



THE Living TESTAMENT

ONLY
20P

Those terrible termites

The Greenhouse effect danger is not from carbon dioxide alone, there are other gases in the earth's atmosphere. The fifth most abundant is said to be methane gas. It too, is a 'greenhouse' producing gas. Where does the methane come from? Cows maybe? But another huge source is termites which produce methane as they digest wood. A scientist who put a teflon bag over a termites nest/mound whilst measuring gases from a volcano watched in amazement as the bag filled with methane gas. He then started to do a worldwide survey. He found methane gas pouring out of termite mounds the world over. Where man was cutting down tropical forests, termite populations were exploding. In the tropics, it is said there are 1500lbs of termites for every human on earth! Estimates of 100million tonnes of methane gas is being added to our atmosphere each year by termites alone. To think that something as tiny as a termite has the potential to dangerously change the condition of our planet.

It is often said that people 'cannot see the wood for the trees'. They cannot see clearly, if at all, even when the truth is right in front of them. A

tiny seed of doubt can be a very powerful implement. It can even erode the faith of the strong and faithful – the very elect. Clouds of gas arise from the so-called eminent leaders of mainline organisations to disintegrate and poison the minds of many (Matt 23:24). The Lord's trees fall by the dozen and the gases increase as the love of many wax cold. Many are told they are Christians, it is used a label of convenience to promote themselves and ridicule true believers, having not the Spirit themselves (Jude:14-16). These human termites may continue to try and eat away at the Spiritfilled, true children of God. For it is amazing how much damage such a small seed of doubt does, but Jesus Christ is alive and well. He is still planting trees and grafting another vine. Let us make sure brothers and sisters that we are good foresters and workers in the vineyard. Let us also make sure we put our roots down deep and produce much fruit (John 15). The clouds thrown up may be thick and dark, but God has brought us into His glorious light through Jesus Christ (2 Cor 4:5-6).

Pastor Ray Welch, Exeter RF, UK



Make a difference

The following was apparently written by a High School student ...

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints; we spend more, but have less; we buy more but enjoy it less. We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; we have more degrees, but less sense; more knowledge, but less sound judgement; more experts, but more problems; more medicine, but less wellness.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom and hate too often. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbour.

We've conquered outer space, but not inner space; we've cleaned up the air,

but polluted the soul; we've split the atom, but not our prejudice. We have higher incomes, but lower morals; we've become long on quantity, but short on quality.

These are the times of tall men and short character; steep profits and shallow relationships; more leisure, but less fun; more kinds of food, but less nutrition. These are the days of two incomes, but more divorces; of fancier houses, but broken homes.

It is a time when there is much in the show window and nothing in the stockroom; a time when technology could bring this letter to you, and at a time when you could choose either to make a difference or just hit delete.

'For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?'

—Jesus. Matthew 16:26.



The meditations of my heart

I asked God for strength
 that I might achieve,
 I was made weak
 that I might learn humbly to obey,
 I asked for health
 that I might do greater things,
 I was given infirmity
 that I might do better things,
 I asked for riches
 that I might be happy,
 I was given poverty
 that I might be wise,
 I asked for power
 that I might have the praise of men
 I was given weakness
 that I might feel the need of God,
 I asked for all things
 that I might enjoy life,
 I was given life
 that I might enjoy all things.
 I got nothing that I asked for,
 but everything I had hoped for.
 Almost despite myself, my
 unspoken prayers were answered.
 I am among all men
 most richly blessed.

Gladys, Nth London RF, UK

My Favourite Scripture

One of my favourite scriptures is
Proverbs 27:17 –

‘Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man
sharpeneth the countenance of
his friend’.

I really like this scripture because it simply means that for one thing to help something else it needs to be the same. For example, iron is needed to sharpen iron. It made me also think about the scripture in John 15:15-16, where we are told that Jesus no longer counts us as His servants but as His friends. So for Him to be able to sharpen our countenance we need to be like Him, not just similar, but the same as Him. This is very encouraging as it helps us each day to try to be more like Jesus, if we want Him as our friend we must do all we can to be like Him.

Jonathan Welch, Exeter RF, UK



*‘No God. No peace.
Know God. Know peace’*

Jan McMonigal, Perth RF, Australia



Several very good reasons why we are

Here is an explanation why the Revival Fellowship can never be called a sect nor a cult, even though some people can never be convinced of this.

GENERAL

- Any religion or club, with prescribed behavioural rules, could be described as a sect or a cult.
- To the casual observer therefore, a Revival Fellowship could also be described as a sect.
- By the same rules, the Catholic Church, or indeed, any church could be described as a sect or cult.
- The simple meaning of the word Sect means 'a separate group of people' or a section (part) of the whole of society.
- The word 'cult' has a more sinister taste, and this is where we will aim our explanation in this presentation.
- The word 'sect' could also be applied to the local football club.

MISUNDERSTANDING

- Somehow, it is often assumed that anybody who is sure about their beliefs, is a member of some cult.
- The reason is that it is generally believed that real answers can not be found and that many people have had some disappointments with religion in general.
- These disappointments lead people to the conclusion that truth does not exist.
- This is why, when we demonstrate absolute surety the conclusion quickly follows, 'have you been brainwashed or something'.

BRAINWASHING

- The aim of cults starts with 'brain control'.
- The followers change often into 'zombies' without an own identity.
- The cult leader expects blind obedience.
- The Revival Fellowship encourages everyone to be 'born again' and to 'put on' the mind of Christ.
- At first sight this might appear similar, but the first one enslaves people and the second one makes people free through understanding and knowledge of the truth.
- Of course one has to accept the principle that truth actually exist and just needs to be found.
Bible Refs : 1 Corinthians 2:16, Philippians 2:5 and John 8:30-32.

SLAVERY

- The aim of cults is to influence personal behaviour.
- Some of the more sinister cults all wear the same clothing and there is, sometimes severe, punishment for people who do not 'fit in' and rebel against this kind of treatment.
- People are 'broken in' or 'tamed' like horses or wild animals.
- Following this indoctrination people are ready to do the most incredible things without question.
- The Revival Fellowship teaches that nobody needs to be a slave anymore.
- We voluntary, restrict or modify our behaviour by what the Bible teaches as Christian behaviour and not by the rules of any man.
Bible Refs : Matthew 15:8-9, Mark 7:7.

'For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity,



not classified as a Sect nor a Cult

ABUSE OF POWER

- The aim of cults is to bring people totally under the power of the 'group' so it becomes virtually impossible to leave.
- The Revival Fellowship is a voluntary organisation and there are no formal membership lists with contractual commitments.
- Our centres exist and, indeed grow steadily, because people are voluntary subject to a code of conduct as described in the Bible and as was demonstrated in the early church.
- If someone does not agree with this they are sometimes invited to leave and in any case is everybody free to go wherever they want to go. We cannot and will not force people, ever.

Bible Ref : The book of Acts.

FINANCIAL

- The aim of cults is often to seize the worldly goods of their followers.
- Some cult leaders belong to the richest people in the world or are part of the richest organisations.
- The Revival Fellowship is again, a voluntary organisation and there are no prescribed financial commitments.
- Our centres exist and grow because many people accept the Biblical principle of 'Tithing' or 10% of their income for the work of the Lord.
- In no circumstances are people being pressured to even abide by this principle, and we never ask for possessions from anybody.

Bible Refs : Malachi 1:6-14, Haggai 1:2-11, 2 Corinthians 9:7.

INITIATION

- 'Cults' have often very traumatic initiation ceremonies.

- Sometimes immorality is involved and there are cases of so called 'deliverance' or 'exorcism' where by the newly initiated person is expected to fall on the ground, roll around and foam at the mouth.
- There remains often, a pathological fear of Satan and his 'power' as a result of these things.
- The Revival Fellowship encourages people to have a sound, sober mind.
- As one visitor described his first impression after one visit to one of our centres 'I experienced these people as the most normal people I have ever encountered'.

Bible Refs : 2 Tim 1:6-8, Romans 8: 14-16.

CONCLUSION

- Again, the correct word to describe what generally is perceived to be a 'sect' should be 'cult'.
- A 'cult' is a secretive, strange, sinister, illogical organisation.
- We most certainly, are not secretive, strange, sinister, or illogical.
- People find in the Revival Fellowship peace, joy, fulfilment and a goal for life.
- Everybody belongs to some group.
- You either, belong to the world in general, whereby you suffer from one or more of the 'cult' problems. Or you belong to God which gives you access to the power to overcome these restrictions.
- We feel confident that in any open minded investigator will find only good things in the Revival Fellowship.

Pastor Pieter Visser, Holland RF



Putting God first above all things

The following is a testimony which we received by email recently.

I have been looking for work ever since I got back home from my trip overseas (I was made redundant). I had applied for a job with the Australian Taxation Department (ATO) and was hopeful of getting it, it was the one job I really wanted but I knew the Lord would make sure that I got the right job.

I had applied for many other jobs and not even got a 'thanks, but please don't darken our door again' when I saw a job advertised with an opposition company to the one I used to work for. It was not a very good job but I needed work and I figured with my industry knowledge I'd be a shoe in! So I applied. At the interview the man basically said I was the preferred applicant and that if I said I wanted the job I could have it, he also explained all the details of the position and said that it involved weekend work and working on Sundays.

I told him that I would not be available to work over Christmas as I would be going to camp and that if I was offered the ATO job at a later date I would take it and that I don't work Sundays. He was fine about everything except the Sundays. Sundays he said were not negotiable I would have to work every second one!

Miss every second communion meeting? What was I to do? I desperately needed a job and

here it was, just speak up and I would have one. I left it at that and he would have someone call me so we could speak again. I was torn but I knew what was right – don't miss the meetings!

Today they rang and encouraged me back, I had already decided and said sorry to have wasted their time but unless the Sunday work was changed I could not accept the job and we hung up. It was only about one minute and the phone rang again, I thought, I bet they have changed their minds and I won't have to work Sundays but when I answered, it was the ATO and they said if I want the job, the one I really wanted, it was mine! Of course I had to think about it for about 0.012 of a second! 'Praise the Lord'.

I know this is just the way the Lord works and I was waiting for the twist at the end of the story because I know He likes that kind of edge of your seat drama stuff, but the amazing thing is, is that I never even had an interview with the ATO, they hired me from my application letter and by the word of a reference – they haven't even met me! Boy, when the Lord does something He does it well. This was really a lesson in trust and obey – Praise the Lord I think I passed!

Paul Hocking, Adelaide RF, Australia

Caution : 'Stand up for the Lord or you'll end up falling for anything'



When the Lord saved me . . .

When I was about nine years of age, my parents started going to a church in Tauranga, N.Z. I attended Sunday school and went on to bible class when I was a bit older. I readily believed in God and Jesus and believed that the Bible was the Word of God. At that particular church I was encouraged to accept Jesus as my saviour. I did this but I went through the rest of my school days not feeling any different to other kids and wondering if I really was a Christian. I knew about baptism in water and knew that it was something I hadn't done. When I left school that was it for churches. I didn't attend anywhere but still said prayers most nights.

My life was like a lot of people in the world; drinking, smoking, gambling and swearing. I was particularly addicted to having a bet on the horses and was down at the TAB regularly. Although I didn't like swearing, I couldn't help myself. In late 1991 I was witnessed to and was interested enough to go to a Friday night meeting at the Perth Revival Centre. I enjoyed what I heard and the people were friendly. I decided that I would go to the Sunday meeting and if I found it to my liking again I would get baptised. I took my bathers with me on the Sunday and put my hand up for baptism. After I got baptised I didn't particularly feel any different, but I was encouraged to pray for the Holy Spirit. A few hours later while praying with one of the brothers I burst out speaking in a language that I had never learned. It was an

overwhelming experience. I had a grin on my face from ear to ear and I felt great. I now knew without a doubt that I knew the Lord. On 22 December 1991, I can truly testify to being 'born again'. Shortly after, I witnessed to a lady who came along to a few meetings and was then baptised and filled with the Holy Spirit. She is now my wife. Robyn has five children, four of which are spirit-filled as well. The last eight years of my life have been the best. The Lord is truly gracious in saving me and giving me a new and wonderful life.

Martin Freer, Perth RE, Australia

If you're feeling down and blue,
And it seems your life's floated away,
Don't blame anyone else or God,
It was you who ran away.

You ran away far from all your fears,
And tried to hide from God,
But then you found God was everywhere,
And you weren't all on your tod.

The Lord will always forgive you,
He's willing to forget,
So turn around my good friend,
And go back and pay your debt.

Katie Waldron, Exeter RE, UK



Forsake not the Fellowship

JANUARY

- Sat 06 – **FREE**
Fri 12 – Prayer Eve
Sat 13 – **PRAYER & FAST**
Meet 2pm/Welch's
Sat 20 – **SEDGEMOOR SPLASH**
Meet 12pm/Entrance
Sun 21 – **SLIDES : America in Prophecy**
Sat 27 – **FREE**
Sun 28 – **BASICS : Repentance & Baptism**

FEBRUARY

- Fri 02 – Prayer Eve
Sat 03 – **OUTREACH (POOLE)**
Meet 10am/Waldron's
Sat 10 – **FREE**
Fri 16 – Prayer Eve
Sat 17 – **OUTREACH**
Meet 2pm/Boots
Sun 21 – **BASICS : Holy Spirit & Tongues**
Fri 23 – Prayer Eve
Sat 24 – **OUTREACH & VIDEO EVE**
Meet 5pm/Welch's
Sun 21 – **SLIDES : Worship of Mary**

Revival Meetings in the South West (UK)

SUNDAYS at 2.00PM & 5.00PM

Clyst St. George Village Hall, Clyst St. George, Exeter, Devon.

(Nearest Bus Route : No.57. Alight at the roundabout of Bridge Hill and A376 Exmouth Road)

WEDNESDAYS at 7.45PM

In your local area.

PASTOR RAY WELCH (Exeter, Devon) **Tel/Fax : (01395) 446496**

MARC WALDRON (Poole, Dorset) **Tel : (01202) 744263**

www.revivalfellowship.org

Please contribute all articles to the Editors

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