

'HOLY FOREVER' WORLD TOUR: "Holy" or "Profane"? (Ezekiel 22: 26)

The following advert was recently posted on Facebook

**CHRIS
TOMLIN**

FEATURING **KARI JOBE** AND **CODY CARNES**

HOLY FOREVER
WORLD TOUR

BELFAST, N. IRELAND
MAY 27TH AT THE SSE ARENA BELFAST

PRE-SALE CODE: FOREVER

CHRISTOMLIN.COM

Genuine Christian believers are referred to as follows in **1st Peter 2: 5** “**an holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Christ Jesus**” and one of those “**spiritual sacrifices**” is identified in **Hebrews 13: 15** – true believers are to “**offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name**”.

The **verse 26** in **Ezekiel 22** that I cited in the title to this article referred of course to Old Testament sacrifices and the priests of that day who were not observing God's instructions that there must be '**clear blue water**' between the “**holy**”- that which is exclusively and acceptably dedicated to God – and the “**profane**” – that which is acceptable in everyday common use.

The **SSE Arena** in Belfast where this event is to be staged has a seating capacity of 11,000 and according to this web site <https://www.ssearenabelfast.com/whats-on/chris-tomlin> ticket prices range from **£33.50 - £87.50**. Even taking the lowest price of **£33.50** for every seat, which won't of course be the case, that would amount to a staggering figure of **£368,500**.

A W Tozer wrote an article many years ago entitled '**The Menace of the Religious Movie**' and here are a few of the thoughts he expressed in that article –

'When God gave to Moses the blueprint of the Tabernacle He was careful to include every detail; then, lest Moses should get the notion that he could improve on the original plan ... The New Testament Church also is built after a pattern. Not the doctrines only but the methods are divinely given ... From God's revealed plan we depart at our peril ... The temptation to introduce "new" things into the work of God has always been too strong for some people to resist ... Every generation is sure to have its ambitious amateur to come up with some shiny gadget, which he proceeds to urge upon the priests before the altar ... The idea that religion should be entertaining has made some radical changes in the evangelical picture within this generation ... That religion and amusement are forever opposed to each other by their very essential natures is apparently not known to this new school of religious entertainers ... But entertainment pays off, and the economic consideration is always a powerful one in deciding what shall and what shall not be offered to the public ... Only the absence of the Holy Spirit from the pulpit and lack of true discernment on the part of professing Christians can account for the spread ... Let us not for the sake of peace keep still while men without spiritual insight dictate the diet upon which God's children shall feed ... If God has given wisdom to see the error of religious shows we owe it to the Church to oppose them openly. We dare not take refuge in "guilty silence." Error is not silent; it is highly vocal and amazingly aggressive. We dare not be less so.'

I am very conscious that what **A W Tozer** wrote about was addressing a different subject '**The Religious Movie**' but I do believe that the portions I have quoted do have application to what I perceive to be '**The Menace of certain Religious Concerts.**'

Why have I included the word '**certain**' in what I have just written. It is for this reason, there are many publicly professing to be true Christian believers, but when their beliefs and actions are examined, then serious question marks appear in relation to their profession and sadly, for me, that is the case where those named to be appearing are concerned.

The name that immediately caught my attention was **KARI JOBE**, someone that I have previously written about. This is the link to my 2018 article <https://www.takeheed.info/pdf/2018/March/Kari-Jobe.pdf> in which **KARI JOBE promotes the false view that when He died, Jesus went into hell to be tortured by Satan to secure salvation for His people.**

Quite simply that is '**another Jesus**' and '**another gospel**' and is the product of '**another spirit.**'

In some ways **KARI JOBE** reminds me of the young girl in **Acts 16** who appeared to be saying good things in support of the ministry of Paul and Silas but Paul discerned that there was ‘**another spirit**’ (**a spirit of divination**) present in her as you can read in **verses 16-18**.

In an article on <https://www2.cbn.com/article/not-selected/kari-jobe-worship> I was uncomfortable when I read these extracts of what **KARI JOBE** said –

‘when Kari was five, her father led her in the salvation prayer ... Kari had a growing desire to minister to others. Kari began to travel with worship teams at age 16 and began leading worship at 20 years old. At age 24, she became **a worship pastor** at Gateway Church, in Southlake, TX ... Kari accredits being raised in a godly household to her success today. She learned to pray and **hear the voice of the Lord** as a child. “It all started in my little prayer closet when I was 10 years old,” she says. Kari’s parents lovingly set Kari to pursue a conversational relationship with Jesus. She remembers her dad teaching her about hearing from God when she was just eight years old. She found everything her dad told her that day to be true as she began to talk to God in prayer. **Once she knew she was hearing God, she began to share God’s words with others and grow in prophetic ministry. Prophetic ministry was a normal part of her spiritual growth.** “I grew up in a home where I was around the prophetic. My dad is my hero, he taught me to listen to God’s voice and obey what God said. **We would go places where people were giving prophetic words and I would receive prophetic ministry.** Many of those prophetic words have come to pass or are coming to pass.” ... “I have such a sense of his presence when I am singing. I can hear him speaking to me the whole time I worship.” ... One of the most important keys to my ministry today came from cultivating that ability to hear and obey God’s voice during my own personal worship time.” Kari quickly learned to obey the voice of the Lord **through trial and error** ...She received **a life-changing vision** while worshipping one night when she was in Bible school. “I had a vision of nations of children. The children were all different colors and they went as far as my eye could see. When she saw the nations of children, Kari asked the Lord, “What is this?” **She heard the Lord say to her that she would affect nations through her worship and by interceding for children in their nations.** God very specifically told her that, “children are a key to bringing salvation to nations.”

I think these extracts and in particular the portions I have highlighted in red will explain why I was decidedly uncomfortable when I read the details of the interview on CBN.

Another revealing article that repeats her ‘**Jesus in hell**’ and reveals other dangerously heretical views can be accessed on this link - <https://disntr.com/2019/02/23/kari-jobs-sexualizing-of-gods-love-and-word-of-faith-heresy/> – one example of her other heretical views is

‘(In) Another popular song, *The More I Seek You*, she treats Jesus more like a lover than a savior ... Besides the theology in this song just being plain horrible, she displays a total lack of understanding of God’s love for us. **God’s love for us is not an erotic (Greek: eros) love, but agape. Agape is a parental, sacrificial, unconditional love, whereas eros is a bodily, emotional kind of love.** The lyrics in this song pervert the nature of God’s love ...

One of the Hallmarks of NAR (New Apostolic Reformation) **worship is to use repetitive phrases and rhythmic cadences to draw people into a trance-like state, believing that by doing so, you can have intimacy with God.** In reality, what it does is cause people to zone out, and not really think about what they are saying. **Being under the influence of NAR Apostle, Jack Hayford,** who has been instrumental in transforming the worship music scene, **it comes as no surprise that her music incorporates this tactic.** Jack Hayford claims direct, divine revelation from God, and says that while driving by a Roman Catholic church, God directly told him not to judge them. He says God directly said to him ... **Being that the Catholic Church worships a false Jesus, you can rest assured that Hayford did not hear that from God.** Yet, **this is a man influencing Kari Jobe, and many other modern worship music artists** ... Music is tearing down doctrinal lines and creating unholy alliances at a faster pace than once thought possible. ‘

In the short video in that article at about the 37 seconds mark **KARI JOBE** mentions the name of **Brian Johnson** as being an influence in writing the song – he is a leading figure in **THE New Apostolic Reformation** ‘church’, namely **BETHEL** ‘church’ in **Redding CA.** This ‘church’ is headed up by his father, ‘Apostle’ **Bill Johnson** and ‘Prophet’ **Kris Vallotton** – see <https://www.bethel.com/teams/senior-leadership>

Anyone with any connection with the **Bethel** ‘church’ and **Bethel Music** as **KARI JOBE** clearly has, is not someone to be viewed as trustworthy in the things of God.

Moving now to **CODY CARNES**, unlike **KARI JOBE** this was a new name to me. This web site provided some very helpful information - <https://www.air1.com/music/blog/behind-the-music/cody-carnes-the-worship-life-4086> and as you will read he is in fact married to **KARI JOBE** so it would appear likely that he holds the same false beliefs as his wife – if that is not correct then I am willing to be corrected.

When I googled ‘**which church does Cody Carnes attend**’ this came up – ‘**He is originally from Texas but now resides in Nashville with his wife and their two boys, Canyon and Kingston. The Carnes also both serve at their home church The Belonging Co. in Nashville.**’

This is the link to **The Belonging Co** church web site - <https://thebelonging.co/about/> A major **red flag** for me was when I read – ‘**LEAD PASTORS - Henry + Alex Seeley... Officially launching in 2014, the church has become known as a place to find freedom, breakthrough, and healing through God’s Word, His presence and worship ... Henry and Alex have been married for over two decades and have two children, Holly and Taylor.**’

My **red flag** was made up of several elements – (1) The fact that **Mrs Seeley (Alex)** is, contrary to God’s word, referred to as a ‘**pastor**’, an office exclusively reserved according to God’s word for men. (2) There was the use of what would be viewed as a common hyper-charismatic/New Apostolic Reformation ‘**BUZZWORD**’ namely ‘**breakthrough**’ – see a helpful glossary of NAR terminology on - <https://fitl.co.za/2020/04/29/a-glossary-of-new-apostolic-reformation-terminology/>

Finally, what of **Chris Tomlin**, yet another new name to me so I was ‘forced’ to turn to **WIKIPEDIA** https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chris_Tomlin for information on him. There I learned that ‘**He is a member of Passion Conferences**’ whose **WIKIPEDIA** details are located on https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passion_Conferences

So what if any **red flags** did I discover about **Passion Conferences** that **Chris Tomlin** is a member of? On **WIKIPEDIA** I read the following –

‘**Passion Conferences (also referred to as Passion and the 268 Generation, originally named Choice Ministries) is a Christian organization founded by Louie Giglio in 1997 ... In June 2008, while speaking for pastor **Andy Stanley**, Giglio announced the planting of Passion City Church in Atlanta, Georgia with Chris Tomlin ... Passion's annual conferences attract around 65,000 participants. The conference invites prominent Christian speakers and musical artists annually.**

Speakers - Pastor Louie Giglio, founder of Passion, often speaks during the conferences. **John Piper is also a frequent speaker at Passion Conferences. Other speakers that have spoken at Passion Gatherings include: **Francis Chan, Andy Stanley, Beth Moore**, Judah Smith, Christine Caine, **Carl Lentz**, Lecrae, Gary Haugen, Ben Stuart, David Platt, Matt Chandler, Levi Lusko, and Jay and Katherine Wolf, authors of the book "Hope Heals".**

I have shown **in red** those individuals/speakers that I have major problems with.

In relation to **John Piper** – see - <https://www.takeheed.info/pdf/2019/January/lewis-piper-keller.pdf>

In relation to **Andy Stanley** - see - <https://www.takeheed.info/pdf/2020/March/andy-stanley-or-bishop-jc-ryle.pdf>

In relation to **Francis Chan** - see - <https://www.takeheed.info/pdf/2023/February/francis-chan-coming-to-coleraine.pdf>

In relation to **Beth Moore** - see - <https://www.takeheed.info/pdf/2016/November/Beth-Moore-Warning-Resources.pdf>

In relation to **Carl Lentz** – see - https://www.takeheed.info/Assorted_Articles/Contemporary/carl-lentz-hillsong-nyc.pdf

I have not taken time to check the ‘spiritual pedigree’ of other speakers listed but would not be surprised if additional **red flags** were to appear if I did.

In the light of what I have shared in this article I view the use of the term ‘**HOLY FOREVER**’ in the title for this tour to be utterly unscriptural and inappropriate.

In conclusion my mind was drawn to the words of **2 Timothy 3:1-5** where Paul details what the traits of humanity will be in “**perilous (hard to bear) times**” and in particular where he states that “**men shall be ... lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God**”.

Dr H A (Harry) Ironside in his commentary on that portion of scripture made some astute observations which, although they were **'church-orientated,'** do I believe have justifiable application to the upcoming concert that we have considered in this article – he wrote (p 217) -

'Lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.' Would you not almost think the words were written by some fiery-souled exhorter of the present day? How aptly they characterise in one brief clause the greatest outstanding feature of the religious world. **The Church of God has gone into the entertainment business!** People must be amused, and as the Church (Cecil – 'entertainers') needs the people's money, the Church (Cecil – 'entertainers') must, perforce, supply the demand and meet the craving. How else are godless hypocrites (Cecil – I would not classify ALL who will attend this show in Belfast with such terminology) to be held together. How otherwise can the throngs of unconverted youths and maidens (Cecil – again I would not classify ALL who will attend this show in Belfast with such terminology) be attracted ... the entertainment, in the form of musicale ... takes the place of the gospel address and the solemn worship of God. And thus Christless souls (Cecil – again I would not classify ALL who will attend this show in Belfast with such terminology) are lulled to sleep and made to feel "religious" while gratifying every carnal desire under the sanction of the sham called the Church!

This upcoming **'HOLY FOREVER'** concert in Belfast is not something that faithful bible-believing Christians should contemplate attending.

Cecil Andrews – 'Take Heed' Ministries – 29th January 2024