

KJV

"...THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD, THE PILLAR AND GROUND OF THE TRUTH."

I Timothy 3:15

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OUR GREAT COMMISSION, A GREAT

RESPONSIBILITY

By Pastor John Reaves

"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Mat. 28:16-20. "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:..."

Introduction

The commission is to go into all the world with the gospel and to reach the lost at any cost. The Great Commission, a term used even by the liberals and New Evangelicals. What does 'commission' mean? Webster's Definition: "Trust, warrant, investing one

with an office."

The great debate of today is, which by the way was no debate until about the last 40 years, is, "Who was entrusted with the gospel, the Great Commission, to reach the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ?"

There are two views, one being individuals, of which many well-known preachers believe. Let me quote from the Sept. '92 issue of *The Sword of the Lord*, a message by Dr. Jack Hyles. From his

message: "Dr. Hudson was right last night when he said the Great Commission was given to individuals, you are to be a soul winner, and you're not right with God if you're not."

So we see Dr. Hyles and the late Dr. Hudson both believe the Great Commission was given to individuals. Well! I have a real problem with that.

First of all, the Great Commission involves a lot more than Dr. Hyles said: "You are to be a soul winner." So-

called winning souls is not all of what the Great Commission is all about.

If the Great Commission only involved winning souls, I could see a little of where Dr. Hudson and Dr. Hyles get the idea the Great Commission was given to individuals. Because after all, Pro. 11:30 says, "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise." True we are all, as God's children, to be busy at reaching the lost with the gospel. But the Great Commission involves much more, and by Dr. Hyles and Dr. Hudson's standards, that the Great Commission was given to individuals, only proves one thing, **that they are not real Baptists**. Even the Doctrinal Statement of the American Baptist Association in 1905; taken from the book entitled *The Origins of the Baptists*, by S.H. Ford. "We also hold in common what real Baptists have ever held: That the great commission was given to the churches only." There you have it. Real Baptists have always believed the Great Commission was given to churches. What churches? We will look at that later.

The idea that the Great Commission was given to in-

(Our Great continued on page 5)

PUBLISH OR PERISH!

(Ed. notes: Even though this story is over 45 years old, its message is still true).

The street meeting had just ended. The missionary felt a warm glow of satisfaction as he watched the attentive crowd begin to disperse. Once again the "Message" had been preached.

John Mendow, missionary to China, silently offered thanks to God for the privilege of preaching the Gospel to these Oriental people. He noted that his fellow workers were efficiently stowing the P.A.

system and the musical instruments into the mission station wagon. His satisfaction was complete. He thanked God also for his faithful co-workers.

As the missionary surveyed the scene he noticed a Chinese army officer striding forward through the dispersing throng.

"—Probably wants to know a little bit more about the message," He thought as the man approached.

The officer stopped a bare step away. Hostility plainly showed in his eyes. His voice equally betrayed his attitude.

(Publish continued on page 6)

Forget Not The Past

THE INVINCIBLE ARMADA OF

SPAIN

Philip meditated signal vengeance on England. For this purpose he fitted out the most formidable naval armament that ever rode on the ocean. The project was no less than the complete subjugation of England, and the establishment of the religion of Rome throughout all Europe. The crisis of Protestantism had come. Should England, should the rising colonies of this New World, should all Europe and Asia smile under the benign auspices of the cross, or groan beneath the usurpations of Rome? The vast empire of Philip was roused to strike a fatal blow. The noise of preparation sounded in every part of his dominions. "In all the ports of Sicily, Naples, Spain, and Portugal artizans were employed in building vessels of uncommon size and force," naval stores collected, provisions amassed, armies levied, and plans laid for fitting out such a fleet as had never before been seen in Europe. Ministers, generals, admirals, men of every craft and name, were employed in forwarding the grand design. Three years elapsed in the stupendous preparation. Who could doubt that such preparations, conducted by officers of such consummate skill, would finally be successful? Confident of success, and ostentatious of their power, they had already denominated this armament the Invincible Armada. The time for the actual invasion drew near. Troops from all quarters were assembling, from Italy, Spain, Flanders, Austria, the Netherlands, and the shores of the Baltic. One general burst of enthusiasm pervaded every nook and corner of the empire. Princes, dukes, nobles, men of all ranks and conditions, equally embarked their fortunes, lives, and honours in an enterprise so promising of wealth and glory, and so calculated to engage their religious enthusiasm. And further to cherish the general infatuation, the

Pope had fulminated a fresh bull of excommunication against Elizabeth, declared her deposed, dissolved her subjects from their oath of allegiance, and granted a plenary indulgence to all who should engage in the invasion. All were elated with the highest hopes of success. And who could doubt that in a few short weeks English power would be prostrate and English Protestantism no more? But follow on a little, and behold the hand of Him who keepeth Israel as the apple of his eye. This formidable armament had been consigned to the command of the Marquis of Santa Croce, a sea officer of great reputation and experience; and who should dare whisper a doubt that such an armament, under such a commander, should not annihilate the reformed religion from the face of the earth. But mark its progress. The moment the Invincible Armada is ready for sea, the admiral is seized with fever and dies. And by a singular concurrence the vice-admiral meets the same fate. The fleet is delayed. England gains time. An inexperienced admiral is then appointed. The fleet sails, (1588) the next day meets a violent tempest which scatters the ships; some are sunk, and others compelled to put back into port. Again they are all at sea, and are descried approaching the shores of England, with fresh hopes in the prosecution of their enterprise. The English admiral sees the Armada, "coming full sail towards him, disposed in the form of a crescent, and stretching the distance of seven miles from the extremity of one division to that of the other." Never had so mighty a fleet rode the ocean before, and never, perhaps, the confidence of man so positive of success. Protestantism was, in anticipation, annihilated. These vessels brought the implements of torture by which the stern heretics of England were to pay the price of their defection from Rome. The

(Spain continued on page 8)

KING JAMES BIBLE PREJUDICE

The King James Bible has long since been discriminated by many "learned men" for its archaic language. There is more to this issue than meets the eye. Let us look at the what, why, and how of this subject.

What? What these critics claim is the K.J.B. is too hard to understand. As that old saying goes "the proof's in the pudding."

First, if we look at the grade level of the King James Bible compared to the new versions such as the N.A.S.V., N.I.V., N.K.J.V., we get a lower number on the average.

Second, the K.J.B. uses one and two syllable words where the new versions use multi-syllable words.

Third, the words that are used in the new versions are by far much harder to read than the words of the K.J.B.

Let us compare a few. The New American Standard Version uses "deportation" in (Mat. 1:11,17) King James Bible uses, "carried away"; N.A.S.V. "winnowing fork" (Mat. 3:12; Luke 3:17) K.J.B. "fan"; N.A.S.V. "tunics" (Mat. 10:10) K.J.B. "coats"; N.A.S.V. "stater" (Mat. 17:24) K.J.B. "piece of money"; N.A.S.V. "opportune" (John 7:6) K.J.B. "ready" N.A.S.V. "invalidated" (Mat. 15:6) K.J.B. "made"; N.A.S.V., "ostracize" (Luke 6:22) K.J.B. "separate you from their company"; "N.A.S.V. "two-drachma tax" (Mat. 17:24) K.J.B. "tribute money"

Why? We will not go in depth on the differences of the Greek Alexandrian text, (new versions) vs. the Greek Majority text, (King James Bible). This article is on God's preserved Word in the English language. If His Word was preserved only in Hebrew and Greek, then only people who could understand those languages could be saved for "...faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17) and you are "...saved through faith..." (Eph. 2:8). We will say that the Alexandrian texts even differ quite a bit from 'each other. There are about seven thousand differences. This author who in discussing a similar issue with the Bible

department at Bob Jones University, spoke in person to Dr. Stewart Custer who stated you could take just the codex Vaticanus (an Alexandrian text) and make a perfect New Testament out of it. I told him, "in my opinion it wouldn't make a very good Bible without the book of Revelation in it." Yes, the codex Vaticanus does not even contain the book of Revelation.

Now let us compare the "New" King James version, which as someone once said, is neither new or King James. The reason this version can not be endorsed is it uses the same text as all the other new versions out there, which comes from Alexandria, Egypt. The Bible clearly shows Egypt as wicked and a type of the world. In fact God told Israel not to return to Egypt.

New King James Version, "myriads" (Acts 21:31) K.J.B. "thousands"; N.K.J.V. "garrison" (Acts 21:31) K.J.B. "band"; N.K.J.V. "insurrection" (Acts 21:35) K.J.B. "uproar" N.K.J.V. "gratify" (Ecc. 2:3) K.J.B. "give"; N.K.J.V. "rivulets" (Ez. 31:4) K.J.B. "little rivers"; N.K.J.V. "Keva" (I Kings 10:28) K.J.B. "linen yams"; N.K.J.V. "minas" (Luke 19:13) K.J.B. "pounds"; N.K.J.V. "denarii" (John 6:7) K.J.B. "pennyworth"; N.K.J.V. "tunic" (John 19:23) K.J.B. "coat" "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." (Coloss. 2:8).

There may be words in the K.J.B. which someone does not understand and that is why we have dictionaries. Yet, over all, the K.J.B. is much easier to read and understand. If you have been told or you just think that these new versions are being made to make it easier for a Christian to understand, it is a bold-faced lie! Do not just take my word for it, check it out for yourself (I Thess. 5:21). Then take a seven to twelve year old child and let them read the list. Take the K.J.B. and a new

(KJB continued on page 3)

**ADONIRAM JUDSON'S
RULES OF LIFE**

Adopted in 1842

1. Be diligent in prayer, every morning and evening.
2. Never spend a moment in mere idleness.
3. Restrain natural appetites within the bounds of temperance and purity.
4. Suppress every emotion of anger or ill will.
5. Undertake nothing from motives of ambition or love of fame (selfishness).
6. Never do that which at the moment appears to be displeasing to God.
7. Seek opportunities of making some sacrifice for the good of others.
8. Endeavor to rejoice in every loss and suffering for Christ's sake, remembering that though, like death, they are not to be willfully incurred yet, like death, they are of great gain.



(KJB continued from page 2)

version and do the same. Whatever you do you must remember it is the Holy Spirit who helps you understand Scripture.

Why? Why is the King James Bible discriminated so badly? Why do so many people complain and want to change the King James Bible's language?

I have never heard anyone complain or want to change the wording in the old hymns. Nobody says, "I can't sing this hymn it's too hard to read, I can't understand it." There are lots of thee's and thou's in "thee old hymns."

Why does a college like Bob Jones University push so hard their Shakespearean plays with that archaic language and yet promote the new versions in their Bible department? I don't hear them say, "I don't like Shakespeare's plays with all that confusing speech in it, let's make it easier to understand." This is what I call the, "King James prejudice."

Why are the more notable points about the King James Bible kept silent? For example, it is not copyrighted! Well, that is not entirely true, it has a Crown Copyright, but that only applies to Bible publishers in the United King-

dom. I had better clarify this, lest I give someone an alibi to sin. I was referring to a financial copyright, which demands money from anyone who wants to quote, cite, reproduce, or print. The King James Bible does not have a financial copyright. You do not need man's permission to copy it. A person's notes in a K.J.B. may be copyrighted but not the text itself. All of these new versions have a "financial" copyright, "Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself" (I Timothy 6:5).

So unless you wish to break the law you need to get permission to copy it. This means you can not make tracts, fliers, billboards, or any thing that involves copying out of these versions. This makes these versions "man's" word instead of "God's" Word. Those who copyright God's Word better beware! "Every word of God is pure... Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove..." (Prov. 30:5,6).

How? How does taking out the grammar of the King James Bible affect its comprehension? Well, "thee, thou, and thine" are used to express the second person singular with "you, ye, and yours" used to express second person plural. By using "you" for both singular and plural we lose the precise meaning. The K.J.B. uses the word "you" about two thousand times and "ye and thee" only when needed to distinguish between the singular and plural.

A good example of this is found in Exodus 4:15, "And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do." In this verse we see the words "thou, thy, you, and ye," all fulfilling several different forms of the second person pronoun. In the new versions this is written: "You shall speak to him... and I will be with your mouth... and will teach you what you shall do."

God was telling Moses that he (Moses) was to speak to Aaron, and that He (God) would then teach both of them, not just Moses, what they were to do. This

(KJB continued on page 6)

THE ORIGIN OF THE CHURCH

There are three schools of thought relative to the time the church was established, namely:

- Some say it was established in the days of Abraham.

- Others say it was established during the personal ministry of Christ.

- Still others say it was established the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Jesus.

The following are some scriptural evidences why I believe that the church did not begin in the days of Abraham, or on the day of Pentecost, but rather during Christ's earthly ministry. The church already existed before the day of Pentecost.

1. Jesus Christ said, "I will build me church" (Mat. 16:18) which He did during His earthly ministry.

2. The authority of discipline was placed in the church during Christ's earthly ministry (Mat. 18:15-19).

3. Jesus Christ sang the praises of God "in the midst of the church" (Heb. 2:12, Mat. 26:30).

4. They had a commission to preach the Gospel before Pentecost (Mat. 10:5-7).

5. They had "the keys of the kingdom of heaven," and these were given to His church (Mat. 16:18-19).

6. There were baptized believers before Pentecost (Mat. 3:5-6; Jn 4:1).

7. They had authority to baptize before Pentecost (Jn. 4:1; Mat. 28:18-20).

8. There was an ordination service before Pentecost (Mk. 3:13-14).

9. There were apostles before Pentecost; and the office of apostle was a church office (Eph. 4:11; I Cor. 12:28; Lk. 6:12-13).

10. They had a church roll of 120 members before Pentecost (Acts 1:15).

11. They had the Great Commission before Pentecost (Mat. 28:18-20).

12. About 3,000 were added unto His church roll on the day of Pentecost; You cannot add to something that does not already exist (Acts 2:41).

13. They had a business meeting before Pentecost (Acts 1:23-26).

14. They had a church treasurer before Pentecost (Jn. 13:29).

15. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper was instituted and observed before Pentecost (Mat. 26:26-30).

According to I Cor. 12:28, "And God hath set some in the church, **first apostles**, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers..." and Eph. 4:11, "And He gave some, **apostles**; and some, **prophets**; and some, **evangelists**; and some, **pastors and teachers**", I believe that we can determine the exact time in the personal ministry of Christ when He organized His church. He organized it with the 12 **Apostles**. They were the first ones set or placed in the church. Jesus went up into the mountain and spent the night in prayer to God. The next morning He called all His disciples together, and out of the great group He chose twelve, and named them **Apostles**. Thus he started His church. Mark 3:13-14, "And He goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto Him whom He would: and they came unto Him. And He ordained twelve, that they should be with Him, and that He might send them forth to preach..." Luke 6:12-13, "And it came to pass in those days, that He went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, He called unto His disciples: and of them He chose twelve, whom also He named **apostles**." Paul stated that the Apostles were the foundation of the church, Christ Himself being the cornerstone. Ephesians 2:19-20, "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the **apostles and prophets**, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone."

It is my conviction that the church began when Jesus ordained the twelve Apostles. □



CANADIAN NEWS



Aliens Are Coming!!!

The Raelian Church of Canada is an officially recognized religion in Quebec. Their ideas are based upon the belief that extraterrestrials created mankind as a part of a lab experiment.

The cult founder, Claude Vorilhon, says that he was contacted by aliens in France in 1973, taken to their planet and given a message for humanity.

Raelians believe that such things as gods do not exist, that our belief in our God only came about after aliens transmitted the Bible to Earth and humans made error by interpreting the Hebrew word Elohim to mean God.

This group has two main goals their leader says, "The first is to speed the message of Rael and the second is to build an embassy to greet the extraterrestrials when they come to Earth."

There are about 40,000

Raelian followers, 5,000 of them are in Canada.

Catholics Discourage Reading

Quebecers are said to not read as much as other Canadians. They say that its because the Roman Catholic Church discouraged them from reading for pleasure.

Louise Beaudoin is the Culture Minister, and she said, "I think that for 100 years the role that the Catholic Church played in Quebec, until probably 1945, was to tell us, even my generation, not to read, which I didn't obey. But that's what we heard for a long, long time — not to read this type of book, not to do this, not to do that."

She said Quebecers faced excommunication for reading literature books banned by the Catholic Church before the Quiet Revolution of the 1960's which created a modern, secular Quebec.

"Now we are trying to do everything we can to make young Quebecers read," said Beaudoin. "It's so important if you want to succeed in life."

(Catholics are up to their same old tactics — Keep the people in ignorance.)

No T.V. Pays!

Ian and Danielle Pelletier of Calgary, ages 10 & 6, made a funny bet with their mother that they could go without television for a full year. It was a bet their mother thought they would never win, but they did.

The mother said that in that year that Ian became a computer wizard & self made carpenter, and Danielle a great reader. "Their both spending more time outdoors or just being crafty & creative. And they're each \$500 richer. They have benefited in so many ways."

(We must be careful that our TV's don't become our

children's babysitters; Amen!)

Parents Want Lord's Prayer Banned

The Saskatoon public school board & the Saskatchewan School Trustees Association are asking the Court of Queen's Bench to rule education boards the liberty to allow religious instruction, including the recitation of the Lord's Prayer & the reading of biblical passages at opening exercises & assemblies.

The parents say that by reciting the Lord's Prayer in classrooms violates the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code because it discriminates against non-Christian students.

(Yeah, throw out the Lord's Prayer but allow them to smoke & play Dungeons & Dragons. Who's discriminating?)



AND INTERNATIONAL



Priest Gets Life for Assault on Altar Boys

Suspended Catholic priest Rudy Kos was sentenced to life in prison from claims of four former altar boys that they were molested about 1,350 times over five years (4/2 *H. Times*). The scandal led to a record \$119.6 million verdict against the Catholic Diocese of Dallas. The chief source of a 25-year decline in the number of priests is "required celibacy" (4/6 *H. T.*). "Forbidding to marry" is mentioned in 1 Tim. 4:3 of some who would depart from the faith.

c.c.

Falwell, Operation Rescue Feud

Operation Rescue leaders, angry that Jerry Falwell failed to publicly support OR director Flip Benham who sits in a Lynchburg jail for trespassing at a local school, seemed to punish Liberty University for its bookstore being run by Barnes & Noble,

the bookseller indicted on child porn charges (4/4 *World*). Falwell says he gave \$10,000 of his own money to help defend OR founder Randall Terry, but said: "But when Operation Rescue moved their battleground from abortion clinics to public schools, I could not lend my support to such behavior or tactics."

c.c.

E.C. Prophet's New Age C.U.T. Cult Woes

The Church Universal and Triumphant (CUT) led by Elizabeth Clare Prophet, fearing a nuclear holocaust in the 1980's, built bomb shelters, stock-piled food, fuel, clothing and weapons. Now disillusioned by the calamity that never came, 'it is selling two-thirds of its 12,000-acre Royal Teton Ranch just north of Yellowstone National Park. Prophet's fourth marriage ended in divorce last year, her epilepsy is worsening, and she

has an undiagnosed neurological disease that attacks her memory (4/4 *HT*). She is believed by followers to be in contact with Ascended Masters (4/6 *CN*). CUT's teachings, a blend of Eastern/Western religions, involve karma, reincarnation, and communal living.

c.c.

TBN'S Crouch Requests Death For Enemies?

In the false unity scheme of a world religion/government, those who persist in claiming that some teachings are wrong will be silenced for the good of society. Dave Hunt says (4/98 *Berean Call*): "That trend is already reflected by TBN's Paul Crouch, whose prayer demands immunity from correction: "God, we proclaim death to anything or anyone that would lift a hand against this ministry..."

c.c.

Mormons renounced polygamy in 1890 in a bid for Utah statehood. It remains a felony in Utah but is no longer prosecuted. *Christian News* (3/16) pictures a 35,000 square-foot hotel-style home in southern Utah with 37 bathrooms and 31 bedrooms, for one husband, 10 wives, and 28 children. The article had this quote: "How do you lock up a guy for having two wives when Wilt Chamberlain talks about sleeping with thousands of women?"

c.c.

Christianity Not Keeping Up

Christianity the world's largest religion, is no longer keeping pace with global population growth — except in Asia and Africa. One possible explanation: religion statistician and researcher David B. Barrett of Virginia Beach points out that 97% of all church ministries are

Polygamy In Utah

(New continued on page 5)

UNIVERSAL BODY EQUALS

UNIVERSAL CHURCH
by Bill Jackson

Many today deny that they believe in the theory of a universal, invisible church, but readily admit that they hold to the doctrine of a universal, mystical body of Christ of which all the saved are a part.

It is taught that the moment a person is saved, that person is put into this mystical body by a spiritual baptism. The verse they stand on for this doctrine is I Cor. 12:13 - "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body." However, the context of I Cor. 12 clearly indicates that the local church is the body of Christ. Verse 27 - "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." Eph. 4:5 tells us that there is "one baptism." There has been more than one kind of baptism, but for this present time, there is only one kind. What is that one kind of baptism for the New Testament church? Baptism in water, of course!

As I see it, those who hold to the universal body concept are also holding to the universal church concept whether or not they want to admit it. I believe the problem is a failure to properly understand and apply the symbolic terms God uses in His Word.

We need to realize that God is the author of all language, and that He does not use words carelessly. He knows their meaning, and uses them consistently.

There is a definite distinction between a body and a family. As we consider this distinction, keep in mind that the body and the church are one and the same. (Eph. 1:22,23; Col 1:18)

Body (church) of Christ

1. Christ is the head of the body (church). (Eph. 1:22; Col. 1:18)
2. The body (church) demands **location** (assembly).
3. **Baptism qualifies us for membership.** (Acts 2:41)
4. We are **members** of the body (church). (I Cor. 12:27)
5. **Function** of the members is the key. (Eph. 4:16)

6. Members can be **put out** of the body (church). (I Cor. 5:13)
7. The body (church) functions with the authority of Christ, the head. (Mk. 13:34; I Cor. 5:4)
8. The body (church) **assembles regularly.** (Heb. 10:25; I Cor. 14:23)
9. The body (church) has organization. (I Cor. 12:18)
10. The body (church) can be **offended.** (I Cor. 10:32; 5:6)
11. The body (church) needs **nourishment.** (Col. 2:19; Acts 20:28)
12. The body (church) needs to be **edified.** (I Cor. 12:14)
13. The body (church) can **lose its heavenly recognition.** (Rev. 2:5)
14. The body (church) will **give account to God.** (Rev. 2:4)
15. The members of the body (church) **know and care for one another.** (I Cor. 12:20-27; I Thess. 5:12,13)

Family of God

1. The Father is the head of the family. (Eph. 3:14,15)
2. The family can be **scattered.**
3. The **New birth** makes us a part. (Jn. 1:12,13)
4. We are **children** of the family. (Gal. 3:26)
5. **Relationship** in the family is the key. (Gal. 4:6)
6. We can never be **put out** of the family. (Eph.1:5,10,13,14; Rom. 8:15-17)
7. There is no earthly function for the family of God.
8. The family does not **assemble** at this time. It will one day. (Eph. 1:10)
9. The family has no **organization** (only relationship).
10. The family cannot be **offended.**
11. The family cannot be **nourished.**
12. The family cannot be **edified.**
13. The family can never **lose its recognition.** (Mt. 18:10)
14. The family does not **give account to God** (only individuals). (Rom. 14:12)
15. There is no way we can **know** but a few of the family of God.

There are some good Baptists who, by a misuse of the symbolic terms, consider a
(Universal continued on page 8)

(News continued from page 4)
directed toward Christians, weakening Christianity's influence on the non-Christian world.

B.C.

Graham Says All Denominations Have Same God

The Jan. 1998 *Baptist Bulletin* had this quote: "After Billy Graham wrapped up his three-city crusade in Oakland, Calif., he remarked, 'Wouldn't it be great if we could forget our denominations and just be people of God?' He also stated that all denominations and backgrounds 'have the same God.' More than 100 denominations were represented in the crusade." The Bible tells us there indeed will be an ecumenical world church such as PK and Graham promote, but it will be led by the Anichrist. □



(Our Great continued from page 1)
dividuals and not the churches is new evangelical in thought. It completely by-passes the authority of the church and it makes individuals an authority unto themselves. As all new evangelical, charismatics and liberals believe, "If you're saved, then you're already part of 'THE Church', that invisible church." In Acts 2:41, we see that those who were saved and baptized (not Holy Spirit Baptism, the Holy Spirit has never baptized anyone,) were added to the **church**.

The church that Jesus started, the one the gates of hell should not prevail against, was a local church. The only kind there is. We can tell from our text that the Great Commission was given to the church. Verse 16 says, "Then the eleven disciples [Judas had fallen] went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them." And in verse 18, "And Jesus came and spake unto them..." (the eleven) and He commissioned **them**.

Who was **them**? The eleven but did they represent themselves, individuals, or the church? I Cor. 12:28 says, "And God hath set some in the church, first apostles,..." As far as those that believe the Great Commission was given to individuals I have some real

PERSEVERANCE

In a booklet entitled "Keep On Keeping On," Leslie B. Flynn tells of a man who handed out gospel tracts on a street comer. After years of not seeing anyone trust Christ as Saviour, he became discouraged and quit. Two years later he passed that same familiar corner and saw a person handing out tracts. He walked over to the stranger and struck up a conversation and learned that a little more than two years earlier the man had become a Christian after reading a tract that he had received at that comer. "Many a time I came back here to find the man to thank him," said the stranger, "but he never came back. So I decided he must have died and gone to his reward. That's why I've taken his place."

Keep on keeping on. Only eternity will reveal the results of a faithful sowing.

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise". (Prov. 11:30).

John D. McNeil



problems.

The Great Commission was given to the church and not individuals.

If the Great Commission was just given to individuals then when those individuals in Mat. 28:18-20 were commissioned the Great Commission died with them.

Of course, if you're like the typical new-evangelical, liberal, charismatic, non-denominationalist, etc. you would believe the church started at Pentecost not with these 11. But that's a strange thing to think being how Jesus said in Mat. 16:18, "...I will build my church..." If it began at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit started it, but there is no such doctrine in the Bible,

Jesus started His church with the calling out of the twelve, (ekklesia, called out assembly,) in Luke 6:12-16. He chose the twelve, called them out from the rest, "...set some in the church, first apostles," I Cor. 12:28, and in Mat. 18:17, Jesus sets down the guidelines for church disci-

(Our Great continued on page 7)

(Publish continued from page 1)

"You American missionaries are fools?"

"Is that so?" John Mendow used his politest manner. "What makes you think that?"

"Because of your methods. That's why I think that."

"What's wrong with our methods?"

"Well, take this open air meeting you just concluded. You had a wonderful chance to gain a victory for your religion. But you lost it. Now it's gone forever."

"I don't follow you, sir. What are you driving at?"

An Opportunity Lost

The critical army officer coldly, firmly, fully expressed his opinions. He called the missionary's attention to the fact that he would never again have the chance to speak to the now dispersed crowd. The message preached, although probably crystal clear to the missionary, was completely new and different from anything these listeners had ever heard. It had told of a strange God, and of a way of life utterly foreign to the thinking of the listeners. How could the missionary expect his audience to grasp a philosophy so strange, a religion so new, and do so the first time they heard it?

"Why didn't you give them some literature?" the officer demanded. "Some pamphlet, easy to understand! Then, with their curiosity aroused, they could have studied further what they had heard. Then your message would have had effect for perhaps months, or even years, instead of just for the moment!"

The missionary couldn't answer. A wave of resentment swept through his mind. However, it was not directed against his critic. John bitterly recalled the futile attempts he had made to obtain the sort of literature just mentioned. He started to answer the officer but the biting criticism continued.

"You missionaries have been in China for over 100 years but you have not won China for your Christ. You lament the fact that there are still uncounted millions that have never heard the name of your God. Nor do they know anything about your Christianity."

The Chinese paused to let his argument sink in. His eyes glowed with satisfaction as he noted the effect he was making on the missionary. His tone was full of mockery as he continued.

"We Communists have been in China less than ten years, but there is no such thing as a Chinese who has not heard the name of Stalin or who knows nothing of Communism. What you missionaries have failed to do in 100 years, we Communists have done in ten. We have filled China with OUR doctrine."

John struggled for an answer. Words failed him. He knew the truth of the charges. Again he started to answer but was interrupted.

Preaching Not Enough

"Now let me tell you why we have failed and why we have succeeded. You have tried to reach China by preaching, by talking. You have tried to win the attention of the masses by building churches, mission stations, schools and what not. But we Communists have printed our message and spread our literature over all China. Some day we will drive you missionaries out of our country. We will do it by means of the printed page."

Frustrated and hurt by the truth contained in the Communist's statements, the missionary was silently praying for an answer. A tangled mass of thoughts raced through his mind. He knew that everywhere one turned the Communist literature was in evidence. Billboards, newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, and tracts united to call China's attention to the "big lie." Much of the literature attacked the American way of life. It branded Christianity as a "white man's religion." It often accused the missionary of being a Capitalist spy. It sometimes ridiculed Jesus Christ, calling Him the invention of the Capitalist. China was being brainwashed by "red ink."

John Mendow again recalled the unanswered pleas he had sent to the homeland requesting literature. If he could have gotten enough scripture portions, if he could have gotten booklets, tracts and pamphlets that explained the Gospel message, then it might have

been different.

John just looked at his tormentor, who bowed stiffly, turned abruptly, and walked away.

The missionary groaned with regret. His feelings of satisfaction had fled. He weakly murmured a prayer. "Oh God, it's true, we are losing China. We are failing. Why, oh why, couldn't we have had the literature? Who failed us, Lord? Who?"

The heavy-hearted missionary represents hundreds of others around the missionary world. With a few details changed, this story could have happened on many other fields.

And So It Turned Out

Today John Meadow is out of China. So are all the others who went there as missionaries. Only a few in Hong Kong remain. The national Christian leaders have been imprisoned, murdered, or otherwise silenced. The mighty voice of the Gospel has been reduced to a whisper. But the voice of the enemy echoes throughout the land. What missions failed to do in 100 years, the Communists did in ten.

One great Christian leader said that if the Church had spent on literature as much as it spent on hospitals, orphanages, schools, and rest homes (needful though those were), the Bamboo Curtain could not exist today.

Tragically we sent the missionary to his field but we failed to give him adequate tools to do his job. We failed to understand the difficulties he faced. We thought if he preached the message it would be enough. We failed to realize that he was competing with a flood of anti-Christian literature. The inevitable happened.

What occurred in China is happening in other sections of the world. India, Indonesia, Africa, and other places are being flooded with literature that is antagonistic to the Gospel. The rising fires of nationalism are being fed with literally tons of printed propaganda. The red man, the yellow man, the black man, the brown man are being taught to hate the white man and all that he represents. The missionary's task is becoming more difficult by the hour.

The missionary desperately needs literature. He needs scripture portions. He needs booklets, tracts, and periodicals geared to the nationals who will read them. The missionary needs a flood of dollars with which to publish. That is the one thing that will most help him do his job today.

The need can be ignored, but the tragic results of such neglect cannot be avoided. It is publish or perish.

Author unknown



(KJB continued from page 3)

distinction is clear in the King James English, but not in the new versions, or the modern English. In Matt. 6:13, "thine is the kingdom" clearly recognizes one God alone, where "yours is the kingdom" does not.

These examples show that we should be careful even in praying to God. If you say, "Lord God, I pray that "You" would..." God is not two or more. If on the other hand you were to pray, "Lord God, I Pray that "Thou" would..." it would be clear you were acknowledging His deity. □

This may sound silly (nit



Editor's Note:

In The Baptist Pillar we use articles taken from many different publications and written by many different authors. Please realize that this does not necessarily mean we agree with the doctrinal position of the publication or the author of the article, but that the particular article presents a scriptural truth we do agree with.

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Check out our web site <http://www.techplus.com/bkjb1611/>

(Our Great continued from page 5) pline; before Pentecost, the two ordinances of the church were already instituted, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, a treasurer, (albeit a bad one) already selected, and in Acts 2:15-26, a business meeting, a vote, and all before Pentecost.

So we see if the Great Commission was given to individuals, then there would be no Great Commission. It would have died with those individuals, because outside of Paul being commissioned to reach the gentiles, no other individuals received the Great Commission. It was given to the eleven in Mat. 28, and reconfirmed in Acts 1:8

The Great Commission does not only involve winning souls.

Another real problem I have with the idea that the Great Commission was given to individuals, is that like I said before, the Great Commission does not only involve winning souls.

Mat. 28:19 says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them..." Now if the Great Commission was given to individuals, or as Dr. Hyles and Dr. Hudson says, "...was given to individuals..." then any individuals can be a soul winner and baptize them. It does not **matter who baptizes you** then.

Boy, that fits with the liberals, new evangelicals, charismatics, ecumenicals, etc. "We don't care who baptizes you, we believe in *believer's baptism*." In other words as long as you are immersed. Well the Roman Catholic church immersed for hundreds of years before they started sprinkling. They even immersed babies. Mr. New Evangelical would you accept a baby's baptism if he were immersed? The Eastern Orthodox still immerses babies.

What have real Baptists always believed? Another quote from *The Origin of the Baptists*, 1905, "We believe that baptism to be valid, must be administered by a scriptural Baptist Church."

Simply even if a so-called Baptist church baptized you, if it was unscriptural, you're not baptized **at all**. Of course, if you believe the Great Commission was given to individu-

als then it wouldn't matter who baptized you or maybe Pat Boone at a Holiday Inn in a swimming pool.

You see, believing that the Great Commission was given to individuals takes away from the authority of the local church. My friend, the only one who has authority to baptize is the church that Jesus started, and it sure wasn't a Methodist, Presbyterian, Catholic, Bible church, Reformed, Seventh Day Adventist, etc.

What did Jesus start His church with? When the church in Acts 1:22 were getting someone to take Judas' place, what were his qualifications to be? "*Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.*" Simply, the one to take Judas' place was to be a **Baptist and he must be ordained.**

Why ordain? Because that's the passing of authority, when Jesus chose twelve of John the Baptist's disciples, what did He do with them? John 15:16, "*Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain:*" (Jesus gave them authority to baptize.) And God sent John to baptize, John 1:33, "*And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.*" He gave him authority to baptize. Jesus took those who were scripturally baptized to be His, ordained them, and gave them authority to baptize.

In Acts 6:6, we see the church in Jerusalem ordaining seven, (apostles laying on of hands,) and one of them, Philip, leading the Ethiopian to Christ, and in Acts 8:38, Philip baptized him.

I will tell you what you won't find in the New Testament, you won't find someone being baptized by someone who has not been **ordained** by the **church**. John the Baptist was sent by God, his authority came directly from Heaven. The twelve were ordained by Christ's authority given to them directly by

From Our E-Mail

Good day Sir,
Could you please send me the mailing information and cost for a subscription to *The Baptist Pillar*. I have just found your web page and am please to see the stand you are taking: King James Bible! Historic Baptist Doctrine!

A Baptist Brother in Nova Scotia P.B.

cC

I have just recently discovered your Home Page. Praise the Lord for its contents. I think it is great.

Keep up the good work...

Thanks, I.C. OKC, OK

cC

Dear Brother Reaves,

I just finished reading your timely article, "Wanted, Builders...." in your paper, *The Baptist Pillar*. It hit the nail right on the head!

Thank you for reaching down deep and expressing so well the truth about how to build a church. Amen. The need is so great for some truly God-called men who will go out and preach the word God's way.

Also, thank you for reminding me of my calling and of my duty toward my Lord. God bless you for your time and effort to put out the Pillar.

Your fellow servant, J.H. Oklahoma City, OK

Please send me info on how



Jesus Christ. But all others were given authority or ordained by the **church**.

Who ordained Paul and gave him authority to baptize, start churches, and ordain elders (pastors)? Acts 13:1-4, "*Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their*

I may receive your magazine. I was very excited to run across you homepage, as I was very discouraged that there must not be any one around who still teaches the truth. Yes, I believe that the church Jesus built will always be here, but I don't think there are any in my area.

M. P. Harrodsburg, Ky

cC

Brother,

I like that "Hireling Missionaries," boy if the truth was ever told it was that message.

I know pastors and evangelist catch it but sir, if GOD had not saved me and I would know the Church lingo. I would have been a missionary, I could be a millionaire. On some it ought to be mooochhhimmareies some of them wouldn't work a job licking pies.

I'm an Evangelist I run into these parasites all the time. Now I don't mean all of them, thank GOD we have a few that for real.

I'm like you I could write a book on the missionary con games.

Well my purpose was not to tell all but, just to say I like your article. Every Church needs it posted in the foyer.

Well keep up the good work. Bro. Johnny

hands on them, they sent them away. So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus." The church (they) laid hands on them (ordained) and sent them, and what did Paul and Barnabas do on their missionary journey? Acts 14:21-23, "*And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God. And when*

(Our Great continued on page 8)

(Our Great continued from page 7)
they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed."

No, my friend, the Great Commission was not given to individuals, but to the **churches**. The church that Jesus started is the one who has authority to baptize, only the **church not all individuals**. Only those who are called and the church ordains have authority to baptize. We also hold a cannon that **real** Baptist have ever held: that the Great Commission was given to churches only."

Jesus gave the Great Commission to His church because He knew it would not perish, *"the gates of hell would not prevail against it."* Another quote from *The Origin of the Baptists*, "We believe the Great Commission teaches that there has been a continuous succession of Baptist Churches from the day of Jesus Christ down to this day." End of quote. After all, did He say, *"...and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."* Mat. 28:20.

Simply, His church was going to go from then to the end; there would always be a scriptural church.

Of course, those who believe the Great Commission was given to individuals are the same ones who believe that soul winning is the only thing involved in the Great Commission. They are the ones I have read of in *The Sword of the Lord*. They advertise 10,000 souls saved last year, 800 baptized and 200 join the church. I would like to know how 800 were baptized and only 200 join the church? According to Acts 2:41, baptism places you in the church. I would also like to know what happened to the other 9,000 or so. Of course since Dr. Hyles doesn't believe in another Baptist doctrine, repentance, I can imagine where they ended up. (They weren't saved to start with.)

Conclusion

I have another question for those who think the Great Commission was given to individuals. How can an individual do as verse 19 says, *"Go ye therefore, and teach*

all nations..." It is impossible for one individual to carry out such a task. But it's not through His local Independent Baptist Churches.

Through missions, local churches can reach the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. That is the church's commission. The church has been commissioned to carry out the Great Commission.

The local Church has been given that commission by Jesus Christ, who said, *"...All power [authority] is given unto to me in heaven and earth, Go ye therefore..."*

There is no way this church or any church can be scriptural without carrying out the Great Commission. You say, "but I am just an **individual**." Not if you're a baptized member. You're part of the church, the Great Commission is also your commission, and the only way you can be right with the Lord is to be involved in missions. If not and you're really saved, one day you will give account for not getting involved with the Great Commission.

If you have been part of your church for some years and are not involved with giving to missions through faith promise, why not? You're the loser. ☐



(Spain continued from page 2)
 writer has seen, in Queen Elizabeth's armoury in the Tower of London, the thumb-screws, fetters, battle-axes, boarding-pikes, and the invincible banner, which were taken as spoils from the Armada. But behold the hand of God here. Just as the lion, sure of his prey, was about to pounce on the lamb, Heaven interposes. The firmness and courage of the English were less remarkable than the temerity and confusion of the enemy. The elements fought for the righteous case.

The fire, the wind, and the tempest, were so many angels

of death to the boasted invincibility of the Spaniards. The destruction of this vast and formidable armament was effected almost without human agency. Deus flavit et dissipantur. The visionary scheme of Philip vanished like the summer's cloud. Never was a project more wisely planned; never preparations more ample, or hopes of success raised higher. Very slight obstacles were anticipated to the landing of the entire invading army on the coast of England; and it was confidently expected that a single battle would decide the fate of England and of Protestantism for ever. Yet Heaven does not permit a single Spaniard to step foot on English soil; the invaded sustain but slight damage of loss in any way, while in a very little time the ocean is strewn with the corpses of their proud invaders, and with the wrecks of their noble vessels.

Read's Hand of God in History.



(Universal continued from page 5)
 universal body of Christ to be the family of God, but they need to realize that the term, "body of Christ" is a term reserved in the Scriptures for the church. (I shouldn't have to add "local".)

The symbolism of "body" just does not fit in with the symbolism of "family." Also the symbolism of "body" will not fit in with a universal, invisible concept, either "body" or "church."

Thus, if we will rightly divide God's Word and its use of terms, the only kind of "church" we will see will be local **and** visible, and the only kind of "body" we will see will be the same (local & visible) for the Scripture declares in Eph. 4 that there not only is one kind of "baptism" but that there is also only one kind of "body." We can't have it both ways! ☐

I Cannot Sleep

I cannot sleep,
 Dear God, I cannot sleep!

I cannot sleep
 Because so many hands keep Beckoning me. And faces stare,
 And voices, piteous voices call
 Upon the midnight air.
 O, how can any Christian sleep!

Dear God, was this the reason why
 Thou once didst give
 Thy Son to live among us
 And to die?
 That we and these might live,
 To break the chains of sin,
 To find the glad New life within?

And God, O can it be
 That once upon a time, like me
 Thou couldst not sleep?
 Because of many hands
 Outstretched from all the lands:
 Because so many voices call
 Voices and hearts and bodies all?
 O, how they call! O, how they call!

Then stab us more awake, dear God,
 That from our favored sod,
 We, too, may share with Thee
 Thy burden for humanity.



"You're Going To Kill It!"

A devout preacher whose heart was aglow with missionary zeal gave notice to his congregation that in the evening an offering would be taken for missions and asked for liberal gifts.

A selfish, well-to-do man said to him, "you're going to *kill* this church if you go on saying 'Give'. No church can stand it. You're going to *kill* it!"

After the sermon, the minister said to the people, "Brother Jones told me that I am going to kill this church if I keep asking you to give. But, my brethren, churches don't die that way. If anybody knows of a church that died because it has been giving too much to the Lord, I'll be very much obliged if my brother will tell me where that church is, for I'm going to visit it. I'll climb on the walls of that church and cry, *'Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord!'*"

The Expositor

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