# "Take Heed" Ministries

#### June 2011

Dear praying friends and supporters of 'Take Heed',

In my very last printed 'News From The Front' (December 2010), on page 2, I wrote the following concerning my planned annual review letter that was scheduled to start in December 2011 (DV) — "I wouldn't be surprised if perhaps an earlier 'ministry update' were to be issued". Well, that 'prophetic' word has turned out to be correct and so herewith is an update on what the Lord has been turning my attention to over these past months.

## Rick Warren: 'Not fit for purpose'

This article was posted to the ministry web site on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 and highlighted the complete absence of discernment that is a mark of Rick Warren and his 'ministry. I referred to a so-called 'apologetics conference' that Mr Warren hosted at his church in December 2010 supposedly to equip believers to be aware of deceptions and false teaching. Amongst his invited guest speakers were Philip Yancey and Peter Kreeft. I have previously written about Mr Yancey and his dangerous and unbiblical views on the matter of homosexuality. In relation to Mr Kreeft, a Roman Catholic, I have previously quoted some of the heresies from his book 'Ecumenical Jihad'. This conference was not a matter of Mr Warren protecting God's 'sheep' from 'wolves' but rather of him throwing professing 'sheep' to the 'wolves'.

# England: Don't be 'April-fooled' by Todd Bentley

This article was posted to the ministry web site on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2011. For 4-5 months back in 2008 a tattooed thug by the name of Todd Bentley was hailed by thousands in Lakeland, Florida as being a great 'healer' and man of God. I and many other fellow-contenders wrote numerous articles that exposed this charlatan and his false claims for healing. The wheels eventually came off his 'bandwagon' when news of his adultery with a female member of the Lakeland team came to light and he subsequently divorced his wife who incidentally suffered from ill-health. After a token period of 'repentance' during which he married the woman with whom he had committed adultery he once more embarked on another series of 'healing' crusades. At the end of January Todd Bentley stated via Twitter that a 'ministry visit to England was 'on' for April and so I issued this article by way of advance warning.

#### Rev Simon Henning abuses 'Thought for the Day' slot

On 16<sup>th</sup> February the 'Thought for the Day' slot on Radio Ulster was given by Simon Henning, minister of Ballyblack Presbyterian Church near Newtownards. In it he ridiculed those who believe in 6-day creation as revealed by God in Genesis and instead trumpeted 'theistic evolution'. Setting aside the pros and cons of these conflicting views on origins the central issue was that this Radio slot was never intended to be a platform for someone to directly insult people of faith. In particular he very publicly showed his contempt for the beliefs of fellow professing Christians. By doing so he abused the privilege of speaking that morning. After a little research I discovered that Mr Henning, as well as sharing a belief in 'theistic evolution' with 'Sunday Sequence' presenter (Ex-Rev) William Crawley, also shares Mr Crawley's sympathies on 'issues gay'. Reviewing the regular content of Mr Crawley's 'Sunday Sequence' one could be tempted to ask the BBC to rename it 'Sleazy Sequence'.

#### Rob Bell and his book 'Love Wins'

One of the most malevolent spiritual influences today, particularly amongst young professing Christians, has to be Rob Bell, who 'pastors' a church in Michigan. He has visited the UK (including Northern Ireland) on a number of occasions and has produced numerous DVDs and books that unfortunately gain a wide audience through their availability in 'Christian' book shops. In April I posted a web site article dealing with his latest book 'Love Wins' in which he more or less states a belief in 'Universalism', the false idea that everyone will be eternally blissful and that the idea of hell is not something people should be worried about. On one blog | also wrote - Rob Bell continues to be ignorant of God's supreme attribute - His HOLINESS and in the light of that the words of Habbakuk 1:13 are relevant "Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil and canst not look upon iniquity" and so at the final judgment there will be a separation between God's elect and the reprobate as we learn in Revelation 21:27 "And there shall in no way enter into it (eternal glory) anything that defileth, neither he that worketh abomination or maketh a lie but they who are written in the Lamb's book of life". Revelation 22:14-15 again confirms this separation "Blessed are they that wash their robes that they may have right to the tree of life and may enter in through the gates into the city. For OUTSIDE are dogs, and sorcerers, and fornicators, and murderers, and idolaters and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie". Mr Bell should perhaps take particular note of the last 6 words I have just quoted.

## The menace of 'CHRISLAM'

This article was posted to the web site on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011 and in it I drew attention to a number of 'churches' in America that were seeking (quote) 'an ecumenical reconciliation between Christianity and Islam' – what a ridiculous, Christ-insulting notion! Thankfully one American lived up to his name and that was Alan Wisdom, director of the Presbyterian Action committee and vice president for research and programs at The Institute on Religion & Democracy (IRD) who stated that that 'Islam should never be viewed as an equal to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Moreover, Qurans should never be placed next to God's Holy Word'.

#### Warren and Blair 'waxing worse and worse'

An article with this title was enclosed to all with my December 2009 News From The Front and in it I detailed the unholy alliance that had been formed between supposed 'evangelical', Rick Warren and practising Roman Catholic, Tony Blair. On 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011 I reposted the article to the web site with an 'Appendix' that gave details of a report compiled by my fellow-contender, Roger Oakland who attended a conference in March at Mr Warren's church where Tony Blair was his guest. They were jointly trumpeting a global 'Peace Plan' based upon the need for all faiths to work together and to 'do good' together. This of course flies in the face of the true 'peace' that comes alone through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and is quite simply a satanic deception. This idea echoes Mr warrens oft stated belief that a second Reformation is needed based this time upon deeds and not creeds – how foolish.

# John Piper and Rick Warren

In my June 2010 News From The Front I wrote of my concern about the invite extended by John Piper to Rick Warren to be one of the speakers at his October 2010 'Desiring God' conference and how, in defence of the invite given, John Piper said of Mr Warren 'At root I think he is theological and doctrinal and sound'. My article then went on to state that in a recent talk I had given on the Isle of Man I had reached a totally different and opposite conclusion about Mr Warren to that expressed by Mr Piper. On 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011 John Piper interviewed Rick Warren in his Saddleback church that was being used by Mr Piper as a location for another 'Desiring God' conference. According to a transcript of the interview

prepared by Ken Silva, another fellow-contender, Mr Piper focussed on Mr Warren's book 'The Purpose Driven Life' and made the following statement — 'I'm appalled at the kinds of slanders... that have been brought against this book by people whose methods of critique, if they were consistently applied to the Bible, would undo it as the Word of God. I really—I'm one of these reformed types and my type tends to get on your case pretty often. And when I read the book, I thought, "What's the issue here?" Put simply — if John Piper thinks that there are no issues of concern about 'The Purpose Driven Life' (PDL) then that itself is a major issue of concern. According to Ken Silva, Pastor John MacArthur referred to Warren's 'gospel' in the PDL as 'an inadequate gospel. That is a gospel that I will tell you will contribute to apostasy', Dr Michael Horton stated 'I believe that his message distorts the gospel and that he is contributing to the human-centred pragmatism that is eroding the proper ministry and mission of the church...His best-selling book, *The Purpose-Driven Life*, begins by announcing that it's not about you, but about God, and then the rest of the book is about you' and Dr Gary Gilley wrote 'He claims commitment to the Scriptures then undermines them at almost every turn.' Mr Piper is clearly out of tune with the discernment expressed by these respected pastors/apologists.

In addition to these articles and assessments I have presented ministry updates/reports in various churches and have also fulfilled a number of preaching engagements. I am very pleased to report that my health has been excellent with no occurrences of the tiredness issue previously mentioned – to the many who have prayed specifically on this matter I say a very grateful 'thank you'.

In closing I should like to mention some matters for prayer. Whilst attending the Balmoral Show at the Kings Hall I took the opportunity to warn people who had been 'canvassed' by a stand offering a free stress test and a book on 'Dianetics' that this was a 'cover' for the cult of Scientology. A young man from a neighbouring stand was intrigued and we got into conversation. He was no atheist, firmly believing in a creator God, but uncertain about the exclusivity of Christ as the only Saviour of men. His name is Jonathan and he gave me his address to send a book on to him which I have done - please pray for him. Elliot Morley was one of the few MPs (albeit negatively) to respond to the creation videos sent to every MP back in 2002. I have written to him in prison enclosing a book so do please pray for him that the Lord might soften his heart at this very difficult time in his life. I covet your continued prayers for my health and also for the ongoing ministry of 'Take Heed' that doors will continue to open via meetings, media and the Internet to stand for His truth. My thanks too go to all those who continue to faithfully support us in a practical way - truly the Lord is faithful. Assuming that the already failed 89 year old 'prophet' Harold Camping is wrong (for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time) about the world ending as we know it by 21<sup>st</sup> October I will write again (DV) in December.

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**Cecil Andrews** 

"Take Heed" Ministries
PO Box 13, Ballynahinch, BT24 8AL
Tel./Fax 028 9756 5511
E- Mail takeheed@aol.com Web site www.takeheed.net