



THE AMBASSADOR

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WILL JUDGEMENT DAY EVER COME?

By Seth Halpern - Editor

We are well past the anticipation and (expected) uneventful May 21st doomsday prediction of Harold Camping. It was an intriguing time when atheists and Bible believing Christians were similarly mocking a man who has made too many false predictions. Unfortunately, while the atheists relished the day in celebration, Christians were making sure that they were not "lumped" together with the sideways theology of Camping and his disciples.

What seems to have gotten lost in the debacle is that a REAL judgment day is coming. The Bible tells us that no one knows the day or the hour, but we DO know that it is imminent. JUDGMENT DAY WILL COME! In an effort to be "relevant", the church today attempts to distance itself from the stereo-typical sandwich board street corner preacher who shouts out "Repent". Most people in our society see these people and discount them as "religious fanatics" or worse. While evangelicals have rightly decried the error of Harold Camping's theology, we may have also lost some of the zeal (or even belief) for the true end of the world as the Bible speaks of it.

There is a myriad of opinion on the end times. How will the world end? Where will we go? Will we live on? When will it happen? Countless books, videos, and seminars deal with potential answers to these and other questions about the end of the world. Yet, I believe that the most important question to ask is "What do we do to prepare for the end of the world?" Beyond the emergency needs of food, water, etc, I'm speaking of preparing for our ultimate destiny.

The Bible speaks of two Judgments



that will come when the world ends. One judgment is for those whose sins are forgiven by the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. This judgment will be to reward the saints with crowns based on what each did for Christ. Again, to be clear, entrance is based on God's gracious forgiveness given through Christ's death. It is only the subsequent rewards that are based on our deeds.

The other judgment is for the sinner who has not received the forgiveness of Christ. This judgment leads to eternal suffering and torment. It will be a place where there is no hint of God or any of the qualities He possesses. Many people are living their lives either denying that it will happen, or hoping that that it doesn't come in their lifetime so as to seemingly "avoid" judgment. Incidents like Camping's false prediction fuel the cynicism and disbelief of many who think that this day will never come. Also, many erroneously believe that

Hell is a place awaiting only those most vile and evil. (See my editorial "The Fate of Bin Laden?" elsewhere in this publication) God's Word clearly shows that this judgment is for ALL those who are without the forgiveness of Christ. Not simply the ones we deem "evil". It is based on God's standard, not our own.

The tragic reality is that this day WILL come for everyone reading this article (or not reading it) as well as for the one writing it! The question is not IF, but WHEN? And Not simply "When will the end of The World come? But rather when will the end of YOUR world come? Our eternal destiny is not determined when the real Armageddon commences. Only one generation in all of human history will witness the end of the world. But for each of us a day will come when our heart will no longer beat, our blood will stop flowing and our breath will cease. What will happen to us? More than 100 people, who

made it through Harold Camping's false prediction, didn't make it through a powerful tornado that swept through their town in Missouri the next day. The most important question is NOT "When and How will the world end?" but rather "Am I prepared for it when MY world does end?"

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THE AMBASSADOR

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THE AMBASSADOR

- ✍ *The Ambassador* is a free, monthly publication promoting unity and revival among the local Yuba-Sutter area Bible-believing churches.
- ✍ *The Ambassador* has a circulation of 6,000 and is distributed in local churches and businesses in the community.
- ✍ The purpose of *The Ambassador* is to pursue the great commission of Christ by making disciples and to encourage, inform, challenge and connect the local body of Christ.
- ✍ We believe in the inspiration and authority of the Bible as the written word of God. We believe that God exists as One, in three distinct persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that the atoning work of Christ (His death) on the cross and His resurrection is the ONLY means of salvation and the only way to Eternal Life in Heaven.
- ✍ We welcome editorial content from anyone wishing to promote the mission of *The Ambassador*. All articles and advertisement content is subject to the approval of the editor. Views expressed in *The Ambassador* do not necessarily reflect those of our sponsors or advertisers

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INSPIRATION

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“Keeping The Faith” Enough Is Enough by Ronnie McBrayer

I've got bad news and good news. The bad news is you probably won't win the lottery. The good news is you may be better off that if you don't. Lottery winners, according to some studies, are no happier than when they were broke. Some, in fact, are worse off in the end than in the beginning. Consider the story of Florida resident Abraham Shakespeare. When Shakespeare was 13, he was arrested for robbery. For the next thirty years he was in and out of trouble, in and out of jail, job-to-job, and living hand-to-mouth.

Poverty, assault charges, drug abuse, restraining orders, back child support; fresh out of jail in November 2006, he was lucky to have an \$8-an-hour job unloading boxes from a tractor-trailer. With two of the last five bucks in his wallet he bought two quick pick lottery tickets. Three days later he was a millionaire thirty times over. Three years later, with most of his money already gone – spent frivolously and on all the old habits as before – his body was found buried in a concrete slab, the alleged victim of an apparent con-artist. You would think, that even for the most troubled soul, winning \$30 million would set things right.

Maybe we should view wealth, not as something evil, but certainly as something dangerous; because wealth can fool us into

thinking that it is the source of our happiness, that it can give us satisfaction. Yes, having financial resources can make life easier, but it is a poor substitute for personal peace. Like Abraham Shakespeare, if you have inner turmoil before holding the giant cardboard check for the cameras, you are sure to have that same turmoil afterwards, but with compounding interest.

There is a Hebrew proverb that says, “A meal of bread and water eaten in contentment is better than a banquet spiced with quarrels.” The point is clear: Greater satisfaction is found in simplicity, especially if the banquets and winning lottery tickets bring nothing but trouble, ulcers, and conflict. So when is enough, enough? Where is that line that marks simple contentment from complex materialism? The great G. K. Chesterton answered like this, “There are two ways to get enough. One is to continue to accumulate more and more. The other is to desire less.” So let's be careful that in grabbing for more, we do not lose our grip on life now.

Ronnie McBrayer is the author of “Leaving Religion, Following Jesus.” He writes and speaks about life, faith, and Christ-centered spirituality. Visit his website at www.ronniemcbrayer.net.

Testimonies of God's Grace

Tony Homsley

I was born into a Christian family. I definitely saw God's unconditional love in my family. I have experienced the good of high school education and sports, and college education, to the bad of worldly ways, of sexual abuse, peer pressures, of drugs, marriage and divorce, death and depression. I tried to fill a void in my heart with a girl whom I got pregnant and was blessed with a beautiful daughter Raynie. I was blessed to have adopted Raynie to my mother, Lucy. After trying many counselors and depression pills, I finally had enough and called out to God on May 3rd, 2009 and asked Jesus into my heart. God in Teen Challenge has shown me that the Holy Spirit is my true Counselor and Jesus Christ is my true source of peace to enable me to be the proper son, brother, and father I need to be. In Teen Challenge I have learned of God's love and mercy and I am continuing to learn Biblical principles to handle my life issues. Praise God and thank you for all you've done to allow me this time in Teen Challenge to heal and grow stronger in the Lord.



Tony & Raynie

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Out Of Place

By Lee Roberts

When we lived in southern California, we had a couple in our church that had a unique dream... to spend their retirement years sailing their yacht around the world. The dream consisted of more than just sailing the yacht. Pete and Dee wanted to build the yacht, first!

They lived on twenty acres in the rolling hills outside Fallbrook, and their hilltop property was visible for miles. From a distance, however, the house was not what initially caught your attention. The 60-foot boat they were building in the back was actually the first thing you saw. Sitting on top of a hill, in the middle of an orange grove, some 30 miles from the nearest body of water... boy did that thing look out of place! After all, few things look more out of place than a huge boat on blocks, gathering dust in the remote countryside.

But there are lots of other things that look out of place. How about the Son of God, in the form of an infant? Or, that infant wrapped in rags, lying in a feed trough. Does that look right?

Then consider that baby as a grown man stretched out on a whipping station, mercilessly beaten as the crowd cheers the tormenter. That doesn't seem right.

What about the events that occur just hours later? This man nailed to a cross, suspended between heaven and earth, in the company of two common thieves. That doesn't look right, does it?

Then we picture that man wrapped in another set of rags, lying (not in a feed trough, but) in a tomb. Is there anything more "wrong" than that?

So why was all this "wrongness" necessary?

In Titus 3:3 we read, "At one time we were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another."

Simply put, living that kind of life is not why God created us! That is not what we were made for! This sort of life is not God's design! Such a life truly is out of place. It does not look right!

Do you know what DOES look right? Listen to this. "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." 2 Peter 2:9-10

Now, THAT looks RIGHT! That FEELS right! That is what God had in mind for us in the first place! And it is only possible because of all the "wrongness" Jesus endured!

Do you know what else looks right? Jesus resurrected, ascending into heaven. Back to the right hand of the Father. Isn't that an appealing sight!!

No Need To Whine

By Paula McBride

A familiar Aesop fable tells the story of a hot, thirsty fox who spies a luscious bunch of grapes, just out of reach, hanging from an arbor. He backs up a few steps, takes a flying leap, but misses the grapes by inches. He backs up a little farther and tries again, but misses. After several "fruitless" attempts, he sticks his nose in the air and huffs haughtily, "Those grapes are probably sour anyway." The moral of this story as I interpret it is, "We usually whine when we don't get what we want."

I fell into the pit of a great whine recently. A friend and I were praying for each other about similar situations we were facing. When she shared that her prayer was being answered, I said all the right words (I hope) to let her know how thrilled I was for her, how faithful God is, and how there is hope for my situation. Inside though, I was doing the sour grape routine: "Oh, God isn't going to answer my prayer anyway."

I'm glad to report that God didn't strike me with a dread disease or great tragedy because of my unbelief. Actually, my unbelief is no surprise to Him since I confess the lack every day and pray for His help in that area.

I faced the ugliness of my whining disbelief, and the Lord came alongside and showed me an even more brutal picture of my heart. I realized that I use unbelief as a wall to protect me from being hurt when I feel my prayers aren't answered. Beyond

that, came the revelation that the wall is actually an idol I use for protection rather than trusting God. The words I wrote in my journal as I poured out my heart in confession and restoration aren't fit to print, but in the Father's great mercy, He turned my whine into expressions of deepened love and trust.

We humans think we need to understand everything, and we want to know why some prayers are answered and others are not, why some are spared suffering and some are not. Philip Yancey writes that prayer operates by different rules, God's rules. God's results, not ours, come in surprising ways, often long after we expect them. Prayer means opening ourselves to God and not limiting Him through our own preconceptions. Prayer means being honest and vulnerable, seeking the heart of God and desiring His sovereign will in the timing and outcome of our requests. Prayer is believing that God is working on our behalf all the time in a realm we cannot see.

I am truly happy for the answer to prayer my friend received, and now that this whining episode has passed, I admit that I've had countless answers, too. I had my eyes on the wrong fruit. It isn't grapes just out of my reach that will satisfy. It is the life-giving fruit of the Spirit, one of which is patience. In God's perfect timing, all our prayers will be answered. There's no need to whine.

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Join us for Lunch, Fellowship and God's Word! For info contact Dave Kugelman 530-632-9292

Right to Life Monthly Meeting

1st Wed., 7pm (1st Wed of every month)
St. Isidore's Community Parish Hall Conference Room. Business Meeting open to the all interested in pro-life issues. For more info, visit www.ystrl.org

ME Dessert (Marriage Educators)

Mon 6:30-8PM (Monthly 2nd Monday)
@ The Cookie Tree, YC
1st timers Welcome! Have a cup and a cookie while listening to what others are & planning to do to strengthen relationships and families. If you have an interest in strengthening relationships, we can fan your flame. Call Robbie @671-6069 or visit www.YubaSutterMarriage.com

WISE (Women In Search of Excellence)

Bible Study
Cornerstone Church
Tue. 7pm

FREE Karate Classes

First Baptist Church of Olivehurst
Mon 6:30pm
FREE karate classes taught from a Christian perspective. 743-1831 for info, Pastor Miguel.

DIVORCE CARE

Church of Glad Tidings
1179 Eager Road off Hwy 99
Wednesdays 7 - 8:30pm
A Divorce Care group is a special place of encouragement, information and sharing. Divorce care groups meet weekly, providing you with an ongoing "support team" as you deal with the issues surrounding your separation or divorce. Info: 530-671-6069 www.YubaSutterMarriage.com

Weekly Recovery Groups

Crossroads Community Church
Sunday 7-8pm, Thursday 6:30-8:30
We also offer a Grief Recovery Group on Wednesday Evenings from 7 to 8 p.m. For more information, please call Joyce Jordan at: 674-3441.

Celebrate Recovery

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
Tues 7pm - 674-9210

Celebrate Recovery

Loma Rica Community Church - Moy Hall.
Fri., 7pm.
Call church office for more information 743-5435.

Crossroads Clothes Closet

Crossroads Community Church, YC
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AWANA

Wed's, 5:45-7:45 PM during the school year
Evangelical Free Church
3785 Olive Hwy., Oroville
For information please call 533-6866
Awana is a boys and girls club consisting of small group time, games, large group time.

AWANA cont.

Awards are given for Bible verse memorization and handbook achievement. For ages 2 through the eighth grade.

Prayer Vigil for LIFE!

Last Wed of each month, 4-5pm
Join us as we gather with people of faith throughout our area, as we peacefully pray on the sidewalk at the Yuba City Planned Parenthood. We meet on the last Wednesday of the month. For more info, please contact Heather Pugh (530)751-9349.

WestWord Riders Motorcycle Ministry

Gridley Grill, 484 Hwy 99, Gridley
May 21st, 8:30am
The WestWord Riders motorcycle fellowship meets the 3rd Saturday of each month. Meetings are followed by a planned ride so dust off that helmet and join us! For any other information contact Willy Longi at 701-1045.

FREE YARN CRAFT Class

First Baptist Church of Olivehurst - 1777 8th Ave, Olivehurst
Monday's, 10am.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Hope Point Nazarene, 600 N. George Washington Blvd, Yuba City
Wed, 6:30pm
Hope Point Nazarene, 2727 Fir Street, Live Oak
Fri, 6:30pm
Join us for this Christ-centered recovery group that provides a safe place for you with people who will love you through your pain, and celebrate with you during your victories. The group meets weekly, so visit us any time. Contact Jim Myers at 635-4688 for more information.

Knit & Crochet Women's Fellowship

First Baptist Church of Olivehurst, 1777 - 8th Avenue
Mon 10am - Noon
Practice your yarn craft or learn a new one with us. Knifty Knitters are welcome. Bring your own project or work on a charity item that we donate to those in need in the community. Contact Vivian 530-301-9841 for further information.

Couplehood

Wednesdays 6:45 - 8:45pm
Church of Glad Tidings
www.YubaSutterMarriage.com
How can we protect our relationship from becoming another statistic? What can we do to keep our love energized? Couplehood teaches how to protect, nourish and transform your relationship into an enduring and fulfilling connection. Info: 530.671.6069

"SHAKEN" (NEW)

Hope Point Church, Y.C
Sundays at 4pm beginning June 12th in the Lighthouse
Are you stuck in the rut of 'religion'? Would you prefer a meaningful relationship with Christ? If you are seeking a deeper connection and want to experience & live in His power, then its time to get 'Shaken'. Contact Rodney at rodney.com@comcast.net for more info.

SAMARITAN VILLAGE MONTHLY MEETING (NEW)

Call 329-6619 for location
3rd Tue of each month, 6:30pm
This meeting is open to all who are interested in helping with an orphanage in Tanzania. For info call Tara at 329-6619

SPECIAL EVENTS

OLD FASHIONED HYMN SING

Hope Point Nazarene Church, Y.C
Sun June 5th at 6pm
Join us and experience the joy that comes from singing those beloved hymns you grew up with and hear the history behind the writing of some of your favorites. This event is free with a love offering taken for the leaders, Paul & Marjorie Ferrin. Contact the church at 671-1130 for more details.

MASTERING THE MYSTERIES OF LOVE

Hosted at:
Church of Glad Tidings
1179 Eager Road, Yuba City
(Hwy 99 @ Eager Rd.)
June 11th & 25th
Saturday 8:30am - 5:00pm
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(includes workbook & lunch)
Couples learn how to communicate with deep honesty while building and maintaining the greatest respect, empathy and trust in their relationship. You practice ten skills that work together to transform your relationship by changing how you listen, talk, problem solve and work together.
Registration/Info: 530.671.6069
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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Hollywood Community Church of the Nazarene, 2825 Hwy 20 Marysville
June 20-June 24 9:00am-12:00pm
Our annual fun and exciting vacation bible school will be PANDAmonium! The week will be filled with engaging activities that will be a fun and biblically encouraging experience. Come and share in the fun!

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Students from southern Japan will be visiting Yuba City from July 22 to August 18th. They will be attending classes in English and American culture from 9-4 Monday to Friday and will tour the community in the afternoons, leaving the weekends and evenings to spend with their host families.
For more information contact:
Mimi Robarge (530) 713-8885 or Daisy Phillip (530) 751-9718

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

First Presbyterian Church of Marysville, 1940 Freeman Street, Msvl_
July 25-29th 8:30am registration to 12 noon
Children 3-12 years old come and have an awesome week of Son Surfing with God. It's completely free and open to all children and parents that want to help out, also. There will be arts and crafts, games and videos and lots of learning about God in a fun, safe and happy environment.

If your church or ministry is having an outreach activity that you would like to promote in our calendar, please send your item via email to

editor@ambassadornewspaper.com

by the 15th of the month for a listing in the following month's issue.



MEDIA/ENTERTAINMENT

A Peek At My Bookshelf

Recommended Reading by Deena Peterson

"An Eye For Glory" by Karl Bacon

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I just finished one of the best books I've ever read...in my life. Considering how much I read...that's really saying something. Karl Bacon's debut in Christian fiction needs to make a huge splash...because his book could have a huge impact.

When my son did a unit study on the Civil War, I learned quite a bit about that period in our nation's history. In fact, I thought I had a good grasp on that event...was I ever wrong. I've learned more reading Karl's novel that I ever would learn in a lifetime.

And to think...I almost passed on this book...

"An Eye For Glory" takes place during the years during and after the Civil War. Michael Palmer has everything a man could ever ask for: a beautiful and loving wife, two wonderful children, a prosperous business, and a solid faith. But when his nation is split in two, he takes up the call to arms to defend his country and to abolish slavery.

Michael has no idea what he has just enlisted for. The book opens with a letter to his children, telling them that he's going to do his best to share with them what his life was like and how he became the man they knew him to be.

The bulk of the story is written as a war journal, chronicling Michael's life as a Union soldier. Months of hardship toughen him. Months of being away from his family cause him to ache for their faces, hugs, and companionship. Months of brutal, intense fighting anger him.

Detail is rich, but not tedious. You'll find yourself on the front lines with Michael. You'll feel the bayonet as he attaches it to his musket, hearing the call to arms as loudly as if you were there. You'll slog through mud, feeling the biting cold and the blistering heat as you trudge along with him to the next battlefield.

Description is so three dimensional you'll be tempted to duck as the musketballs soar by...and you'll feel each painful loss as man after man is cut down in one of the bloodiest conflicts we've ever seen rages on.

The day comes when Michael's belly is full of fire, and you'll understand why he becomes the killing machine he does...but when he breaks, you'll break with him. Be prepared to see God, His mercy,

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forgiveness, and sustenance in a fresh, new way.

I felt a bit deceived by the back cover copy. The book ends with Michael's journey to return a precious keepsake...but the war is Michael's first journey, and it takes up the majority of the book.

Civil War buffs will be in history heaven with this well researched novel. I've heard that it took Karl a decade to put this fine piece of literature together. Karl, it was worth every day you dug deep into our nation's history.

"An Eye For Glory" is one of the finest pieces of literature I've ever encountered. If Karl never pens another novel, this one will stand the test of time and is destined to be a classic story...but what a shame if Karl doesn't write again! He truly has God-given talent for telling a story.

I'm looking forward to more from Karl Bacon. Once you have "An Eye For Glory", I think you will, too. I'm voting it "Best Historical Fiction of 2011", and I'm so thankful to my friends at Zondervan for taking a chance and sending me my advance copy.

Ask for your copy at Crosspointe Books in Yuba City or Living Word Christian Center in Oroville.

Happy Reading!
Deena Peterson

*An Independent Reviewer
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*For more book reviews by Deena visit
deenasbooks.blogspot.com*



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"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news" Isaiah 52:7

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**Faith Christian
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RESOURCES

Muslims React With Violence To New President Charlie Butts - OneNewsNow

Mass graves are reportedly being filled with Christians after new violence in Northern Nigeria, which directly relates to the election of a new president.

After a Christian named Goodluck Jonathan was elected president, Muslims in the northern part of the country openly attacked Christians. Jonathan Rocha of International Christian Concern reports that they are only now learning the extent of the destruction.

"More than 300 churches have been burned down in Northern Nigeria," says Rocha. "Hundreds of people have been killed, including Christians and Muslims. They even attacked and killed and destroyed the property of Muslims who

voted for the Christian candidate."

Thousands of Christians have been forced from their homes and are now in refugee camps as well, he shares.

"The government has deployed the security and they also promised to investigate the latest violence -- and we hope they will take measures to ensure that these things will not occur in this situation because it's one of the bloodiest times for the people in the northern part of Nigeria," Rocha states.

International Christian Concern has recently launched a drive to raise funds to help feed refugees until they can return home and rebuild their lives.

What will your kids do this summer???

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BREAKPOINT

Changing Lives, Minds, and Communities through Jesus Christ

The Way or Not the Way Orthodoxy and Why It Matters By: Chuck Colson

Can we truly live out the Christian faith if we don't understand its foundational tenets?

According to the Pew Forum's U.S. Religious Landscape Survey, 57 percent of self-identified Evangelical Christians agreed with this statement: "Many religions can lead to eternal life."

Think about the staggering implications of what you just heard: 57 percent of Evangelicals believe that many religions can lead to eternal life!

Yet Jesus Himself was very clear. "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). Either Jesus was right, or he was wrong. What Christians, Muslims, and Jews say about the person and work of Jesus Christ can't be reconciled. They may all be false, but they cannot all be true.

It's called the law of non-contradiction -- it goes back to Aristotle: If proposition A is true -- that is, if it conforms to reality -- then proposition B, making a contrary claim, cannot be true as well.

If nearly six out of ten Evangelicals don't believe the most basic tenets of the faith, it's no wonder the Church is losing its influence over the culture. Because what we believe affects how we live.

Even a secular columnist for the New York Times understands this! As I explain on today's Two Minute Warning video commentary, which you can watch at ColsonCenter.org, David Brooks recently wrote "The religions that thrive" historically have "communal theologies, doctrines and codes of conduct rooted in claims of absolute truth." And those beliefs translate into acts of mercy and love: the kind that Brooks himself witnessed from conservative Christian missionaries reaching out to AIDS victims

in Africa.

There is a remedy for this situation -- a remedy that an Augustinian monk by the name of Martin Luther discovered back in the sixteenth century. The Church in Luther's day wallowed in its own corruption, sold indulgences, and refused to allow people to read the Bible in their own language. Luther compared the state of the Church to the Babylonian exile of the Israelites, when God punished Israel for disobeying God and worshipping false idols.

So what did Luther do? He went back to the teaching of the apostles, the faith entrusted to the saints once for all. He studied the works of the ancient Church fathers, who wrote at a time when the Church's faith was marked by unity. He studied the early councils of the Church. In short, he recovered the orthodox faith.

This led to a Reformation that transformed not only the Church, but Western society and culture as well.

This is why I wrote my book, titled *The Faith: Given Once, For All*. It's about the essentials of the faith that all true Christians have always believed -- the minimum, irreducible, non-negotiable tenets of Christianity, without which one cannot be a true Christian, and without which the Church cannot be the Church.

I am convinced that this is what people need to defend and live the Christian faith these extraordinarily challenging times. So I urge you to purchase a copy of *The Faith* -- you can get it at BreakPoint.org. And by the way -- all the royalties go to the ministry of BreakPoint and Prison Fellowship.

The Church needs to know what it believes, why it believes it -- and why it matters.

U.N. Dictates How America's Kids Raised By Bob Schultze

This headline will become reality if the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) treaty is ratified by the U.S. Government. The present administration is strongly hoping to ratify the CRC before the American people know about its effects on our families. The CRC would supersede federal and state laws concerning families and raising children, removing the rights of fit American parents to direct the raising of their children. Instead, international judges would make public policy for American families and children. This would be irreversible.

In the countries the CRC has been adopted, results range from no protection at all for children who need it (Mostly third-world countries), to situations where children virtually dictate what they want (the Netherlands). In all cases, governments, not the parents, have exclusive power to direct the raising of children. A committee of eighteen UN "experts" from other nations has the authority to interpret the treaty and its application by U.S. Courts and legislatures. Under International Law the treaty overrides even our own Constitution. The only way to prevent the CRC from becoming law in America is by passing the Parental Rights Amendment to our Constitution before the CRC treaty is approved by the Senate and signed by the President. Presently, 37 Senators have held the line against the CRC and several states have passed resolutions against the CRC and for the PRA.

Under the CRC, children choose their own religion, parents can only advise. A child's "right to be heard" would allow government to review and overrule any parental decision regarding the child. Children would have a right to leisure of their choosing, reproductive health information and services without parental knowledge or consent, and immunity from spanking. Christian schools couldn't teach that Christianity is the only true religion or refuse to teach "alternative worldviews". Parents could not opt their

children out of sex education. Also, it would be illegal for America to spend more on national defense than it does on children's welfare.

Dr. Michael Farris of the Parental Rights Organization states, "Parental rights: God grants them. Governments secure them." As our Founding Fathers wrote the Declaration of Independence, they clearly expected people to inform, empower, and limit our government in its responsibility to secure the inalienable rights that God has given us, the people. Parental rights were taken for granted by the culture at the time.

But in the 230 plus years since our nation's founding, the culture has drastically changed. Because parental rights are not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution, many government agencies and courts today do not recognize them as inalienable, and are not protecting them. To the contrary, parents are being stripped of this vital responsibility assigned to us by God.

The Parental Rights Amendment would be a major force in ending this dangerous situation in the same way the First Amendment provided the vital protection of the people's freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and redress of grievances.

Amending the Constitution is a long process requiring dedication, hard work, resources and sacrifice. You can help!

1. Pray, pray, pray.
2. Go to parentalrights.org and learn all you can about this issue.
3. Inform as many as you can about the issue and give the website.
4. Sign the petition, donate, volunteer, join the e-mail network.

If you would like to contact Bob and be involved in this issue, he can be reached at 530-674-9883.

Note: Some parts of an article by Jim Davis in The Spring 2011 issue of The California Parent Educator magazine were used in this article.

CBA MARKETPLACE MONTHLY

What if Jesus Comes Back Tomorrow?

by Dave Kugelman

What if Jesus Comes Back Tomorrow?

If you are reading this article it is apparent that Jesus did not come back on Saturday, May 21st at 6:00 p.m. as Harold Camping predicted. There are many negative consequences as a result of his prediction that I won't get into with this article. I do however, want to focus on one positive aspect of Camping's message and that is a re-awakening to the reality of Christ's imminent return. He obviously was wrong about the specific date but he was not wrong with his understanding that Jesus is in fact coming back. In Acts 1:11 we read, "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Therefore I present before you this question: If you knew that Jesus was coming back tomorrow, what would you do different today? I posed this question to a group of men recently and the top two responses were.....

1. Pray more
2. Witness with a greater sense of urgency

Now if you are anything like me,

you are feeling a bit convicted right now but that's okay. Jesus does in fact want us to live our lives with a mindset that He may return at any moment. Matthew 24:42 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. With that understanding, what do we need to do different today knowing that He may come back tomorrow? My strong suggestion is to get as close to Christ as possible. Greater meditation and study of His Word, intentional and dedicated prayer time, get rid of the compromise and have a sense of urgency to share Him with others. I'm not there by any means but I want to be. The Holy Spirit has led me to pray the following prayer; "Lord, please prepare me and my family for what is coming upon the earth." I left one item off of the above list and that is consistent fellowship! We need one another. Go to church regularly to worship God and be fed by His Word and consider joining the CBA for mid-week prayer and fellowship.

We meet every Tuesday at noon varying locations. Email Seth at editor@ambassadornewspaper.com and give him your email address to be notified on our weekly meetings.



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Have you ever considered hosting a foreign exchange student?

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as their hearts may have recently been softened due to recent tragedy in their country. Japan is only approximately 1% Christian which makes this the perfect opportunity for Christian families to show these students the love of Christ.

All that is required of the host family is to have an open heart and home and be willing to provide room and board and transportation to and from the study site. The students come with their own spending money and all their field trips are already paid for.

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Sponsor Spotlight

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Inspiring Persons: My wife's father (Herbert Dean McAdams)

"Hot Button"/Passion: Having all my loved ones saved

Home Church: Hope Point Nazarene

Message to the Community/Other Comments: Nine years ago God opened the door for a great opportunity. We began installing window coverings for both residential and commercial designers. Then expanded into sales, wholesale, retail and bidding commercial jobs throughout northern California.

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We like to look at our business as our personal ministry. It has given us the opportunity to go into the homes of those who have now become good friends and fill a material, as well as spiritual need.

We love being able to serve and share with you and are thankful for the friends we've made. We will continue to commit what we do to the Lord and will count on Him to sustain our work and our relationships. We are blessed! (Proverbs 16:3)

Many thanks,
Carl & Melody Boucher



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4th Annual "FAITH NIGHT"

Friday June 17th

Dave Dravecky—Former San Francisco Giants Pitcher & Cancer Survivor to Speak at Gold Sox Event

The 4th Annual "Faith Night at the Ballpark" event with the Gold Sox is set for Friday evening June 17th, 2011 at Appeal-Democrat Park in Marysville, home of The Gold Sox. The gates open early at 5:30pm for this co-sponsored outreach of the Christian Business Alliance (CBA) and Northside Fitness. Pre-game festivities include an original commemorative program given away at the front gates to the first 2,500 guests, a special Christian concert featuring the home-grown contemporary worship group from River Valley Christian Fellowship Church in Yuba City. Free Bibles will also be available upon request and as you exit the stadium. Be in your seats early to enjoy a powerful on-field pre-game testimony at 6:45pm by former San Diego Padres and San Francisco Giants Pitcher Dave Dravecky. First pitch follows at 7:35pm pairing our own Gold Sox with the Auburn Mudcats. From beginning to end you will also have the opportunity to browse the concourse and meet with many community service/local ministry groups that provide assistance and a variety of resources to anyone in need.

In 2008, fans first witnessed former S.F. Giants pitcher and cancer survivor Dave Dravecky share his compelling story of faith and courage. Then in 2009, we heard a passionate testimony from Jim "The Rookie" Morris, the man who inspired Walt Disney's feature film "The Rookie." Last year 22 year MLB veteran Bill Buckner of Dodger, Cubs and Red Sox fame took the field to share the source of his strength that carried him through both his trials and triumphs. What started in 2008 as a one-time event has turned into an annual gathering of hope and inspiration—touching over 10,000 lives in the process! Now, in 2011 we have yet another opportunity to share the Good News and reach out to many more searching for truth, peace and real hope as Dave Dravecky returns for an encore

engagement.

Nearly 4,000 people came to the ballpark with our inaugural Faith Night coinciding with Dave's first visit in 2008 and now three years later fans will witness another inspiring Godly message of hope as he speaks of the comeback and cancer that eventually took his left pitching arm. Ultimately, Dave said, "...it is who we are as a child of God that defines us, not our statistics." Dave Dravecky is a fine example of not denying the impact your life can have on others! There will be many in attendance that will be moved not having heard Dave's story before and yet others will be encouraged. All will be blessed!

Once again, this year's Faith Night celebration will be professionally filmed and commemorative DVDs will again be made available thru The Gold Sox and CBA. Be a part of the excitement with all this special evening has to offer. The Gold Sox, CBA and Northside Fitness are expecting another large crowd with special thanks to the many local businesses that stepped up to the plate to support the function. A list of sponsors is highlighted on the special "Faith Night" posters promoting the event at select businesses and churches thru-out our greater Yuba-Sutter area. Free tickets are also available at some of these same locations or you can contact Brad Indelicato at 530-671-2413. You can also purchase tickets at the Gold Sox Team Center at 429 10th Street in Marysville or at the ticket booth prior to the game on Friday June 17th.

This is an evening to enjoy family fun in faith and fellowship, while providing a wonderful community outreach. Come enjoy and celebrate all of the festivities. It will be an uplifting night of encouragement, hope, relaxation and great Gold Sox baseball for everyone in attendance. You won't want to miss it and you won't be disappointed!! SEE YOU AT THE BALLPARK!!!


Western Carnival A Huge Success!

Stephanie Helms would like to thank everyone (and she does mean everyone – over 200 volunteers) for their selfless contribution and sacrifice to help make the Western Carnival at the Butte Star Ranch a huge success. The event which was held on May 1st was a fundraiser to benefit the Feather River Men's Center (a faith based drug rehabilitation program).


There were over \$60,000 in donated products and services. There were over

4,500 people in attendance and \$23,000 was raised for the Men's Center. More significant than the money raised was the four people who re-committed their lives to Christ AND the two people who made a commitment to Christ for the first time. Truly a fabulous event.


Stephanie wants everyone to mark their calendars for May 6, 2012 for next year's event. See you then!



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EDITORIALS

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Beware Of Sheep In Worldly Clothing

By Jon Skillman

Well I guess if you are reading this it means Jesus didn't return on May 21st. But make no mistake ... He will come! However, Jesus Himself tells us; we will not know the day or the hour. This is yet another example of man's attempt to ignore or misinterpret God's word.

The column below is not meant to chastise a particular denomination, but to point out an increasing trend within the church to stray from the Truth. I urge you to read Matthew 24 (signs of the end of the age) before reading on.

The caption read: "Presbyterian Church ends celibacy rule for unwed clergy." My initial reaction to this was: Well that's okay, the rule seems a little redundant anyway ... I mean God has rules regarding sex outside of marriage, so the issue will simply default to His jurisdiction.

But upon reading the article I discovered the true reasoning behind the church's decision. It seems, in order to ordain gays and lesbians into the clergy, the church must somehow get around that pesky little "sexual immorality" clause. Hmm, once again tolerance trumps principle. Is the church so naïve as to think they can deceive God? Do they really think deleting a man made rule somehow deletes God's? I think not. "Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the Lord your God that I gave you." Deuteronomy 4:2

As I pondered the words of the article I was struck by the thought, isn't this throwing a stumbling block in the path of unwed heterosexual clerics? Isn't the

church really saying, hey, if you want to fool around it's okay by us... go ahead ... knock yourself out! After all, it's more important for us to overlook the sin of the homosexual lifestyle than it is for us to hold you up. Man, this whole thing has false teaching written all over it.

Knowing little about the Presbyterian faith, including how to spell it, I ventured onto the Presbyterian (USA) website to gain understanding. Under the heading "Theology" I read: "... the sovereignty of God, the authority of the Scripture, justification by grace through faith... which means God is the supreme authority throughout the universe. Our knowledge of God and God's purpose for humanity comes from the Bible..."

Then, under the heading "Bible" the website states: "The church confesses the scriptures to be the word of God." and further on states: "Leaders in the Presbyterian Church (USA) can be expected to affirm that ... the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments ... [and] ... the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's word to [them]."

Sounds like pretty sound Christian doctrine to me. So why has the church chosen not to follow it? I believe the Presbyterian Church leadership has fallen victim to our cultural P.C. and unquestioning tolerance. Now I don't believe the church leadership to be wolves in sheep's clothing. I think it's more that the flock is being led astray by the incessant and lurid bleating of a sheepish world.

AS WE SEE IT

The Fate of Bin Laden By Seth Halpern



Seth Halpern - Editor

After the death of Osama bin Laden there was a tremendous outpouring of reaction. Some rejoiced in not only his death but his destiny in hell. Others wondered if it is right to celebrate the death of another human being. Still others, especially among evangelicals, soberly reminded us of the eternal torment awaiting bin Laden. If we truly believe in heaven and hell, and we should, then there is certainly much concern there. Unfortunately, many, including so called evangelicals, do NOT believe in eternal damnation supposing God to be "too loving to send people there". The unfortunate truth is that the Bible does speak of such a place. I say "unfortunate" because, while many Christians believe in the grace and love of God, they have trouble understanding and accepting this same merciful and compassionate God being the righteous and just sovereign judge. While many were questioning whether or not bin Laden deserved eternal damnation, the truth according

to God's Word is much scarier. It says that "ALL have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom 3:23) We may look at this once most-wanted terrorist responsible for thousands of deaths and say that he was deserving of hell. However, WE are NOT the righteous, holy, and just judge! The Lord God is solely in that role of judge. It is by His standard, not ours, that we are judged. Take heed then. Even the most moral, loving, neighbor, friend, or family member is on a train bound to share an eternal abode with the worst of sinners if they have not applied the grace and forgiveness of Jesus sacrificial death to their own lives. Please consider this, my brothers and sisters in Christ. There is no heaven apart from the saving relationship with Christ. Jesus said "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6) If we believe this, then our attitudes and efforts should change accordingly, dramatically, and immediately!

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