In the beginning God." The world of science, for instance, could have saved itself billions of dollars and millions of man-hours in totally futile research if it had learned at the beginning that

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

God created it all. Instead, the world of so-called science has desperately labored for 100 years to obscure, cover, deny the priority of God in all things. Instead, it has invented a huge package of nonsense called, "the evolutionary process," as a substitute for God. Strangely, the scientist who demands measureable, provable accuracy in other things has nevertheless built his cosmology on a collection of the most absurd notions imaginable. The truth that man was made in the image of God fills the mind of the secular scientist with horror. What will become of such a mind?

In the realm of philosophy it is The majority of the same. philosophers are atheists. Consequently, they have labored long to discover some kind of a first principle on which they can anchor their thinking. There is, of course, no first principle except God Himself. Therefore, modern thought is forever frantically flapping its attempting--like wings, hummingbird--to stay in some fixed position in mid-air. Philosophy is no longer the love of wisdom; it is perverted affection for the delusionary. The philosophers who educate our children in today's world are humanists, existentialists, secularists. The light that is in them has become darkness.

Philosophy has been totally unable to add any ethical content to modern thought and action. Indeed, via Freud, Kierkegaard, Keynes and others, it has turned our generation into a vast milieu where

rational thought and proper understanding is lost. Our generation is now reaping a fearful harvest from the fatal irrationality that has been preached to us by the so-called intellectuals.

Provably, therefore, the Bible properly describes the nature of atheism when it says, "The fool has said in his heart, There is no God" (Psa. 14:1). It then predicts such people will do abominable works. To embrace atheism is to move into the fever swamps of unreality where insanity holds sway.

Tragically, insanity does hold sway today. In the world of business, government, education, philosophy, where can we find even the mention of God? In His absence, the elements of our modern life are attempting to build themselves on untruth after untruth, on strong delusion in every realm of life.

Can we, therefore, predict the consequences of these things? Indeed we can, for the Scripture says, "Evil men and seducers shall become worse and worse. deceiving, and being deceived" (II Tim. 3:13). In fact, what more perfect description can be rendered of our time than Paul's description, "And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness, (II Thess. 2:11,12). Any system of thought, any cause, any program, any

# There is no realm of thought, no study, no discipline that can be anything but a failure which ignores the first principle, "In the beginning God."

process that does not begin with God is finally delusion. Such delusion prevails in the secular culture of our time.

The vast mistake of omitting God as the first principle of life is seen in the normal events of life as well. Approximately two million couples each year in America stand at an altar and are united in holy matrimony. They promise to love, honor and cherish "until death do us part." Tragically, one million of those marriages end up in divorce. Why is this the case? It is the case because in the majority of times, such marriages did not begin with God. Leaving God out of that most sacred of unions is to miss the great mucilage which holds marriages together, namely God.

Many a young man goes to the university and then moves out into an anticipated professional life of success and popularity. How many of these lives end in disappointment, depression and even disaster? Too many aspiring young people end up failures in life. Why? The answer is that God was not there at the beginning. Lives can even appear to be successful, but alas, that success is but a charade without God at the beginning and in the center of things.

We, therefore, insist that a slogan that is appropriate at all times in life is, "in all beginnings-God." God made us all in the first place. In Him we live and move and have our being. We cannot reason, breathe or take a step without His personal

empowerment. The very ability to think, to plan, to feel, to love, to hate, to labor comes from God. Without Him we can do nothing whatsoever. He is before all things and by Him all things consist. When He is for us, nothing whatsoever can be against us. It is His blessing, therefore, that makes rich and, most of all, it is His love, His forgiveness, His cleansing, His empowerment that will bring us through a wonderful life and into the glory of heaven. The man is therefore a fool who attempts to live his life with significance, unless he begins with God and walks with Him every day.

Yes, in the beginning God made the heavens and the earth. Finally, He will wrap it all up like a used coat and it will be cast away. Ultimate reality of life is not, therefore, in anything that is in the world. Rather, ultimate reality resides in the One Who made the worlds in the first place and Who walks with us in that world. His plan is hence prior to all things. Our labor to fulfill that plan is the essence of life.

In everything, therefore, we must never forget, "in all beginnings --God."

From the writings of Dave Breese



The fate of a nation-yes, the fate of your nation and mine--

may well lie, indeed it DOES lie, in the hands of those who believe the Gospel and are willing yet to labor for Christ.

#### WHAT CHRISTIANS MUST NOW DO

Dramatic changes are now under way!

This is a time in which people and nations are altering their courses in many ways. Obviously this is true in the American political structure. It is true also on a global level. In these days, new leaders have also been chosen for Christian organizations and large churches while at the same time new movements are coming to the fore. What must Christians do in times like these? We present a few suggestions. Christians would do well to...

- 1) Re-examine the world. It is now populated by over 6 billion people. They are reachable with the new technology, thereby expanding the challenge of global Christian outreach.
- 2) Re-evaluate the times. Volatility has certainly set in in our world and a measure of hostility toward Christianity. At the same time, spiritual curiosity is everywhere, including the public press.
- 3) Re-state the vision. What is the purpose of the Church in the world, especially in this generation? Old institutions need to ask this question anew.
- 4) Re-atomize the Body of Christ. Millions of Christian individuals have limited their potential by exercising entirely too much confidence in "organized religion."
- 5) Revive the fainthearted. There are those who are victimized by spiritual exhaustion. They even attend seminars to solve the problem of "burn-out." For many, spiritual revival is long overdue.
- 6) Re-assume the iniative. It will not be enough for the Church to be simply a respondent to the issues of life. The iniative in thought and in action will force the world to be a respondent, which is the way it should be.
- 7) Re-establish the primacy of Scripture. The Word of God, properly understood and preached, is still the "core methodology" which God has ordained.

Yes, dramatic changes are coming upon the culture of our time. In no way should this produce fear and retreat on the part of Christians, but rather a new excitement and the privilege of living in the adventure of bringing the Gospel to a desperately questioning world.

### THE TIDE OF OUR TIMES

"GOD USES MANY WAYS TO REACH MANY PEOPLE, and quite often He uses a series of persons, each with their own means of evangelism, to bring people to saving faith. I don't think that any sincere effort to reach people with the gospel should be dismissed as long as it is done with integrity. [...]

What I don't like is when people misuse the term friendship evangelism along with such phrases as 'silent witness,' 'loving people to Jesus' and 'letting my life do the talking,' in a way that dismisses the need to actually say something about Jesus. Yes, there are many times when actions speak louder than words. A life well lived is very eloquent and love certainly breaks down barriers. But again, in order to be a real friend, there will always come a point when we take or leave the opportunity to tell our friends about Jesus."

Ruth Rosen, Jews For Jesus

#### "PARENTS SHOULD LAUNCH THEIR OWN 'DAILY BATTLE'

against the 'cultural sewage' America's massive media machine generates' says "a conservative author and family advocate. [...] Homes have become the primary receptacles for misogynistic music, highly sexualized programming and violent video games that glorify rape and murder. [...]

The media is pervasive and is shaping youth, but parents can begin by assessing what's in their homes and making adjustments, said Mrs. Hagelin, author of 'Home Invasion: Protecting Your Family in a Culture That's Gone Stark Raving Mad.' 'Your battle is not with your child. [...] Your battle is with adults who have a different worldview than you do, and [who] have been able to capture your child's ears and eyes because we have let them do it by default.'" Cheryl Wetzstein, The Washington Times

"THE WORD IS OUT ON THE MOVIE VERSION of the 'DaVinci Code,' and it is not good. Try 'grim,' 'unwieldy' and 'plodding.'

Director Ron Howard's muchhyped adaptation of the Dan Brown best-seller opened the annual Cannes film festival, where some in the audience laughed or walked out and many critics smote the would-be summer blockbuster as a windy thriller. [...]

Mr. Brown's novel originally outraged many Christians because its

central theme denies the divinity of Jesus Christ while playing fast and loose with history to advance a plot about early church leaders grabbing power and subjugating women. The plot revolves around a hidden secret--that Jesus

married Mary Magdalene and had a child by her." MikeCollett-White, Reuters News Agency

"WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A C H R I S T I A N ZIONIST? [...]It

means to believe the Jewish people have an inherent, God-given right to possess a homeland sanctioned under international

law in the land divinely given in perpetuity to the Jewish descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Such a belief is not radical or subversive; it simply accepts what the Scriptures have declared about the rights and legitimate possessions of the Jewish people. [...] In so saying, we do not diminish any of the rights or privileges of believing Gentiles during this interim Age of Grace in which the gospel is extended to all people everywhere--Jewish and Gentile.

[...]We have nothing to apologize for in declaring ourselves, based on biblical dictates, to be Christian Zionists."

Elwood McQuaid, The Friends of Israel

"THESE ARE THE FACTS--[Ancient] Israel became a nation around 1450 B.C., some 2,000 years before the rise of Islam.

Jewish people have lived in the land *continuously* since the days of Joshua--some 3,000 years. The Jewish people were the main population in

the land from 1000 B.C. to A.D. 637--a period of 1,637 years.

Even if the Arabs had become the main population in the land from 637 to the present-which they did not--they would have to remain the main population for 268 more years merely to equal the time the Jewish people were the main population

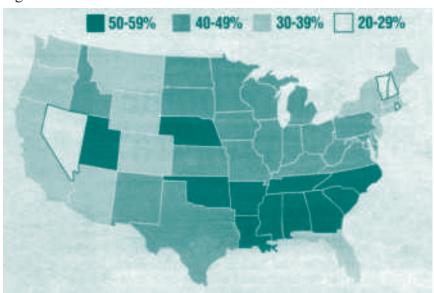
prior to A.D. 637. They would have to live there even longer to account for the years of Jewish residency after 637.

The Muslims controlled the land from 637 to 1099--462 years. Jewish people still lived there. The Crusaders took the land from 1099 to 1291. Jewish people there joined the Muslims against the Crusaders, who tortured and killed Jews in their quest for ascendancy.

The Muslims retook the land from 1291 to 1917--a total of 626 years. However, by 1880 the Jews again were the main population in Jerusalem, as they had been in Safed and Tiberias.

The British captured the Holy Land from the Muslim Ottoman Turks in 1917." Israel My Glory

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE.** Percentage of the population in the 48 contiguous states and the District who attend church once a week:



Source: Gallup, The Washington Times

### Y OUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q. Is there a different way of salvation for Jews as distinct from Gentiles?

A. Not in this present age.
All, Jew and Gentile, are offered the Gospel of the grace of God. Any person of any race can join the family of God by believing in the finished work of the cross and being saved by grace.

However, when the Tribulation comes, "the gospel of the kingdom" will be preached and the kingdom will be offered anew to believing Jews and Gentiles. Salvation will always be by faith, but the results of salvation after the Church Age will be different from now. Believers, Jews and Gentile proselyte believers, will inherit a redeemed earth. By contrast, the Body of Christ will rule the universe in eternity. Christians will inherit "all things" (I Cor. 3:21).

# Q. I have two friends who attend different churches, but both say "We are the true church!" Which one is right?

A. Neither of your friends is right. There is but one true Church, which is neither an organization, an ecclesiastical structure nor a building. The true Church is the Body of Christ and it is not to be confused or finally identified with any form of religious structure in this world. All local churches should attempt to be a reflection of the Body of Christ, but none can claim that they are the true Church or that they perfectly reflect the Body of Christ.

Q. Is the Bible our authority? If so, how can human beings claim final

authority in matters of doctrine or control of people?

A. They cannot. To claim to speak with an authority comparable to Scripture is cultic. It is "extra Biblical revelation" which is a presumptuous pretense. There is no human authority on earth that can speak with finality in matters of faith or practice. This is reserved for God alone and what He's given us in His Word. Religious hierarchies are forbidden in Scripture and the believer is enjoined to flee from such bondage (Gal. 5:1).

### Q. Will we know our friends in heaven?

A. Certainly. The Apostle Paul, speaking about this day and that day said, "For now we see through a glass,

darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known" (I Cor. 13:12). The Bible teaches that in heaven we will have perfect knowledge. We think that there will be many a reunion in heaven in which friends shall see friends once again.

### Q. When will Christ come again?

A. The answer is that we don't know. We should be ready every day to meet Christ because He could come for His own before this day is done. He promises the Church, "Behold, I come quickly" (Rev. 3:11). This means "all of a sudden, without warning." Each of us is constrained to be ready.

#### THE HIGHLANDS

Speak to me, oh ye mountains
And tell me, what would you say
At the thought that you are not that massive,
But only papier-mache'?
That you were merely put there
In a moment of finite time
To be the instructive backdrop
For a play with a plot most sublime?

In fact, are you not the product
Of a skyquake unspeakably great,
Which came in a past day of judgment,
When a culture repented too late?
Is your breathless height not now a witness,
With your deep crevasses as well,
Of the power of the Lord of the cosmos,
The realness of heaven and hell?

We shall learn from your jagged protrusions
The serious nature of things;
How the God of the vales and the summits
Is more than "The Lord of the Rings."
We therefore shall serve the Creator
Who sustains all He ever has made;
Then we'll meet in the highlands of heaven
Where towering joys never fade.

Dave Breese

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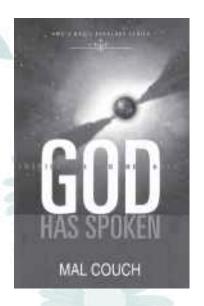
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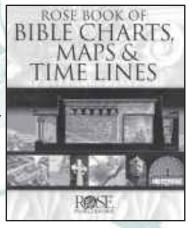
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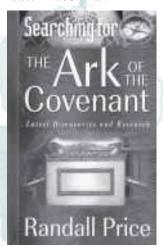
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