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## The Steady Drift from Evangelicalism Inside the “Insider Movement” and More

by Gary E. Gilley with M. Kurt Goedelman

In the 1970s, there was a consensus among Evangelicals that Roman Catholicism taught a false gospel and therefore those within the Church of Rome (at least those believing Catholic doctrine) were in need of evangelism. Some mission organizations focused much, if not all, of their efforts on Roman Catholic countries throughout the world. The idea that Catholics were not truly Christians began to erode as various evangelical leaders stepped up to challenge this view and as others actually defected from their Protestant roots to Roman or Eastern Orthodoxy.

This was followed by a major shift, at least in the minds of many, when in 1994 Charles Colson and Father John Neuhaus united. These leaders from both traditions formulated their now famous *Evangelicals and Catholics Together* document which, in essence, stated

that while differences remained between the two branches of Christendom, it was time that we recog-

nized one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. Author and professor James White emphasizes its appeal and stresses its danger:

*“Evangelicals and Catholics Together* seeks to provide a common ground for united social action by Roman Catholics and Protestants. Everyone can agree that we live in a decadent society and that all who share a common morality have a special bond on that level. But I have to ask: What is the greatest power available to Christians? Is it a ‘moral consensus,’ or is it as

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