



PERSONAL FREEDOM OUTREACH

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EDITOR: KEITH A. MORSE

newsletter

WIERWILLE BORROWS ...

A Challenge to the Originality of His Teaching on "Receiving the Holy Spirit"

by JOHN P. JUEDES

Victor Paul Wierwille, founder of The Way International, says that he resolutely searched for the power of the Holy Spirit after he left his pastorate in Van Wert, Ohio, in 1944. He says his quest was finally fulfilled when he spoke in tongues in Tulsa, Okla., under the ministry of the Rev. John Edwin Stiles Sr., who was an important figure in the American charismatic movement.

Although one would expect that Stiles would have had a profound influence on Wierwille, "the teacher" never again mentions him in Way literature.

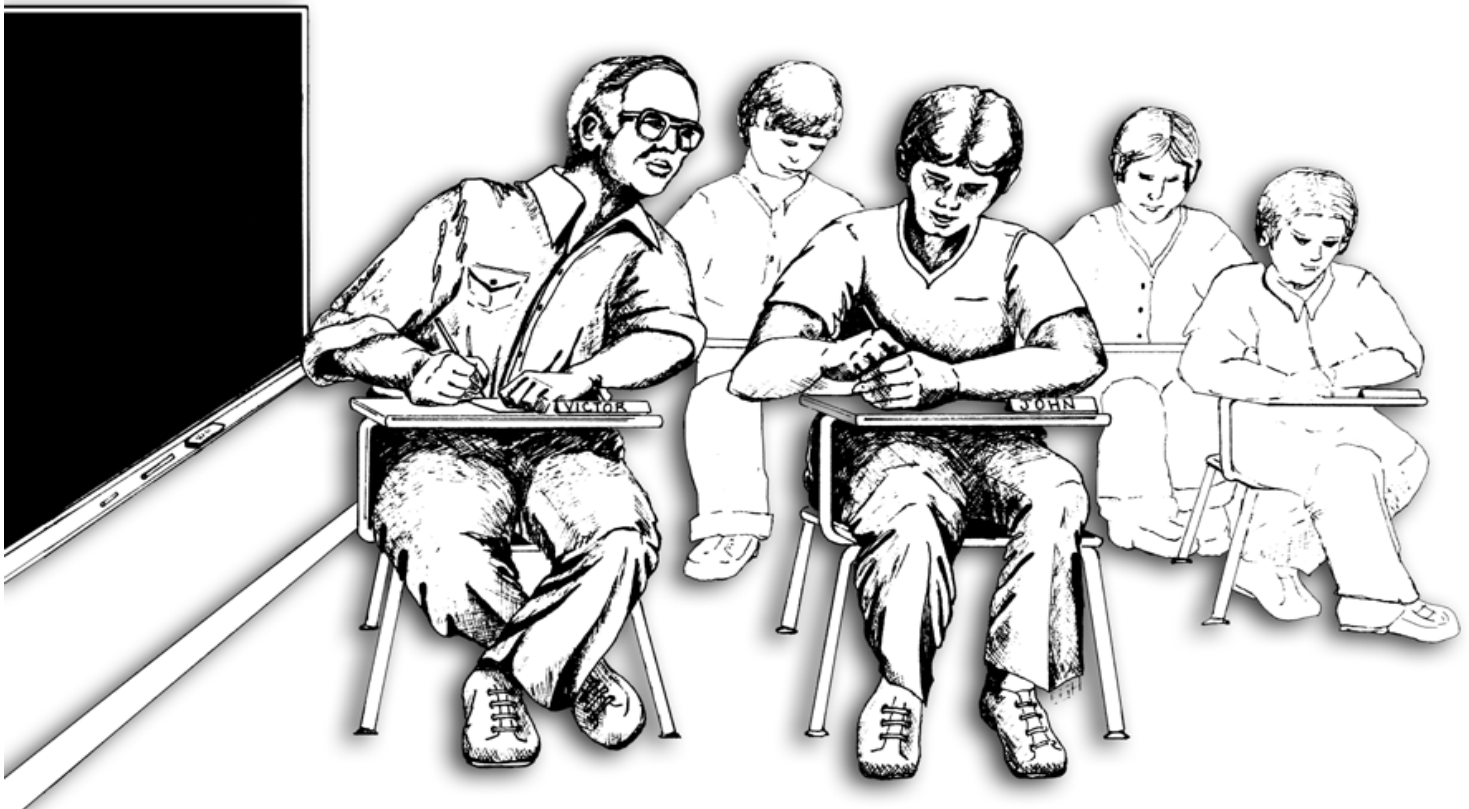
In spite of this silence, we find that Wierwille has established a few close ties with Stiles.

Stiles was born in northern California in 1891. He studied and taught at the University of California and was a farmer.

In the late 1920s, he decided to become a full-time minister. He explored the Foursquare denomination, but settled into the Assemblies of God. He served as a pastor in Woodland, Calif., for two years and in Hayward, Calif., for 17 more.

The Assemblies of God and other pentecostal bodies had long taught that a Christian could receive the Holy Spirit only by "tarrying" and pleading with God until agonizing insights and personal worthiness were rewarded with an experience of the Spirit.

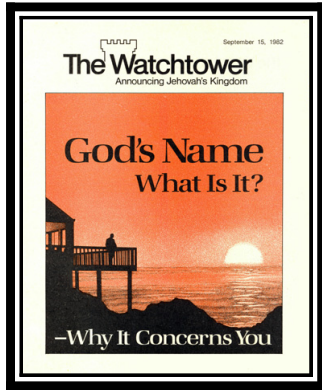
(continued on page 10)



NEWS UPDATE



Johnny Walker Red advertisement appearing in August 16, 1982, *People* magazine.



The Watchtower magazine for September 15, 1982.

WATCHTOWER BORROWS FROM OTHER SPIRITS

The most devastating news to the Watchtower Society in recent years has been the discovery of its use of a spirit medium (Johannes Greber) to back its "a god" interpretation of John 1:1 and its theology concerning our Lord Jesus Christ.

Recently, a new discovery made by former Witnesses David and Penny Reed has revealed that the Watchtower is currently borrowing from other "spirits." The cover of *The Watchtower* magazine for September 15, 1982, has made use of a whisky ad, highlighting again the Society's theft and misuse of copyrighted material.

An advertisement for Johnny Walker Red whisky appeared in the Aug. 6, 1982, *People* magazine; the Sept. 6, 1982, *Time* magazine; and in some editions of the September *Reader's Digest*.

Gordon Bryden of Gospel Truth Ministries said that a spokesman for the advertising department of Somerset Importers, Ltd., importers of the scotch, was reportedly interested in the Watchtower's use of its copyrighted photograph, but declined to say whether a lawsuit would follow.

The Watchtower was careful to alter its rendering of the ad by cropping in tighter and removing one of the people from the original photograph. However, when the cover of *The Watchtower* is laid over the ad from either *People* or *Time*, it can be clearly seen that the art work was traced. This discredits the Watchtower official's claim that its artist just drew the same picture by coincidence, as they tried to tell Reed.

One would think that the editor of *The Watchtower* magazine, Jehovah God, would certainly know better than to let the cover of his recent magazine contain a stolen whisky ad!

—MKG



SCIENTOLOGY FOUNDER BELIEVED "DEAD OR MENTALLY INCOMPETENT"

The oldest son of Church of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard believes that his father is either dead or mentally incompetent, according to a petition filed in Superior Court in Riverside, Calif.

The son, Ronald E. DeWolf, also claims in the petition that church officials have stolen millions of dollars, gems and securities from his 71-year-old father or from his estate in the past year.

A hearing on DeWolf's position was scheduled for Dec. 30, 1982.

DeWolf has asked that he be named trustee over his father's affairs in order to protect the assets.

"The only way he [Hubbard] can contest all of this is to show up physically in court," DeWolf said. "But I expect he may have trouble doing that because I don't think he is alive."

DeWolf's petition also alleges that his father was a heavy drug user who wrote his most important books and articles while "saturated" with cocaine and other drugs.

Moreover, DeWolf's petition claims, his father suffered from venereal disease most of his adult life and was mentally ill for decades.

According to DeWolf, Hubbard's beliefs came from black magic and satanic theories associated with the Order of Templars Orientalis and its founder, Aleister Crowley.

DeWolf, a former Scientologist, changed his name from L. Ron Hubbard Jr.

—KAM



NEW MORMON BIBLE

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has printed its own version of the King James Bible.

At 2,448 pages, this Bible, called by the Mormons the "most comprehensive compilation of scriptural information about Jesus ever assembled" has 842 pages of appendices, maps and cross references.

An Associated Press article recently reported that the Layman's National Bible Committee, an interfaith group, has endorsed the work, calling it an "outstanding service to the Bible cause."

The publication is said to have been seven years in the making.

—MKG



THE POT CALLS THE KETTLE BLACK

During the past few months, the Watchtower Society has given readers of its *Awake!* magazine exposes of other cults. As the old saying goes, people who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

On page 25 of the Dec. 22, 1982, issue of *Awake!*, an article on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints says that Mormons must cope with "frustration, disappointment and depression."

It continues, "The suicide rate of both adults and teenagers in Utah is also above the national average."

Witnesses should take a look at a few published reports concerning their own mental well-being. These reports say that three to sixteen times as many Jehovah's Witnesses suffer mental illness as do non-Witnesses. Witnesses also have a higher suicide rate. And if one views the Witnesses' ban on blood transfusions as a form of suicide, the rate goes even higher.

This same article also takes issue with the LDS doctrine of plural gods, while failing to mention its own "big God (Jehovah) - little god (Jesus)" theology.

The Sept. 8, 1982, *Awake!* criticizes the Rev. Sun Myung Moon and his Unification Church for spiritistic practices. The Watchtower claims that spirit communication "can only be demons, wicked spirits who have been misleading and abusing gullible men for thousands of years."

Evidently some of these "gullible men" are on staff at the Watchtower headquarters. There are seven known references to spirit medium Johannes Greber's translation of the New

NEWS UPDATE

Testament used to support Watchtower theology.

The *Awake!* article also questions Moon's view that Jesus failed his mission on earth and that people should look to Moon as the Messiah. Witnesses should note that this same form of doctrine is found within their publications, as the "wheatlike anointed brothers" are the ones to whom Witnesses must look for their salvation (*The Watchtower*, Aug. 1, 1981, pg. 26).

The past few issues of *Awake!* have broken years of Watchtower silence on other cults. May we suggest that the *Awake!* writers next analyze the heretical teachings of The Way International. For starters, they could look at the Way's teaching that Jesus is not God and that he was killed on a stake, not a cross.

—MKG



MOON GOES HOLLYWOOD

After successful ventures in religion, tuna fishing and daily newspapers, the Rev. Sun Myung Moon has failed in the movie business.

Inchon, a \$48 million movie based on Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Korean War victory at Inchon Harbor, was a box-office bomb.

Newsweek magazine called it the "worst movie ever made," a "dog," a "turkey the size of Godzilla" and "a grotesque footnote in movie history."

Even the *Washington Times*, Moon's own publication, panned the film.

The film starred Sir Laurence Olivier, Ben Gazzara, Richard Roundtree, and Jacqueline Bisset. Seer Jeanne Dixon was hired as the film's spiritual adviser, predicting that the film would be significant and very successful. However, Mrs. Dixon resigned from the project upon learning that the film was backed by Moon's Unification Church.

Begun in 1978, the project endured several difficulties. Cast member David Janssen died, Japan's Toho Studio withdrew as co-producer, a typhoon struck during filming, and a village woman was accidentally killed during the chaos of location shooting.

Adding to the difficulties was the necessity to give director's instructions in four languages to the international cast and crew.

The film tried a Hollywood first — a million-dollar sweepstakes as part of its estimated \$20 million promotional budget, offering a first prize of a Rolls Royce and \$100,000.

Protesters picketed theaters showing the film, warning potential viewers that Moon was its backer, adding to the film's box-office troubles.

—MKG



UPDATE ON THE SHROUD

The October 1982 *Discoverer* magazine reported that Walter McCrone has been forced off the Shroud of Turin Research Project. McCrone is a microanalyst, microscopist and a leading detector of forgeries.

The article, "Unraveling The Shroud of Turin," written by Natalie Angier, reports that McCrone is convinced the cloth is a fake and even the STURP members admit their theories are just that — theories.

McCrone asserts that the microscopic investigations which he performed revealed paint pigment, tempera, and vermilion.

A previously unknown and unreported discrepancy on the shroud revealed by the article is the observation of distorted, elongated fingers on the right hand of the image. The fingers are

about 4 inches too long and described as looking like "stretched taffy." In trying to account for this STURP member Giles Carter suggests that Christ's finger bones emitted X-rays. Why the left hand did not emit them is not explained.

Another damaging observation in the article is the quote by STURP watcher Dr. Marvin Mueller. He says, "The STURP team was 'self-selected.' They are trying to prove the shroud was authentic. That was their goal."

The 33 STURP members began their investigation of the shroud in 1978, but have yet to get permission from the Roman Catholic Church to obtain a sample for carbon 14 dating.

—GRF



Jehovah's Witnesses from six surrounding states gathered to erect the new Festus, Mo., Kingdom Hall on Nov. 13-14.

JWS ERECT KINGDOM HALL IN 24 HOURS

Throughout the Midwest, buildings are springing up overnight! Jehovah's Witnesses from several states have converged on prepoored concrete slabs in several cities to build new Kingdom Halls in a single weekend. Work begins on Saturday morning and is completed for the schedule of meetings on Sunday.

A Kingdom Hall built in Festus, Mo., on Nov. 13-14, 1982, covers about 4300 square feet. It has a brick exterior, painted and wallpapered interior, carpeting, central air conditioning and heat and a 240-seat auditorium in addition to the standard library and magazine rooms. The Festus congregation paid for the materials. Witnesses and other volunteers did the work for free.

Jehovah's Witnesses recently built Kingdom Halls in other cities, including Memphis, Tenn.; Manhattan, Kan.; Lebanon, Mo.; Elk City, Okla.; Sequin, Texas; and Lake Charles, La. Visiting crews helped the local congregation build the halls. Prefabricated materials are not used. More than 60 Kingdom Halls have been built this way.

So take note! The empty lot near your home today may be a Kingdom Hall tomorrow.

—MKG



WHAT'S A MORMON TO DO?

It is never surprising to discover that a cult's doctrines and teachings change over the years. Some cult leaders must devote much of their energy to covering their predecessors' doctrinal tracks and even their own.

(continued on page 9)

4TH INTERNATIONAL WITNESSES NOW FOR JESUS CONVENTION



The convention was held at Blue Mountain Christian Retreat.

by M. KURT GOEDELMAN

The Fourth International Convention Of Witnesses Now For Jesus demonstrated that those still in the grasp of the Watchtower Society have someone who loves them.

There were many new visitors at this year's gathering at New Ringgold, Pa., many of whom had left the Watchtower Society in the past year. Their testimonies proved that there really is life outside the Watchtower Society, something that the Society claims is non-existent.

Todd Ellis, his wife Betty and other family members told how Todd was expelled from the Watchtower organization for growing a beard. Thus "Jehovah's Theocratic Organization" chased this family from its midst and into the arms of a loving Savior, who doesn't care if one has facial hair or not (1 Samuel 16:7).

Sherry Miller told another story of a changed life. Desperate and confused as a Jehovah's Witness, she contemplated suicide. At the urging of her parents, she spent an evening with Bill and Joan Cetnar. She learned that there is hope in Jesus Christ.

She is now a student at Geneva College, studying for the ministry.

Carl Mickens, who was a Witness for 30 years, told of how he found numerous conflicts and contradictions leading to his resignation from the Society.

Don and Janet Nelson told how they and 25 others left the Watchtower Society. Don served time in a federal penitentiary for refusing to serve in the draft, graduated from the Watchtower Society's Gilead School's 26th class and served as a circuit servant in Brazil. Eventually, the Nelsons learned that they were in darkness and turned to Christ.

There was also plenty of fine teaching at the convention. Rev. Gary Derechinsky, Area Director for American Board of Missions To The Jews, emphasized scripturally that Jesus is indeed Yahweh.

Dr. Robert Morey, author of *How To Answer A Jehovah's Witness*, examined the question "does God's love include eternal punishment?," giving examples of the many misinterpretations of Scripture used by the Witnesses in an attempt to support their belief in the annihilation of the unsaved.

Dr. Robert Countess, author of the new book, *The Jehovah's Witnesses' New Testament*, gave example after example of the prejudices found within the Society's *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*. Personal Freedom Outreach's latest presentation "Cracks in the Watchtower" also was shown.

A Jehovah's Witness couple in attendance received Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord! Thomas and Rachel Sharp, of Jackson, Mich., learned of this year's convention after watching *The John Ankerberg Show* with the Cetnars as guests. The Cetnars' presentation on the Christian talk show showed them that they were not alone in their doubts concerning the Watchtower Society. They encountered many obstacles to their plans. They weren't sure they would make the journey until the night before the convention.

Receiving a clear understanding of the Watchtower Society, they renounced their involvement in it and received Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

The Sharps did not leave the Society immediately and were trying to tell the good news of Jesus to as many of their Witness friends as they could. Tom and Rachel will certainly appreciate our prayers for their continued growth in the Lord.

The next convention will be Oct. 21-23. Make plans now to attend; accommodations are going fast. Write to Blue Mountain Christian Retreat, Box 118A, RD#2, New Ringgold, Pa. 17960 for reservations and additional details.

Personal Freedom Outreach is making available cassette tapes from this convention. (See page 8 for details).

Grant Lindsey, Houston, Texas, tells the audience that there is indeed life outside the Watchtower Society.

Watchman Fellowship Director David Henke impersonates an automobile bumper.

Dr. Robert H. Countess, author of *The Jehovah's Witnesses' New Testament* explains the many biases he has found in the *New World Translation*.



A Letter to The Watchtower



In our quest for a reply from the Watchtower Society as to why it uses a spirit medium (Johannes Greber) to endorse its theology, the following certified letter was sent to Bethel several months back.

The letter was recorded as being received by the Society on September 30, 1982, and signed for by a Watchtower representative, Ernest Rosa. As of press time, there has been no response.

Every one of our readers and every Jehovah's Witness should know that Watchtower leaders seek the aid of spirits to endorse their theology and that these same leaders lie and give misinformation when questioned or confronted with the facts.

We encourage our readers to write a similar letter to Watchtower headquarters, seeking information as to why both the demons and the Watchtower say that Jesus is "a god."

PERSONAL FREEDOM OUTREACH
P.O. BOX 26062
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63136

WATCHTOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY
25 Columbia Heights
Brooklyn, New York 11201
September 27, 1982

Dear Friends:

During a recent review of publications by your religious organization, the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, it has been discovered that the use of a "New Testament" translation by a former Roman Catholic priest has been cited in an effort to lend credibility to Jehovah's Witness theology.

Many of the references to Mr. Greber's work seek endorsement of the 'a god' translation of John 1:1, as Mr. Greber's rendering is strikingly similar to that of your own "New World Translation."

In the event you are unfamiliar with Watchtower references to Greber they can be found in the following publications: **Make Sure Of All Things** (1965 Ed), page 489; "The Word Who Is He? According To John", page 5; **Aid To Bible Understanding**, page 1669; and the **Watchtower** magazine for September 15, 1962, page 554.

Also other references have appeared from time to time utilizing Greber's interpretation of Matthew 27:52-53, as is found in **Aid To Bible Understanding**, page 1134 and in the **Watchtower** magazines for October 15, 1975 and April 15, 1976, pages 640 and 231 respectively.

The reason I am directing this letter to you is to receive a response as to why you use Greber's work to support your theology? This may seem like a peculiar question, however when one checks into the source of Mr. Greber's work, we find he is a spirit medium. The fact that he is a medium is not hidden from public knowledge, but rather is the very heart of the Greber message.

I have enclosed a photocopy of a flyer furnished by the Johannes Greber Memorial Foundation which explains briefly his mediumship. Also this flyer gives insight into how Greber allegedly made his 'New Testament' translation. I have marked this flyer as "Figure #1" for your convenience.

In addition to Greber's 'New Testament' he has written a book entitled **Communication With The Spirit World Of God**, which contains an autobiographical segment relating how he became interested in communication with spirits. I know that the Watchtower Society is aware that this publication exists, as they have purchased a copy of this very work from the Greber Memorial Foundation. This is proven by the enclosed photocopied Watchtower letter (marked "Figure #2"), which has also been provided by the Greber Foundation.

Thus I restate my question as to why the writers of Watchtower material are in use of a double standard. That is, numerous Watchtower publications roll off your presses instructing members to have nothing to do with spiritistic works, then they themselves quote from spiritistic material to endorse the theology of Jehovah's Witnesses.

(The Watchtower publications condemning spiritism can easily be found, in fact one of the most recent books, **You Can Live Forever In Paradise On Earth** provides for its readers a graphic color pictorial of Acts 19:19-20, where early Christians set "a fine example for us today" by burning their books on spiritism [see "Figure #3"]. Other references are found in **Make Sure Of All Things** [1965 Ed], page 468ff and the entire booklet of "Unseen Spirits Do They Help Us? or Do They Harm Us?")

Also in closing I would very much appreciate your comments concerning the enclosed photocopied Watchtower letter to Mr. Keith Morse (marked "Figure #4"). The Society informed Mr. Morse that they do not know where to obtain a Greber 'New Testament' translation and only furnished him with an out-of-date address. Take careful note of the date of the letter to Mr. Morse (December 10, 1981) and then note the date of the letter to the Greber Foundation (December 20, 1980). This proves that the Society did have an up-to-date address, but provided bogus information to Mr. Morse's inquiry.

I ask that you please not pass my letter over or discard it before a reply is sent. I will be anxiously awaiting your prompt response.

Sincerely,
M. Kurt Goedelman,
Director

Dungeons and Dragons

TROUBLE FOR A MERE \$10.95

by ANDREW L. PARIS

Ten dollars and ninety-five cents doesn't buy much these days. However, it will buy a ticket into the fascinating and possibly dangerous world of Dungeons & Dragons.

The "ticket" is a small cardboard box containing a 48-page instruction book and several dice with six, seven, eight or more sides. The world of Dungeons & Dragons is inhabited by a ravenous monster who consumes vast amounts of time and money and can drive its victims crazy.

D&D, as it is called, is the invention of two military-game enthusiasts, Gary Gygax and Dave Arneson. Gygax operates TSR Hobbies Inc. in Lake Geneva, Wis., the manufacturer of the D&D game and paraphernalia and several other fantasy games.

D&D has grown from an obscure pastime enjoyed by a few (\$50,000 in sales in 1975) into one of the most popular games of the 1980s. It is estimated that D&D will bring in \$600 million in 1982.

Perhaps sales have mushroomed because the basic package — the dice and introductory book — doesn't take a player very far. True indulgence in the game requires such books as the *Player's Handbook*, *Dungeon Master's Guide*, *The Monster Manual*, and *Deities and Demigods*. Once those books have been mastered, there are more accessories, including ready-made charts for game settings and even intricately detailed and painted figurines for use as game pieces.

While the D&D fad has spread into high schools on down, (there is a TSR game for 5-year-olds called "Fantasy Forest"), its most fanatical devotees are found on college campuses. Campus D&D games received national media attention several years ago when a student at Michigan State University disappeared and some people suggested that he was acting out his D&D role in steam tunnels underneath the campus.

D&D, along with games such as "Tunnels and Trolls," "Chivalry and Sorcery," "RuneQuest" and "Arduin Grimoire," is called a Fantasy Role-Playing game (FRP for short). Explaining them to the uninitiated is difficult, but here we go.

In most FRP games, there is one player appointed the Dungeon Master, who controls the game by drawing up maps, setting the location of treasures, monsters and dungeons, and establishing magical spells. Only the Dungeon Master knows where each of these items is located in the game.

Each player, through his game character, then embarks on a quest for the secret treasure. Combining the adventure of a J.R.R. Tolkien fantasy, the thrill of a Conan the Barbarian adventure and the strategy of wargames, the players try to outwit the Dungeon Master's schemes.

Unlike most games, boards and pieces are unnecessary in D&D. All the action occurs in the Dungeon Master's head. He calls the shots and tells each player how the game is going.

Of course, the Dungeon Master is bound by some rules. At the outset of the game, each player chooses what type of character he will have — a druid, cleric, elf, magic user or assassin. A roll of the dice determines a character's ethical orientation (ranging from very good to very evil) and special abilities.

The game is quite complicated, as a glance at any of the aforementioned manuals will prove. A D&D player can spend hours just studying the game manuals.

The investment of time in D&D does pay off. A player's powers of imagination improve as he pictures the characters' action in his mind. Creative thinking is developed and definitely pays off in D&D.

For this reason, many schools have introduced D&D into their curricula. Such a game is often the thing that brings certain bright but shy students out of their shells and into class participation.

However, a closer look will show that the potential hazards of D&D far outweigh its benefits. Ministers have seen what this game has done to the lives of many Christian youths whom they have counseled. It has never helped the growth of the Christian. It has always stunted that spiritual growth.

There are four reasons why D&D is harmful:

1. *It emphasizes violence.*

In even the most basic levels, the players often confront violence that would make an R-rated Clint Eastwood movie look tame.

In the November 1980 *Psychology Today* magazine, in an article called "Confessions of a Dungeon Master," Dr. John Holmes says that the "level of violence in this make-believe world runs high. There is hardly a game in which the player does not indulge in murder, arson, torture, rape or highway robbery."

Of course, this violence is all imaginary, but Christians should remember that our imaginations can have a powerful effect on our attitudes and on our lives. The Bible says of man: "For as he thinks within himself, so he is" (Proverbs 23:7); and "The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart" (Luke 6:45).

People who spend their time dwelling on the violence and evil deeds prevalent in a D&D game run the risk of letting those attitudes prevail in their lives. We humans, as sinners, are already inclined toward evil (Jeremiah 17:9). We don't need any more encouragement.

The game rewards violence. In the words of Rett Kipp, a college student who devotes at least 40 hours a week to the game: "In D&D, it's better to be evil. You get more advantages being evil and it's easier to go on and not have to think of what to do and what not to do. If for some reason you had the idea in your head that you no longer trust someone, if you chop him down from behind — as an evil character there's no penalty for it" (*Cornerstone*, Vol. 9, Issue 52, pg. 14).

In real life, there is a penalty for such behavior. The danger of D&D is that some impressionable youths will lose track of the distinction between the game and real life.

Some day, each person will have to answer to a creator who is righteous and just. He sees no benefit in our being evil.

The Christian should heed Paul's advice:

"Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything is worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things" (Philippians 4:8, cf. Colossians 3:1-2).

2. *It emphasizes occultism.*

All FRP games include plenty of occult subjects: demons, witches, gnomes and spell-casting to name a few. Gygax, in the *Player's Handbook*, says D&D is best described as "Swords and Sorcery" (pg. 7). That is, the game stresses violence and occultism. Furthermore, he says that "most spells have a verbal component, and so must be uttered" (pg. 40). The players memorize such magical formulas and recite them during the game. In most of his books, Gygax has included hundreds of

spells and incantations; there are even some instructions on how to raise a familiar spirit, seance style!

Gygax claims that he made up the "spells" and "seance" incantations by himself. Whether or not they are genuine incantations, no Christian has any business reciting them.

As a result of the occult elements, the game has become a major occultic influence in America. It cultivates a curiosity in the occult and may lead some to indulge in more serious study of sorcery and related matters.

This has been acknowledged by occult practitioners themselves. Phillip E. Bonewitz, the only man ever to receive a B.A. in sorcery from the University of California, has recently written a book designed to show D&D players how they can go all the way into real sorcery, titled *Authentic Thaumaturgy: A Professional Occultist on Improving the Realism of Magic Systems in Fantasy Stimulating Games* (Chaosium, Inc., Berkeley, Calif., 1980). The book is now out of print.

The Bible condemns all forms of occultism as an "abomination" (Deuteronomy 18:9-14, Galatians 5:20, Exodus 22:18, Isaiah 47:9-12; Leviticus 20:6, 27). No Christian should dabble in occult practices — even the make-believe ones of D&D.

3. D&D emphasizes paganism.

In the *Deities and Demigods* book, one will find the following comments:

"No fantasy world is complete without the gods, mighty deities who influence the fates of men and move mortals about like chess-pieces in their obscure games of power ..." (pg. 105).

The book also says:

"Serving a deity is a significant part of D&D, and all player-characters should have a patron god. Alignment assumes its full importance when tied to the worship of a deity" (pg. 5).

Among the deities are the Egyptian gods Ra, Isis, and Osiris; Hindu deities Varuna and Vishnu; Babylonian gods, American Indian gods, and Norse idols. Other beings commonly referred to are elves, ogres, satyrs, and goblins.

While the players don't really bow to worship such heathen idols, we must face the fact that those who have submitted to the one true and living God ought not even to play a game that demands service to a deity — even in "harmless fun."

4. It is addictive.

D&D is a time-consuming game. Gygax himself says that, "The most extensive requirement is time" (*D&D Basic Manual*, 1979, pg. 3).

Maira Johnston writes: "Good or evil, it becomes a compulsive force in the lives of those who play" (*New West*, Aug. 25, 1980, pg. 34).

The Dungeon Master must devote hours of preparation time before the game even begins: the complex manuals, map-drawing and priming of the imagination require enormous amounts of work.

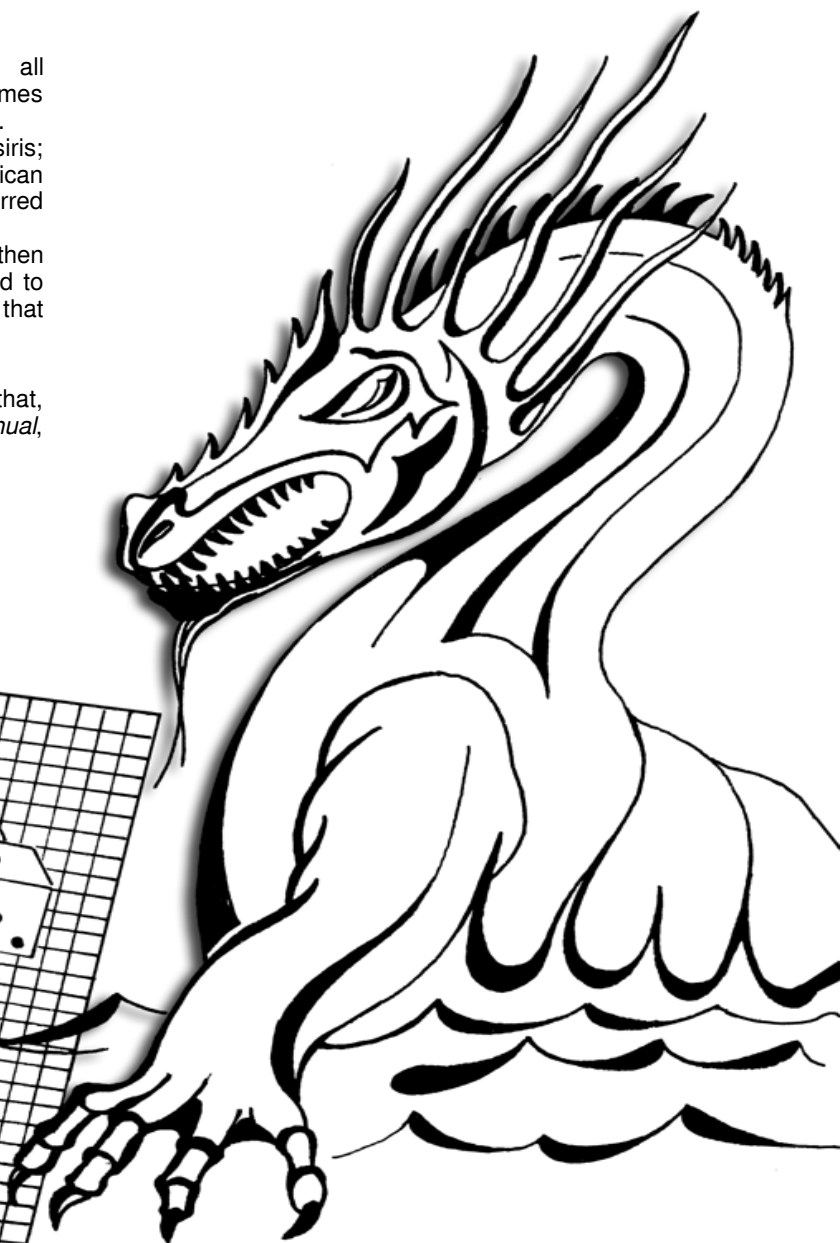
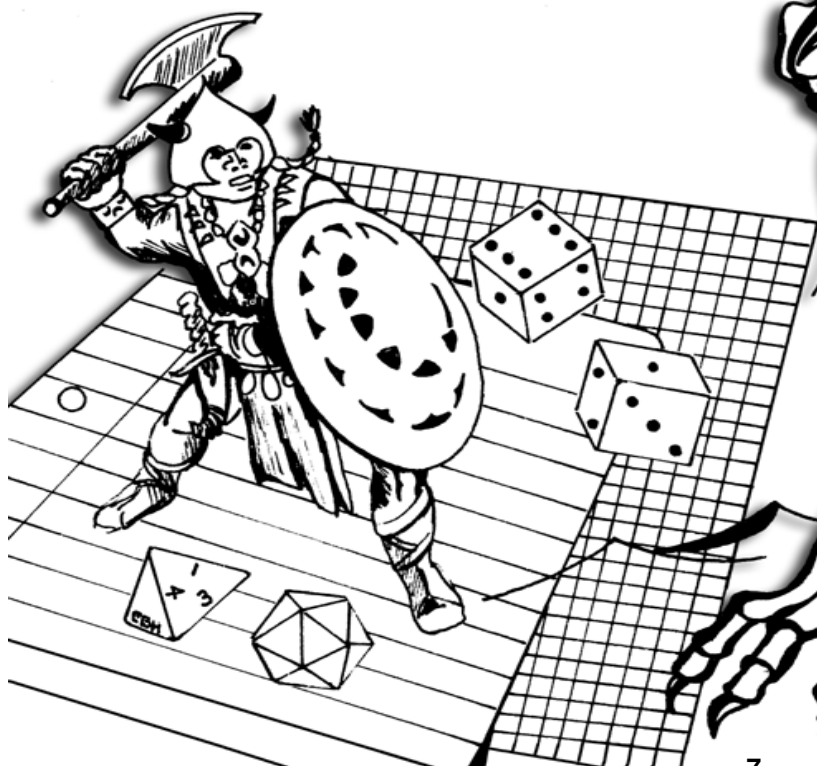
The addictive nature of D&D involves a distortion of reality as well. D&D devotees sometimes have difficulty drawing a line between the real world and the game world. Holmes says:

"Moreover, just as Dungeons & Dragons players sometimes begin to think of their characters as real persons with a separate existence of their own, the Dungeon Master sometimes begins to think, 'I wonder what is really beyond the Southern Jungle,' forgetting that he alone has the power to put something there. The make-believe world assumes an eerie sense of reality" (*Psychology Today*, November 1980, pg. 93).

One D&D player added these thoughts:

"It's hazardous ... The more time you spend in your fantasy world, the more you want to walk away from the burdensome decisions in life ... the more I play D&D, the more I want to get away from the world. The whole thing is getting very bad" (*New West*, pg. 38).

(continued on page 8)



(from page 7)

Even D&D enthusiasts recognize the danger. The publisher of one FRP game magazine says, "The stuff that makes me nervous is over identification with characters. I've seen people have fits, yell for 15 minutes, hurl dice at a grand piano when their character dies" (New West, pg. 39).

Holmes notes in his Psychology Today article that sometimes when a game character is killed off, the person will suffer

"psychic shock and may go into depression" (pg. 93).

The dangers are obvious and documented. It is bad enough that D&D emphasizes subjects that are anathema to Christians occultism, paganism and violence. That D&D players devote huge chunks of their time to it makes it all the more dangerous.

The Christian will have a hard time reconciling D&D with Paul's advice in Ephesians 5:15-16:

"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil."

NEW WITNESSING MATERIAL



JUST LIKE BEING THERE!

Convention Chairman Bill Cetnar has asked that Personal Freedom Outreach make available the tapes of testimonies and teachings from this year's convention. The tapes are as follows:

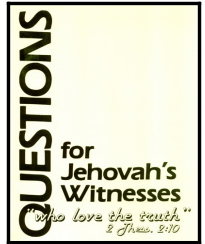
- Tape #1 - Don & Janet Nelson Testimony
Tape #2 - How To Witness To A Jehovah's Witness #1 - Duane Magnani
Tape #3 - Why Were You Looking Forward to 1975? - Gordon Bryden
Tape #4 - David & Penny Reed Testimony
Tape #5 - Jesus Is Yahweh - Rev. Gary Derechinsky
Tape #6 - Carl Mickens Testimony
Tape #7 - How To Witness To A Jehovah's Witness #2 - Duane Magnani
Tape #8 - Todd & Betty Ellis Testimony
Tape #9 - Does God's Love Include Eternal Punishment? - Dr. Robert E. Morey
Tape #10 - What Must I Do To Be Saved? #1 - Bill Cetnar
Tape #11 - What Must I Do To Be Saved? #2 - Bill Cetnar AND Heidi Ignatius Testimony
Tape #12 - Bill & Jean Eason Testimony AND Rick & Maria Hickman Testimony
Tape #13 - Sherry Miller Testimony AND Alex DeMayo Testimony
Tape #14 - The Jehovah's Witnesses' New Testament - Dr. Robert Countess
Tape #15- Regina & Colin Akridge Testimony
Tape #16 - Testimonies & Praise Reports

The cost of the tapes are \$2.00 each or \$30 for the entire set of 16 tapes. Please specify tape number and title when ordering individual cassettes. Postage and handling charges: 1-2 tapes - 50 cents; 3-4 tapes - \$1.00; 5-8 tapes - \$1.40; 9 or more tapes - \$1.75.

QUESTIONS FOR JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES WHO LOVE THE TRUTH

BY BILL CETNAR

A new 68-page booklet which examines the credibility of the Watchtower Society in light of its own standards as well as in the light of Scripture. Contains many valuable photocopies of Watchtower letters and statements. Also this publication contains the testimony of its author.



This booklet has proven to be a most effective tool in active witnessing to members of the Jehovah's Watchtower Society. Price: \$2.95

When ordering, please include 65 cents for postage and handling.



presents... BILL CETNAR

FALSE PROPHETS (VT-100) Vaccinate against the cults. Cetnar, who was a Jehovah's Witness for 22 years, tells how to deal with today's many false prophets. This 58-minute program, recorded live at the First Baptist Church of Ferguson, Mo., is great for Sunday School classes, home-study groups and youth activities. Permission may also be obtained for television broadcasts. Price: \$39.95 (VHS: Beta cassettes can be ordered specially.)

Cult Awareness Program



FS-105 — A new program dealing with massive inner conflicts of the Watchtower Society. This presentation examines Doctrinal Changes; Misquotations and Misrepresentations; Jehovah's Witnesses and Johannes Greber; Is the Watchtower President Fred Franz a Scholar?; and Why Jehovah's Witnesses Were Looking Forward To 1975. In addition, a presentation of the Gospel is made as a closing segment.

This program may be used for Christians who wish to learn ways in which to better approach the Jehovah's Witnesses or for direct viewing by members of the Watchtower Society. 88 Frames. 48 Minute Cassette Narration Tape. \$18.95

This program available in 35mm slide set for \$50.00

(Please add \$1.25 shipping & handling to each order. Allow two weeks for delivery.)

PERSONAL FREEDOM OUTREACH
BEGINS WORK ON NEW CULT AWARENESS PROGRAM:
THE UNIFICATION CHURCH: THE CHRISTIAN VIEW
The staff at PFO has recently begun work on a slide presentation

dealing with the Unification Church. Completion is scheduled for Summer of 1983. We would like to engage the help of our readers by asking for copies of any unusual material concerning the Unification Church which might prove helpful to our project.

WHAT'S A MORMON TO TO?

(from page 3)

Two leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints recently gave differing views on how to handle the problem of changing doctrine.

The result should be much confusion on the part of Mormons desiring to follow their church's teachings. In 1980, Mormon Apostle Ezra Taft Benson told an audience at Brigham Young University that Mormons should concern themselves primarily with the words of the "living prophet," who is the president of the LDS church.

The words of dead prophets, as well as the four standard works (the Bible, *The Book of Mormon*, *Doctrine and Covenants* and *Pearl of Great Price*) can be superseded by the living prophet, Benson said. Benson quoted almost exclusively from the words of dead prophets to support his contention that "the living prophet is more vital to us than the standard works" and that "the living prophet is more important to us than a dead prophet."

Recently, Apostle Bruce R. McConkie presented a conflicting teaching. In a Feb. 19, 1981 letter to BYU professor Eugene England, McConkie said that "prophets are men and they make mistakes. Sometimes they err in doctrine" (pg. 6).

It is to correct such erring statements, McConkie maintains, that the LDS church was given the four standard works. If there were no such standards and rules for correcting prophets when they teach doctrinal errors, "we would believe one thing when one man was president of the church and another thing in the days of his successors" (pg. 6).

It is in this framework that McConkie is able to acknowledge that Brigham Young taught the erroneous doctrine that Adam was the God and creator of this world and "the father of our spirits and our bodies" (pp. 4, 6).

Thus, "Brigham Young erred in some of his statements on the nature and kind of being that God is and as to the position of Adam in the plan of salvation" (pg. 7).

McConkie recognizes that "people who teach false doctrine in the fundamental and basic things will lose their souls." He further agrees that "the nature and kind of being that God is, is one of these fundamentals" (pg. 7).

However, Young is rescued from damnation because "Brigham Young also taught the truth in these fields on other occasions" (pg. 7). McConkie says that God "permits false doctrine to be taught in and out of the Church" as "part of sifting process of mortality" (pg. 7).

"The Lord is finding out what we will believe in spite of the allurements of the world or the philosophies of men," McConkie says (pg. 8).

Therefore, each Mormon must decide for himself whether the living prophet is telling the truth or lying. If he discovers that the authorities are in error, then he must "be silent on the point and leave the event in the hands of the Lord" (pg. 9).

However, if the Mormon accepts the errors as guiding principles, then he will be lost. McConkie therefore warns Prof. England, "in your case, if you single out some of these things and make them the center of your philosophy, and end up being wrong, you will lose your soul."

The substance of McConkie's teaching appears to be as follows:

1. God allows his LDS prophets to teach false doctrines in order to test the spiritual discernment of faithful Mormons.
2. The faithful may support their prophet and "echo" these false teachings — as many of Brigham Young's contemporaries did — but must be careful not really to believe them or they will "lose their souls."
3. If they recognize the falsehood for what it is, they must remain silent so as not to be rebellious. If they speak out against the false teachings of their leaders, they will also lose their souls, even though their own doctrine is sound.
4. The prophet who teaches false doctrine is in no jeopardy if he teaches the truth at least sometimes.
5. The intelligent faithful will not be confused by these contradictory statements, but recognize the game for what it is

and not fall into the trap God has set for them.

6. The not-so-bright faithful will unfortunately either believe the false doctrine and be damned, or try to reconcile the contradictory positions and court damnation.

7. The real difficulty, however, is knowing whether to follow McConkie's instructions or to listen to Benson's teachings. Is Benson setting one of God's traps or is it McConkie who is testing the faithful? How can we know for certain? What's a Mormon to do?

—WPW



THE WAY CLEANS UP

Flyers advertising home-cleaning services were recently distributed in the Dallas, Texas, area. The pamphlets offer the services of "young Christian adults" for odd jobs such as cleaning and laundry.

The group uses the copyrighted name of Wonder Workers and offers references to prospective customers.

The Wonder Workers are members of The Way International. Homeowners should beware of "Christians" bearing mops and buckets.

—MKG



WITNESSES STRAIN TO BACK UP THEOLOGY

Case upon case can be cited in which the Watchtower Society has vainly used Scripture passages in attempts to endorse its theology. The August 15, 1982, *Watchtower* magazine contains one of the Society's latest bids to disprove the doctrine of hell.

On page 14, the Watchtower writers cite Matthew 10:29-31 to "reason" away the hellfire doctrine. This text deals with Jesus' saying that even the sparrows will not fall to the ground apart from the Father's knowledge. The article concludes for its readers that since our heavenly Father has deep concern for His creatures — even sparrows — "surely He would not approve of torturing humans in this life or in a life to come."

However, an honest examination of the cited verses in their proper context shows something quite different. Jesus, in teaching his disciples and speaking of coming persecution told them, "do not fear those who kill the body, but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." Jesus then uses the illustration of the sparrows to show that believers' lives will not be taken from them apart from the Father's knowledge.

The denial of the existence of hell is one of the main attractions of Watchtower theology. These sincere, but deceived "Bible students" try to steer people from understanding the fate that awaits those who deny our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christians should constantly be mindful that the Church was purchased with God's own blood (Acts 20:28) which saves us from the eternal fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41).

Those who truly study the Scriptures apart from Watchtower commentaries will find that the Bible clearly speaks of a literal hell, but also provides sinful man with an escape.

—WPW

PASS IT ALONG

If you have a friend who would like to have a copy of this newsletter simply pass along to him yours. If you will then send us your name and address, your friend's name and address, and a 20¢ stamp we will gladly replace your issue via First Class mail. Your friend will be placed on our mailing list so he (she) will receive all future issues of our Newsletters.

Influenced by Howard Carter, Stiles bucked tradition when he insisted that the Bible taught that the Holy Spirit was received by simple faith, not by wrestling with God. Incensed denominational officials reprimanded Stiles, accusing him of leading people into a "light" or "unself-conscious" experience with the Holy Spirit. Stiles left the parish ministry around 1946 to travel and spread his message of receiving the Spirit by faith alone.

In 1959, Stiles estimated that he had led 10,000 people into receiving the Holy Spirit with evidence of speaking in tongues, including about 1,000 in an eight-month tour of Canada.

Moved by a lack of biblical teaching on receiving the Holy Spirit, Stiles published a pamphlet called "How to Receive the Holy Spirit" for free distribution after his meetings. Stiles also published a book called *The Gift of the Holy Spirit* in 1948. This book told how to receive the Holy Spirit by faith, evidenced by speaking in tongues.

The book became a classic, especially among those who had been frustrated by strained attempts to receive the Spirit. The book went through 10 printings totaling over 50,000 copies.

Given the wide distribution of Stiles' literature, Wierwille's intense search for the power of the Holy Spirit, and Wierwille's personal contact with Stiles, it would be a surprise to find that Wierwille had never come upon his writings.

Accordingly, one wonders why Wierwille never mentions Stiles' publications in footnotes or anywhere else. The similarities between portions of Stiles' *The Gift of the Holy Spirit* and Wierwille's *Receiving the Holy Spirit Today* (First edition, 1954) suggest one reason for the silence.

We invite you to examine the following excerpts from these two books, with an eye for similarities in ideas and terminology:

PARALLELS

V.P. Wierwille
RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT
TODAY, 1972

Chap 5 — "How to Receive the Holy Spirit" (pp. 55-62).

Acts 2:38: (Quote, KJV) (pg. 56). If we get anything because we have done something good or virtuous, then it is a reward for merit (pg. 56).

Luke 11:13: (Quote, KJV) (pg. 57). This was spoken before Pentecost. After Pentecost the idea of giving the holy spirit is never once mentioned (pg. 57).

It is no longer a question of God's doing His part; He has done it. It is now a question of your doing your part to receive (pg. 57).

The word "receive" applies to action on the part of the one who desires to get something (pg. 57).

Since we cannot speak two languages at once, we must lay aside all thought of speaking words in a language which we know and operate by our understanding (pp. 57-58).

I want you particularly to notice the words "Ministereth to you." When I teach an audience, I "minister" The Word to them, I give out The Word (pg. 59).

J.E. Stiles
THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
1948

Chap. XII — "How to Receive the Holy Spirit" (pp. 108-121).

Acts 2:38, (Quote, KJV) (pg. 109). If you work for something, or get good enough to merit it, then the thing becomes wages, or a reward for merit (pg. 109).

Luke 11:13, (Quote, KJV) (pg. 108). Notice that these words concerning God giving the Holy Spirit, were spoken before Pentecost, but after that memorable day we do not find the Bible speaking about giving the Spirit to men (pg. 108).

...now it is not a question of God's willingness to give the Spirit, but of the Christian's willingness to receive Him (pg. 109).

You see the word "receive" applies to the act of the one who gets something, and not to an act of the giver (pg. 109).

Since you know that it is impossible to speak two languages at the same time, therefore, the only possible position of faith that you can take is this; I will not even whisper a word of my natural language (pg. 119).

...notice the word "ministereth." If your pastor stands up before you and preaches to you, or gives out the Word to you ... (pg. 109).

V.P. Wierwille
RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT
TODAY, 1972

Galatians 3:5: (Quote, KJV) (pp. 58-59).

Acts 8:18: (Quote, KJV) (pg. 59). People have said to me, "Yes, I know the apostles could and did minister the holy spirit, but who are you?" (pg. 59).

We cannot make a mistake in our quest. Remember I Samuel. I Samuel 16:7: But the Lord said ... but the Lord looketh on the heart (pg. 58).

Ananias, who ministered the holy spirit to Saul of Tarsus, was also just a believer (pg. 60).

3. Rest your head back and breathe in deeply. The word "inspiration" also means "in-breathing" (pg. 60).

Opening your mouth and breathing in deeply is an act of believing which God honors (pg. 60).

Psalms 81:10: ... open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it (pg. 61).

Psalms 119:131: (Quote, KJV) (pg. 61).

Jesus specifically tells us to drink in the holy spirit. John 7:37-39: (Quote, KJV) (pg. 61).

In Job 29:23 we read, "And they opened their mouth wide as for the latter rain" (pg. 61).

If you will do this, you shall realize the manifestation (pg. 62).

...by your own will, move your lips, your tongue, your throat; you must make the sounds, form the words (pg. 62).

RECEIVING THE
HOLY SPIRIT
TODAY, 6th ed., 1972

Chapter Fourteen — *Some Questions Answered*, (pp. 249-256).

8. Is it possible for a Christian to receive false tongues or a false spirit when believing for the holy spirit?

The answer is a loud and clear no. As a matter of fact, speaking in tongues is the only manifestation which basically Satan cannot counterfeit. When I am asked that question, I know that person has come into

J.E. Stiles
THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
1948

Gal. 3 ... Verse 5 says, (Quote, KJV) (pg.109).

Acts 8:18, (Quote, KJV) (pg. 110). And someone may say, "Yes, we admit that the apostles were able to minister the Holy Spirit to others, but who are you?" (pg. 110).

...knowing that God looks on the heart, and if your motive of heart is to please God, then you can go determinedly forward to complete victory (pg. 121).

...the man who laid hands on the Apostle Paul, when he received the Holy Spirit, was an obscure disciple, named Ananias, ... He was just a believer: such as you or I (pg. 110).

The very word, INSPIRATION means in-breathing, ... You can look up to God and open your mouth and breathe deeply (pg. 119).

Opening the mouth and breathing in constitutes a step of faith that God will honor (pg. 120).

Again, in Psalms 81:10 we have the instruction, "Open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it" (pg. 120).

Psa. 119:131, (Quote, KJV) (pg. 120).

John 7:37-39, (Quote; KJV) Here He literally says that we are to drink of the Spirit (pg. 120).

Job 29:21-23 reads as follows, "... and they opened their mouth wide as for the latter rain" (pg. 120).

If you will do this I can assure you that the Spirit will begin to move in a very short time (pg. 121).

...follow the promptings when they appear, opening and your closing mouth, and moving your lips as the Spirit guides you to do (pg. 121).

RECEIVING THE
HOLY SPIRIT
TODAY, 3rd ed., 1957

Chapter Nine — *Some Questions Answered* (pp. 135-142).

8. Is it possible for a Christian to receive false tongues or a false spirit when believing for the *pneuma hagion*?

The answer is no. When people ask that question, I know that they have somewhere come in contact with one of these "faith blasters" who go about making statements which have no foundations

THE GIFT OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT, 1948

Chapter XIII — **Questions and Answers** (pp. 122-139).

8. Is it not possible for a Christian to receive false tongues or a false spirit when seeking to receive the Holy Spirit?

Answer: When people ask that question, we know that they have somewhere come in contact with one of these "faith blasters" who go about making statements which have no foundation in Scripture. When we

RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT TODAY, 6th ed., 1972

contact with those whom I term "faith blasters," who go about making statements which have no foundation in Scripture. When someone suggests to earnest Christians that they are in danger of receiving something false when believing to manifest the fullness of God according to God's Word, he sinfully dishonors God. Where is there a chapter or verse indicating that a Christian may get false tongues? It is an unreasonable idea, for the loving Father cares for His children and stands ready with His might to protect them from the power of the enemy.

With Scripture as our rule of believing and practice, The Word contradicts the wicked thought of false tongues coming from the Holy Spirit. Luke points out most emphatically that God will not give His children a worthless or harmful substitute for the *pneuma hagion*. Luke 11:11-13: ... [Quote KJV] ... The very essence of God is love. Can any sane person conceive of a loving Father, who is all-wise and all-powerful, giving his hungering, believing child a false and harmful substitute? There are hundreds of Scriptures which point out that God seeks

RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT TODAY, 3rd ed., 1957

in scripture. When someone suggests to earnest Christians that they may get something false, when believing for more of the fullness of God according to God's Word, he sinfully dishonors God and the Holy Spirit. Where is there a chapter and verse indicating that a Christian can get false tongues? If this happened, God would either be too careless and indifferent about the welfare of His children or else He would be too weak to protect them from the power of the enemy.

With the Scripture as our rule of faith and practice, the Word contradicts such a wicked thought. Luke 11:11-13 points out most emphatically that God will not give His children a worthless or harmful substitute for the *pneuma hagion*. The very essence of the character of God is love. Can any sane person conceive of a loving Father, who is all wise and all powerful, giving His hungering, believing child a false and harmful substitute? There are hundreds of Scriptures which point out that God seeks only the welfare and blessing

THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, 1948

suggest to earnest Christians that they may get something false, when seeking more of the fullness of God, we sinfully dishonor God and His Holy Spirit. Where, we ask, is there the slightest suggestion in the Bible that the Christian, whose heart longs for more of God, may get false tongues or a false spirit? If such a thing could happen, it would have to be true that, either God was too careless and indifferent about the welfare of His children, or else he was too weak to protect them from the power of the enemy. To suggest either one of these things is horrible, as it makes God out to be either a puny weakling, or a careless monster.

If we will take the Scripture as our guide, we will see that it flatly contradicts such a wicked thought. Luke 11:11-13 points out most emphatically that God will not give His children a worthless or harmful substitute when they come to receive the Holy Spirit. The very essence of the character of God is love. Can any sane person conceive of a loving Father, who is all wise and all powerful, giving His hungering child a false and harmful substitute? There are hundreds of Scriptures which point out that God seeks only the welfare and

only the welfare and blessing of His children.

Cast away forever the repulsive idea that God would allow His child to receive anything false.

Pay no attention to anyone who suggests unscriptural doubts or fears (pp. 253-255).

of His children.

Cast away forever the repulsive idea that God would allow His child to receive a false and harmful substitute.

Pay no attention to anyone who suggests unscriptural doubts and fears (pp. 140-141).

blessing of His children.

Cast away forever the repulsive idea that God would allow His child to receive something false and harmful when seeking to be obedient in this manner of receiving His Holy Spirit with the supernatural signs accompanying.

Pay no attention to anyone who goes about suggesting such unscriptural things which only promote doubts and fears (pp. 128-129).

Are Wierwille's teachings carbon copies of Stiles'? There are certainly key differences. Stiles emphasized that in receiving the Holy Spirit, we receive a person, not just an experience. Wierwille, on the other hand, denies that God the Holy Spirit personally indwells a believer and denies the doctrine that God is a Trinity.

Stiles' teachings place him within the realm of orthodox Christianity. Wierwille's place him in pseudo-Christianity.

A comparison of these books gives us insights into Wierwille's methodology and integrity. The unwritten code of honor among authors tells them to fully credit another writer when borrowing his ideas or terminology. This is why footnotes mark scholarly productions.

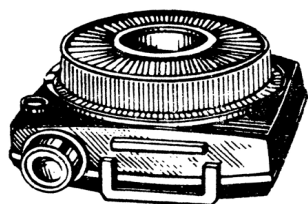
Furthermore, authors' integrity and copyright laws demand that direct and indirect quotations of another writer be noted, even when another's work is not copyrighted. Wierwille's methods do not reflect the integrity that the secular world expects, to say nothing of the integrity that God demands.

Yet, there is an even more important issue than integrity. Wierwille not only claims to be a scholar, he also claims to publish original material on the Spirit and that he is taught by God and His Word alone.

Wierwille counts his ministry as beginning the day that God audibly assured Wierwille that He Himself would teach him. Wierwille claims in the preface to *Receiving the Holy Spirit Today* that he used only the Bible as a reference for the book.

Sadly, Wierwille again falls far short of his own claims, of the mark of scholarly integrity, and of God's moral expectations.

.....
The Rev. John P. Juedes is pastor of Zion Lutheran Church (LCMS), Rosemead, Calif. and serves on PFO's Board of Reference.



PRICE INCREASE ON CULT AWARENESS PROGRAMS

Effective Jan. 1, 1983, there will be a price increase on the 35mm slide versions of our Christian Awareness Series presentations.

Prices are as follows:

- Jehovah's Witnesses: The Christian View* — \$60.
- Mormonism: The Christian View* — \$75.
- Evaluating The New World Translation* — \$50.
- The Way International: The Christian View* — \$75.
- Cracks In The Watchtower* — \$50.

This increase is the first since we began producing the programs nearly five years ago. Constant increases in the price of material is the main reason we are raising prices.

The prices for the filmstrip versions (*Jehovah's Witnesses: The Christian View*, *Mormonism: The Christian View*, and *Cracks In The Watchtower*) remain the same — \$19.95, \$19.95 and \$18.95 respectively.



BOOKS IN REVIEW

LARSON'S BOOK OF CULTS

by Bob Larson

Tyndale House Publishers, 428 Pages, \$7.95

Bob Larson has hopped onto the bandwagon of cult reference works with *Larson's Book Of Cults*. While much of the material he presents may be found in other books, the style and form makes this a worthwhile addition to any cult reference library.

Larson, the author of several widely known and controversial books on the Christian and rock music, first gives the reader an overview of the cults from a Christian perspective. Next, an explanation of cult concepts is given, followed by an examination of the influence of world religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, etc.) on the cults.

The subsequent 65 chapters deal with a wide range of cults and sects — Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormonism, Unification Church, The Way International and little-known groups such as the Aetherius Society, Lifespring, The Farm and Esalen Institute.

The end of each chapter contains a review of the basic facts: founder, appeal, purpose, errors, headquarters address, etc.

Worthwhile chapters examining martial arts, the Urantia Book, Holy Order of MANS and yoga are also found.

The book closes with a list of several cult ministries which may be contacted for further information and assistance.

While not an in-depth probe (the chapters are 1-10 pages long), this book is a good tool for those seeking quick information on cult-related matters.

There are some errors in the book. For example, Watchtower Society President Fred Franz is listed as a widower; he has never married. The book gives a Washington, D.C., address as the U.S. headquarters of the Unification Church. Unification Church sources in the Washington area said that the church has not occupied that address for about 10 years. There may be more errors that are waiting to be spotted by former members or experts on particular groups.

It is hoped that a more critical analysis is in store and corrections are made on the next printing of *Larson's Book of Cults*.

Helping Us Help You

If you'd like to help support Personal Freedom Outreach and pick up handy witnessing materials, read on!

For every \$10 donation, we will send a copy of Watchman Fellowship's booklet *New Light*.

This publication is an excellent collection of Watchtower material, exposing the "new light," or doctrinal changes, that the Society is consistently publishing. The book also investigates deliberate misquotations and gives information on the recent disfellowshipping of many Jehovah's Witnesses for dissenting from Watchtower beliefs.

Those contributing \$50 can still get the VHS videocassette of Bill Cetnar's *False Prophets* talk or *Walter Martin's Cult*

Reference Bible. Those sending \$50 will also receive a copy of Robert and Gretchen Passantino's *Answers To The Cultist At Your Door*.

Your tax-deductible donation to Personal Freedom Outreach goes toward publishing this quarterly newsletter, writing and research for articles and tracts, producing audio-visual material and defraying office expenses.

Personal Freedom Outreach draws no financial support from any church or denomination. It depends solely upon the prayers and gifts of those who believe in the ministry that the Lord has given to us.

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