

KENNETH COPELAND welcomes 'the blessing' of POPE FRANCIS:

With APPENDIX (1) on the conversion of
ULF EKMAN to Roman Catholicism
and
APPENDIX (2) on a meeting between
KENNETH COPELAND and others with Pope Francis

In recent days I have seen a number of items referring to a personal video message from **Pope Francis** to **Kenneth Copeland** and to Copeland's joy at receiving it and his verdict on the whole episode was summed up in these words of his '**Heaven is thrilled over this**'.

A helpful article on this can be found on

<http://standupforthetruth.com/2014/02/pope-to-copeland-catholics-and-charismatics-must-spiritually-unite/>

This is clearly another '**stepping stone**' on the road to false '**Ecumenical Unity**' so how did this all come about. Well, the influencing figure appears to be an **Anglican-Episcopalian Bishop called Tony Palmer** who formerly worked for **Kenneth Copeland Ministries**. A point worth noting is that Mr Palmer's wife is a practising Roman Catholic. It's interesting to see how this mirrors another, now deceased, stalwart in the promotion of false '**Ecumenical Unity**', **Charles Colson** whose wife was also a practising Roman Catholic.

Useful background information in the lead up to this show of '**fraternal unity in the spirit**' can be gleaned from an article on the following link. I have copied the article, highlighted important sections in red and inserted some comments into it and I hope these will be helpful. (**BVOV** stands for '**Believers Voice of Victory**' in other words **Kenneth Copeland Ministries**).

<http://kennethcopelandministries.org/2013/03/historic-change/>

Pope Viewed as Pro-Unity, Pro-Renewal of the Holy Spirit

Over the past decade the Rt. Rev. **Tony Palmer, a former director of Kenneth Copeland Ministries' South African office** and co-founder of The Ark Community, an international and interdenominational community of Christians based in the United Kingdom, has been extensively involved with the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR).

In 2003, Palmer was invited by the Catholic Church to move to Europe and minister to Catholics within the CCR worldwide, as a non-Roman Catholic minister. As a result of this calling, Palmer has traveled to many countries around the world and participated in numerous meetings with leaders within the charismatic renewal.

It was during a mission to Argentina five years ago that Palmer met and soon became close friends with Argentine Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, now Pope Francis I.

“We had called on him to ask permission to minister in churches within his diocese for renewal,” Palmer recalled recently of that first meeting. **“Immediately, Cardinal Bergoglio** shared his heart and appreciation for what we were doing, and **fully embraced us and the work of the Holy Spirit in and through us**—not only to Catholic people, but to all Christian denominations.”

On March 13, Cardinal Bergoglio became the first non-European pope in more than 1,000 years when he was elected to replace the outgoing Pope Benedict XVI, who abdicated on February 28. The 76-year-old Bergoglio, who has now taken on the name Pope Francis, after the humble Catholic friar St. Francis of Assisi, will be installed at the Vatican on March 19.

“It is quite surreal for me to see my friend, spiritual father and prayer partner as the Pope,” Palmer said this past weekend while on a ministry trip to Italy. “We have a good pope who is pro-unity and pro-renewal of the Holy Spirit. He believes that all Christians are one!”

Like the leader whose name he chose to draw from, Pope Francis is himself considered humble and is described as a conservative with “great compassion.”

In a speech he delivered to his cardinals two days after being elected, Pope Francis showed signs of his humility, compassion and his reverence of the Holy Spirit when he told them: “Someone said to me: the Cardinals are the priests of the Holy Father. That community, that friendship, that closeness will do us all good. And our acquaintance and mutual openness have helped us to be docile to the action of the Holy Spirit. He, the Paraclete, is the ultimate source of every initiative and manifestation of faith....

The Paraclete creates all the differences among the Churches, (Cecil: **“God is not the author of confusion” 1 Corinthians 14:33**) almost as if He were an Apostle of Babel. But on the other hand, it is He who creates unity from these differences, not in ‘equality,’ but in harmony....The Paraclete, who gives different charisms to each of us, unites us in this community of the Church, that worships the Father, the Son, and Him, the Holy Spirit.”

From the inception of The Ark Community, KCM has maintained a strong partnership with Palmer through prayer and by supporting his mission work. It was through Palmer’s assistance that Kenneth and Gloria Copeland were able to minister to the Roman Catholic Church in Italy for the first time ever in 2006. They have since returned there to minister.

In light of the historic change taking place in the Catholic Church, **we asked Palmer for his insight into the election of the new Pope**, and what effect he feels this might have on the Body of Christ overall. Here is some of what he had to say:

BVOV: How do you believe this election will affect the Church, the Body of believers?

PALMER: It will greatly influence what's already happening. Things began to change between 1962 and 1965, when Pope John XXIII opened up the Second Vatican Council by invoking the Holy Spirit and asking God for a "new Pentecost." He asked that God would: "Renew Your wonders in our time...." God answered, and in 1967 a small group of faithful Catholics met in Pittsburgh, Pa., and called upon their Pentecostal friends to lay hands on them so they (as Roman Catholics) may receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Pope John Paul II watched as this small group grew into a "movement" and expanded across the Atlantic and into many other countries. **In 46 years, this group of Catholics has grown to over 180 million spirit-filled, born-again, faithful Catholic Christians.**

(Cecil: If they are 'faithful Catholics', in other words they hold fast to and promote the heretical teachings of Rome on 'baptismal regeneration', 'Sacrifice of the Mass', 'Auricular Confession', 'Purgatory', 'Prayers for and to the dead', 'Veneration of Mary' etc then they are not 'born again' and certainly not 'HOLY-spirit filled')

Pope Benedict XVI followed in Pope John Paul's footsteps and publicly supported and encouraged those involved in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Now, as evidenced by the choice of his name, **Pope Francis wants to honor Saint Francis of Assisi, who was a Charismatic Catholic who founded an order of devout Christians professing to live the Gospel and nothing else!**

(Cecil: In a recent article I wrote extensively on 'Saint Francis of Assisi' and rather than repeat myself here you can go to the article on <http://www.takeheed.info/pdf/February-2014/Stephen-McBride.pdf> and see the relevant section on pages 13-15: The 'bottom line' is Francis of Assisi was no Christian but rather, as the Catholic Encyclopedia states, 'A very cursory inquiry into Francis's religious belief suffices to show that it embraced the entire Catholic dogma, nothing more or less')

Pope Francis is openly committing himself and the Church to emulate the spirituality of Saint Francis and his followers, which is to follow Jesus wholeheartedly and establish the Kingdom of God through living the Franciscan motto, which **Saint Francis is famous for saying: "Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary, use words."**

(Cecil: Who are we to believe? Francis of Assisi or the Apostle Paul who wrote "Preach THE WORD; be instant in season, out of season, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering AND DOCTRINE" [2 Timothy 4:2]. Personally I'm opting for the Apostle Paul).

This is the central passion that drives Pope Francis. He always tells me that we all need to live like Jesus. It's all about Jesus! Pope Francis is openly supportive of the work of the Holy Spirit and the Charismatic renewal, and in his choosing of Saint Francis' name, he promises to continue to support what the Holy Spirit has begun.

BVOV: What is uniquely different and meaningful about Pope Francis and his appointment?

PALMER: An important attribute that **Pope Francis brings to the Papacy is his honest and sincere openness to the unity of all Christians.**

(Cecil: as Pope, Francis is fully committed to 'UNITY' on Roman Catholic terms that were well summed up in the publication "One Bread One Body" – a teaching document issued in 1998 by the Catholic Bishops of England & Wales, Ireland and Scotland. In it we read – "It is above all at THE EUCHARIST that Christians become one in Christ [Cecil: It is of course at conversion that 'Christians become one in Christ' when the Holy Spirit regenerates them and baptizes them simultaneously into the Body of Christ, the true Church – see 1 Corinthians 12:13] sharing together as 'one body' the 'one bread' of the Lord. An understanding of THE EUCHARIST is essential therefore to the search for Christian unity. There can be NO full UNITY among Christians that does not embrace UNITY in THE EUCHARIST".

[Cecil: only when all 'Christians' accept Rome's teaching of TRANSUBSTANTIATION during THE EUCHARIST or The Sacrifice of The Mass will there be UNITY as far as Rome is concerned – we will all have to bow the knee to a piece of bread and worship it as God or as the Council of Trent: Chapter V: 'The Holy Eucharist' puts it - "There is therefore no room for doubt that all the faithful of Christ may, in accordance with a custom always received in the Catholic Church, give to this most holy sacrament in veneration, the WORSHIP of LATRIA which is DUE TO the true GOD'.

Refusal to do so was what cost many of the Reformation Martyrs their lives when they were burned at the stake as Bishop J C Ryle explained when he wrote – 'Why the Reformers were burned' – he stated – "it is as certain that the Romish Church burned our English Reformers as it is that William the Conqueror won the Battle of Hastings. Truth is truth, however long it may be neglected...The principal reason why they were burned was because they refused one of the peculiar doctrines of the Romish Church...the real presence of the body and blood of Christ in the consecrated elements of bread and wine".]

He is a man of God who understands the unity of the Church in its diversity. He constantly shows his public fraternal brotherhood toward all Christians. For example, when he was introduced during a large Christian meeting in Buenos Aires where over 5,000 evangelical protestant leaders were in attendance, **Pope Francis (then Cardinal Bergoglio) knelt down in front of the evangelical pastors and asked them to lay hands on him and bless him! Every year, as Cardinal, he would join his evangelical brothers (pastors) for their annual weeklong retreat**—not as a guest speaker to teach, but as one of them. During our times together, we have spoken about our shared pain of the division of Christians, and together we have shared both tears and prayers for her healing—the one Bride of Christ.

(Cecil: a little bit of speculation on my part now - I wonder if among the gathering of 'evangelical brothers' there might have been a certain Claudio Freidzon who had a role to play way back in the run-up to the so-called 'Toronto Blessing' where the 'ministries' of people like Benny Hinn, Rodney Howard Browne, John Arnott and KENNETH COPELAND were diabolically intertwined; if so perhaps Mr. Freidzon [from Argentina just like the Pope] has been another bridge, along with Tony Palmer, in linking Kenneth Copeland up with Pope Francis).

BVOV: Why should we, as believers, be excited?

PALMER: I believe there exists enough evidence to cause every open-minded and open-eyed Christian to rejoice in the fact that **a good man has been chosen to be pope—the spokesperson for western Christianity. He is a man after Jesus' heart and a man full of the Spirit of God**

(Cecil: The words of 2 Corinthians 11:3-4; 13-15 seem most appropriate in the light of these statements - "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be CORRUPTED from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that

cometh preacheth ANOTHER JESUS whom we have not preached, or if ye receive ANOTHER SPIRIT which ye have not received, or ANOTHER GOSPEL which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him... for such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for SATAN himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if HIS MINISTERS also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness: whose end shall be according to their works”.)

— open and humble enough to forgive and embrace brothers and sisters from all Christian denominations, allowing and assisting wounds of division to be healed. The time of “spiritual apartheid” is coming to an end, and I believe Pope Francis will be one of the proponents of its demise. We have a worldwide charismatic movement of the renewal of the Holy Spirit within the Catholic Church, officially and publicly supported by the last three popes, as well as the current pope.

We now live in a post-Protestant era with a pope who openly embraces his brothers and sisters of all Christian denominations to the point of publicly kneeling for the laying on of hands and prayer by evangelical leaders. God is continuing what He began when Pope John XXIII prayed for a “new Pentecost” back in 1962. He has heard the prayers and tasted the tears of the faithful who, over the years, have joined our Master and Captain in His High Priestly prayer in John 17:21: “Father make them one so that the world will believe that You sent Me.” **Diversity is divine, but division is diabolic. It’s time to celebrate diversity in the bond of unity. We are one Bride, one Body in one Baptism.**

(Cecil: The words of Matthew 7:21-23 will ‘haunt’ these deluded servants of Satan for all eternity – “Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. MANY will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I NEVER knew you: DEPART from me ye that work INIQUITY”. It is clear that as we read in 2 Thessalonians 2:7 “the mystery of iniquity doth already work” when we see this ‘unholy alliance’ between Kenneth Copeland and friends and Pope Francis).

In conclusion, let me refer back to **Kenneth Copeland’s verdict** on this latest false ‘**Ecumenical Unity**’ venture – he stated as I said earlier - ‘**Heaven is thrilled over this**’.

A favourite hymn of mine begins with these words ‘**Love divine all loves excelling**’. The Lord Jesus Christ exhorted His TRUE followers with these words “**A new commandment I give unto you that ye love one another; AS I have loved you, that ye also love one another**” (John 14:34). As true disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ we are to exhibit the kind of love to other true believers that Christ exhibited to His group of disciples. That was truly ‘**Love divine all loves excelling**’ and the Apostle Paul wrote about true ‘**Love divine**’ in 1 Corinthians 13 and he included these important words about the very nature of that genuine ‘**Love divine**’ that it “**rejoiceth NOT in INIQUITY but rejoiceth In the TRUTH**” (v 6).

This ‘**unholy alliance**’ between **Kenneth Copeland** and friends and **Pope Francis** has been forged with the dross of ‘**iniquity**’ and so contrary to Mr. Copeland’s claim that ‘**Heaven is thrilled over this**’, on the authority of God’s Word, I can assuredly

state that there will be no such **'rejoicing'** as God's **"truth"** has been the casualty in this **'iniquitous'** charade.

Cecil Andrews – 'Take Heed' Ministries – 26 February 2014

APPENDIX (1)

Whilst visiting with my seriously ill brother in Canada during the first two weeks of March I was alerted to the 'breaking news' of the conversion of **ULF EKMAN** and his wife to Roman Catholicism. In the wake of that news I posted a couple of short items to Facebook and I would like to reproduce them here –

Facebook post of 11 March 2014

I have just been alerted to the **'conversion' of Ulf Ekman and his wife to Roman Catholicism**. As he is a 'health and wealth' merchant closely identified with Kenneth Copeland and the late Kenneth Hagin Snr this is not really a surprise in the wake of the recent Pope Francis/Kenneth Copeland 'love-in' video message. **They have really just gone spiritually-speaking from 'darkness' to 'outer darkness'**. Story can be accessed on <http://www.charismanews.com/world/43058-ulf-ekman-converts-to-roman-catholicism>

Further background information on **Ulf Ekman** can be found in the article on this link

<http://www.takeheed.info/book-review-spiritual-powers-to-liberating-grace/>

Facebook post of 12 March 2014

Following on from the short post yesterday about the **'conversion' of Ulf Ekman and his wife to Roman Catholicism** and the link I gave to a short book review I wrote back in 2001, as a follow-up, you might also be interested to read a 'defence' of that book review that I subsequently wrote. It is on the following link (part of my September 2001 ministry newsletter) and you can read it by scrolling through to the item that begins **'Concerns over my review of "Spiritual Powers" etc'** - the link is <http://www.takeheed.info/news-from-the-front-september-2001/>

Cecil Andrews – 'Take Heed' Ministries – March 2014

APPENDIX (2)

On 24 June an article was posted online with the following title “**Pope Francis meets with Charismatic Church leaders to plan return to Mother Church**”. When you read the content of the article you will see that it seems to bear out what I wrote earlier in this article namely - **This is clearly another ‘stepping stone’ on the road to false ‘Ecumenical Unity’**.

The 24 June article that I am referring to is located on <http://www.nowtheendbegins.com/blog/?p=22896>

AS well as KENNETH COPELAND meeting with Pope Francis, amongst the ‘others’ who met with the Pope were the people who were to the forefront when the diabolical so-called ‘Toronto Blessing’ deceived so many in the 1990’s at the Toronto Airport Vineyard Church. This represents a truly unholy alliance and ecumenical pact between ‘Health and Wealth preachers’ (Copeland etc) and ‘Charismatic preachers’ (JOHN and CAROL ARNOTT)

A sympathetic and supportive report of what took place in the Vatican on 24 June can be seen on

<http://revivalmag.com/article/unity-diversity#.U6sm413Xyxl.facebook>

Truly the devil is ‘having a field day’ (sowing tares) and all in the name of so-called ‘evangelicalism’. Read and weep. Incidentally the Arnotts feature heavily in the video of my talk on the so-called ‘Toronto Blessing’ located on

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vTEEURiKzqw>

and you can see Carol Arnott ‘prophesying’ (with her husband John standing directly behind her as she almost convulses) by scrolling and watching from 8.24 minutes to 9.21 minutes

Cecil Andrews – ‘Take Heed’ Ministries – 27 June 2014

**Facebook post of 6 July 2014
COPELAND – “the protest is over”**

KENNETH COPELAND is reported to have said, in the wake of his visit with the Pope, **"THE PROTEST IS OVER"** - well, as a fellow false professing ‘Christian’ along with the Pope it’s only right that he and the Pope should ‘bury their differences’ as they are clearly both being guided by the same ‘spirit’.

You can check this out on

<http://mywordlikefire.com/2014/07/03/21569/>

**Facebook post of 9 July 2014
COPELAND's teachings
'Christian or Cultic'**

Before listing my Facebook post of 9 July 2014, as a lead in to it, let me invite you to listen to the audio of an American radio programme broadcast in 1990 that was devoted to analyzing many of Kenneth Copeland's heretical (virtually 'Mormon' in some areas) teachings. In particular the 'phone-in' section in the latter half of the broadcast adds much useful insights to the presentation. It can be listened to on

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05cEdv2hyhc>

Now this was my Facebook post of 9 July 2014

Just over 20 years ago the book 'Christianity in Crisis' (by Hank Hanegraaff) was published and it really 'blew the lid' on the heretical 'Word of Faith' ('Health and Wealth' or 'Name it and Claim it') movement as 'spearheaded' by the likes of Kenneth Hagin Snr, Kenneth Copeland, Benny Hinn, Frederick Price and countless others.

Also available was a double audio set with the same title ('Christianity in Crisis') in which many of these 'prosperity peddlers' can be heard proclaiming their false teachings. Much of these audios can be heard online (and downloaded) by going to this link

<http://www.equip.org/audio/christianity-in-crisis-audio-cd-set/>

In the light of recent developments between Kenneth Copeland and the Pope and his Roman Catholic Church it might be very worthwhile to take the time to listen to these tapes and acquaint yourself with the absolute gross heresies taught by these people.

One final caveat, despite his fine assessment of the 'Word of Faith' movement, Mr Hanegraaff subsequently proved to be 'weak' when it came to recognizing the Roman Catholic religion for what it is. I drew attention to this in my remarks on a further book he wrote called 'Counterfeit Revival' and you can read these comments by scrolling down to the appropriate section in the newsletter located on

<http://www.takeheed.info/news-from-the-front-oct-1997/>