

## **Paul Crouch deceased: A misguided and misplaced tribute by The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association**

On 30 November 2013, **Paul Crouch**, who along with his wife Jan founded the **Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN)** in 1973, died. Tributes have been paid by many individuals and organisations as can be read on

<http://www.paulcrouch.com/tributes.php>

As I begin writing this article I am very conscious that the family and friends of **Paul Crouch** are grieving his passing and my motivation in addressing this subject is certainly not designed to in any way intrude into or add to their grief. My motivation I believe is one of the highest possible and that is to defend the truth of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

If **Paul Crouch** and **TBN** had faithfully done that over the past 40 years then I would not be 'challenging' in particular the tribute paid to him by **The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association** but sadly that was not the case.

The very 'tribute' page that I have directed you to really highlights what one of the serious problems with **Mr Crouch** and **TBN** was and that was their willingness to openly provide a platform for and to personally espouse and endorse the false '**Word of Faith Gospel**' (known often as 'The Health and Wealth Gospel' etc).

On the page I have directed you to, and at the time of writing this article, the second tribute comprises excerpts from the one by **The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association** (the full tribute can be seen on <http://billygraham.org/story/remembering-tbn-founder-paul-crouch-sr/>) and it reads –

**"Everyone at the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association extend our condolences to the family of Paul Crouch, Sr., who, along with his wife, Jan, founded the Trinity Broadcast Network in 1973.... He and the TBN family have been longtime friends and supporters of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and Samaritan's Purse."**

However, the first tribute is by one of the foremost pedlars of the '**Word of Faith Gospel**' and that is **Kenneth Copeland** who has appeared regularly over the years on **TBN** – his tribute reads as follows –

Paul Crouch was a "television apostle" because his ministry and the ministry of TBN have helped Christians and churches around the world grow and minister to the people of the nations. I remember Paul Crouch's description of the plan for TBN's development in the early days. "Paul said, 'I'll tell you what, if I do nothing on that channel-if I run out of programming, and I don't have anything but a sign that says, 'Jesus is Lord,' and John 3:16 put on it-I'll show it 24 hours a day before I'll put something from the world on it. Hallelujah.'" TBN has indeed fulfilled that goal and Paul Crouch's legacy of Christian television pioneering goes on, now airing evangelical television programs that proclaim the Lordship of Jesus and the love of God 24 hours, every day! In loving memory of Paul Crouch, today we declare John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." And, as always, we declare in Paul's honor, 'Jesus Is Lord!'

**Kenneth Copeland**, like his fellow 'Word of Faith' preachers, is very adept at quoting Scripture; but of course the problem is that they are also very adept at twisting and perverting the meaning of those very same Scriptures – just like those identified by the Apostle Peter in **2 Peter 2: 1-4** –

**"But there were false prophets also among the people even as there shall be false teachers among you who secretly shall bring in destructive heresies... And many shall follow their pernicious ways... And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you".**

For a detailed examination and exposure of the 'Word of Faith' heresies that are/were promoted by **Kenneth Copeland** and the late **Kenneth Hagin Snr** let me direct you to my talk from some years ago that can be heard on

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TdMmPeSve3A>

If you take the time to listen to this talk I think you will then understand why I have described the 'tribute' paid by **The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association** as 'misguided' and 'misplaced'.

'Misguided' because any FAITHFUL evangelical should not be wishing to be identified in any way with what was the unscriptural ministry of **Mr Crouch** and **TBN**; and 'misplaced' because no FAITHFUL evangelical would want to convey the impression that the ministry of **Paul Crouch** and **TBN** were allies in the cause of defending and promoting the true Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ for they were not.

By way of illustration of the types of preachers who have pedalled the false '**Word of Faith gospel**' I would like to direct you to a video made some years ago by **Mark Haville** (a former 'Health and Wealth' preacher) of <http://christianvideos.co.uk/products-page/dvds> and who has very kindly given me permission to post this video online. Mark was also one of 4 writers who contributed to the 1997 book '**The Signs and Wonders Movement – Exposed**' (Published by Day One Publications: ISBN 0902 548 751).

At least one of those who will feature in Mark's video was given a platform by **Paul Crouch** on **TBN** and that was **Larry Lea** as can be seen by going to <http://www.itbn.org/index/detail/lib/Networks/sublib/TBN/ec/83cTImMzoi0Tx4iFfbrKw8Gz1fjli3L4?offset=93> – **Larry Lea** is introduced by **Paul Crouch** at 8.34)

The video produced by Mark Haville can be viewed on  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N82YvHx9Cek>

Then secondly by way of illustration of why **Paul Crouch** and **TBN** were clearly promoting 'another Jesus' and 'another gospel' by 'another spirit' I have obtained permission from **Pastor Joseph Chambers** of Paw Creek Ministries in Charlotte, NC to post online his video called '**Trinity Broadcast Network: Temple to the Gods and Goddesses**'.

I am likewise very grateful to Pastor Chambers for giving me permission to post this video online and even though he and I would see things differently on 'things Pentecostal' and on 'End-Time and Antichrist' matters I believe he has rightly identified significant problems with the type of 'gospel' heralded over the years by **TBN** and with the type of environment created by **TBN** from which to supposedly proclaim the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This video can be viewed on  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CjS369Dw6bQ>

Finally, there are many helpful articles written exposing the heresies of the '**Word of Faith gospel**' and you might wish to bookmark as a 'favourite' the following link that will take you to an array of such articles. The list of those written about not only includes **Paul Crouch** but also includes others who were given a platform on **TBN** by him – such as **Kenneth Copeland** and **Kim Clement**.

The link to those articles is  
<http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/word-faith.html>