



Volume 1, Number 7 November 1990

## The New Order

A recent MINISTRIES TODAY magazine (September/October, 1990) had as its cover story, "Mike Bickle & Paul Cain: The Kansas City Fellowship Prophecy Controversy". The author of the article, Lee Grady, suggests that: "...the heart of the Kansas City dispute involves questions about some commonly accepted charismatic doctrines. It just may be, Grady proposes, that the Kansas City controversy was meant 'to prompt a nationwide discussion designed to bring reformation and clarity to the prophecy dimension of the charismatic movement.'"

There is indeed a dire need within the Charismatic movement. We are increasingly being told that doctrine "divides". If one questions the "new revelations", that he or she is considered "divisive". Loyalties are made to the Word of God, yet in the next breath there is a serious contradiction.

According to the above mentioned article, Ernie Gruen of Full Faith Church of Love in Kansas City, "...became troubled after hearing reports of what he considered 'false prophecies' being promoted at KCF - mainly by Bickle's partner Bob Jones, a prophetic minister whose trademark visions, dreams and mystical experiences have earned him a sizable national following." On January 21, 1990, Gruen preached a message to his congregation entitled, "Do We Keep Smiling and Say Nothing?" He clearly laid out his charges in this message. These charges were very strong - claiming that KCF was sending out false prophets.

Since that time, articles have been written, information has been collected and the church is abuzz with the "goings on" of the "prophetic move" that seems to be the latest trend today.

Kansas City Fellowship is now under the umbrella of THE VINEYARD. John Wimber released a statement acknowledging errors made by the Kansas City Fellowship. He stated that they had discovered these errors and were correcting them even before Gruen's report and full charges were released. As of May, the controversy was supposedly moving toward resolution.

However, a second article in the same magazine by the same author, does raise questions that we shouldn't ignore. Charismatics are indeed at a Crossroads. At that crossroads we will not know the proper direction to take unless we know the Word of God. The questions raised in this article need to be addressed by the Church:

1. What are the biblical guidelines and parameters needed when dealing with prophecy and the supernatural?
2. Are apostles and prophets valid ministries for today?

3. Are we still promoting "manifest sons of god" doctrines in our churches today?
4. Should we be placing so much emphasis on prophecy and futuristic predictions?
5. How can independent charismatic congregations develop a system for doctrinal accountability?

Ernie Gruen's report, "Documentation of The Aberrant Practices and Teachings of Kansas City Fellowship" (available upon request through this ministry) brought out very serious practices and teachings that are indeed aberrant. These practices and teachings have not been dealt with publicly.

What we are dealing with is far more than, "Christians actually divide over and call each other false teachers because of their position on the rapture!" (THE MORNING STAR, Vol. III, No.5, Sept/Oct. 1990). The teachings and practices that are coming forth are bizarre and indeed aberrant. Further in the same article Rick Joyner says, "It seems inevitable that the self-appointed 'heresy hunters' will always do more damage to the church than the actual heresies. . . .the free associations and wild over-generalizations of those whom Jude called 'fault finders' is a destructive force that has ensnared and destroyed the effective spiritual life and witness of larger portions of the church than possibly any false teaching. . . . ."

Again, STOP, LOOK, LISTEN! The Word of God tells us specifically what to do about false teaching! To discern it according to the Word of God. The Word of God has been allegorically interpreted for so long that people have lost touch completely with the literal interpretation. There is "another Gospel" being preached today. It comes in enough orthodox garb that it would subtly seduce many into grave error. (Matt. 7:15; II Cor. 11:3 & 4). In 1939, Louis Berkhof the author of SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY wrote: "The work seemed particularly important to me . . . in view of the widespread doctrinal indifference of the present day, of the resulting superficiality and confusion in the minds of many professing Christians, of the insidious errors that are zealously propagated even from the pulpits, and of the alarming increase of all kinds of sects. If there ever was a time when the Church ought to guard her precious heritage the deposit of the truth that was entrusted to her care, that time is now."

One of the teachings touched on in Ernie Gruen's book, is the teaching of "THE NEW ORDER". This teaching permeates the Restoration Movement. Mike Bickle, in reply to the charge, brushed it aside. His answer, "I'm not exclusive. . . . I'd quit if I thought we were it," does not even touch the full meaning of this term which is being bandied about freely. Let us look at the meaning of what is meant by "A New Order" from out of the "prophets" own mouths.

On the back cover of THE HARVEST, Rick Joyner says: "What is about to come upon the earth is not just a revival, or another awakening; it is a veritable revolution. The vision was given in order to begin to awaken those who are destined to radically change the course, and even the very definition of Christianity."

Paul Cain, a "prophet" says: "God's raising up a NEW STANDARD, a W BANNER if you will, that's going to radically change the expression, the understanding of Christianity in our generation. . . God has invited us to have a .le in establishing this NEW ORDER of Christianity. .. God is offering to this generation something HE HAS NEVER offered to any other generation before. . . ware lest OLD ORDER brethren rob you and steal this hope from you." VINEYARD, Prophecy Conference 1989.

The Church of Jesus Christ is being used as merely a part of an overall plan to bring in world peace and world domination. THE PLAN has been laid out carefully.

Many years ago, Theosophist Alice Bailey wrote in THE EXTERNALIZATION OF THE HIERARCHY, "The Church should take the great basic doctrines and (shattering the old forms in which they are expressed and held) [OLD ORDER] show their true and inner spiritual significance. The prime work of the Church is to teach, and teach ceaselessly, preserving the outer appearance in order to reach the many who are accustomed to Church usages. [NEW ORDER] Teachers must be trained; Bible knowledge spread; the sacraments must be mystically interpreted, and the power of the Church to heal must be demonstrated."

We realize that throughout Church history there have been many great men and women of God with different eschatological views. However, in the last 40 years or so, the Kingdom Now/Dominion/Restoration movement

has assumed a form of theology that not only threatens our faith, but proposes a form of religion that becomes the philosophy of the Anti-Christ [whom they do not believe is a literal person) .

The Faith that was ONCE delivered to the saints is being replaced by a theology that desires to bring us into "restored" truth and "restored" ministries i.e. apostles, prophets, etc. There are so many aspects of this teaching that it is almost impossible to find cohesiveness. However, the aspect that concerns me is that an emphasis on a NEW ORDER is being promoted. What is this NEW ORDER? The Church must be restored to the five-fold ministry to bring the Church to perfection. No matter how well-intentioned the men are who are promoting this teaching, the Word of God will become second place. The authority will be vested in the "prophet" or the "apostle". This whole concept leads ultimately to the papal concept. This can be understood easily by Bob Jones in THE SHEPHERD'S ROD 1989 he states: "These things begin to happen in our midst. We had the power to forgive sin - remit it. We had the power to proclaim liberty to those that are bound and to remove the bondage of sin. . . the power was there to release angel activity and to begin to break the bondage and to release those that were bound and to also heal the broken in heart and make their heart whole."

We have been through all of this before. The Latter Rain was called in full: THE NEW ORDER OF THE LATTER RAIN. "The elevation of prophets and apostles obviously made way for strong individuals to exercise and abuse authority. It allowed some to give the "spoken word" equality with Scripture. 'There could be no greater error.' denomination leaders warned. . . General Secretary J. Roswell Flower cautioned, 'Predictive prophecy resulted in untold disaster wherever it had been given free course.' Flower was well-versed in the history of Pentecostalism and recalled numerous prophecies that had come to nothing. THE NEW ORDER of the Latter Rain in fact was nothing new. The ground had been covered before, with lessons learned through costly mistakes. Now a new generation seemed to want to repeat it all." THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD, Vol. 2, Edith Blumhofer.

There is evidence that with the Latter Rain revival there came a blaze of subjective theology. It centered on the emphasis of preaching on man, his senses, imagination and intuition above the objective and scriptural perspective of the Lord Jesus Christ. This new emphasis started a paradigm shift. The orthodox perspective of Christ changed and caused Christians to be receptive to subjective impressions of Christ, experiences and ideas. To maintain the interest of followers, new ideas and new revelations were and are continually in the making.

Most people who have had any history in Pentecost at all have been influenced at some time in their lives by the Latter Rain Movement. There have been many sincere people who felt they were part of the "move of God" for the LAST DAY'S and were earnestly partaking of the fruit that was offered. Since 1948 the Latter Rain influence has permeated the churches, bible colleges, evangelism and Christian broadcasting television networks. The overall magnitude of its influence makes it more difficult to warn of the inherent dangers that are involved. As a result of the Latter Rain influence in the Pentecostal-Charismatic movements, two basic streams of thought exist side by side and sometimes it is hard to distinguish the one from the other. Like the tares and wheat, they have grown up together. Only through God's written Word can a true separation be discerned. The first stream is "Gnostic" thought - the inspiration to many masquerading as apostles and prophets. The second stream is Christian orthodoxy thought based on the Holy Scriptures. It is the Gnostic stream of thought that divides the Church into a dichotomy.

The NEW ORDER survived and has influenced the direction the Church is taking today. We have the same situation today as we had in 1948, but it is exacerbated because of the mass media, telecommunications, conferences and a strong interlocking network. 'Obviously in the light of the NEW THING, it is felt that the ones who do not go with the flow will be left behind. You must break from the OLD and become part of the NEW THING God is doing in the restored gifts and ministries. Again, consider the words of Rick Joyner from THE HARVEST, "If the leaders resist this move, the Lord will continue to move through the congregations. These groups will begin to relate to other members of the body of Christ and their bonds will grow stronger, regardless of the resistance or warnings of their pastors. Some pastors and leaders [OLD ORDER] who continue to resist this tide of unity will be removed from their place. . . some that were used greatly of God in the past have become too rigid in doctrinal emphasis. . . to participate in this revival. . . those who are linked together by doctrine or who gather around personalities will quickly be torn away. . . many denominations, extra-local fellowships and circles of emphasis will begin disbanding and severing those ties - even those that were ordained by God for a season - in order to take their place in this great net that the Lord is now forming. . . some leaders will actually disband their organization as they realize they are no longer relevant to what God is doing. . . a great company of prophets, teachers, pastors and apostles will be raised up . . . This harvest will be so great that no one will look back at the

early church as a standard [OLD ORDER]; all will be saying that the Lord has certainly saved His best wine for last. . . It was said of the Apostle Paul that he was turning the world upside down; it will be said of the apostles soon to be anointed that they have turned an upside down world right side up. Nations will tremble at the mention of their name. [NEW ORDER]" (RESTORATION MAGAZINE, THE HARVEST, Rick Joyner)

It does seem that part of this NEW ORDER includes the Melchizedek Order. In a prophecy in (Visions & Revelations 1988) Bob Jones, a "prophet" declares: Their children will possess the spirit without measure - for they are the best of all the generations that have ever been upon the face of the earth. . . they will move into things of the supernatural that no one has ever moved in before.. . they'll move in the power that Christ did. They themselves will be that generation that's raised up to put death itself underneath their feet. . . the church that is raising up the government will be the head and the covering for them. . a Church that has reached the full maturity of the GODMAN!. . .This generation of young people that are coming are going to see the beginning of this WORLD WIDE NEW ORDER . . .There is a ministry after the five-fold Priesthood. . your children will be moving into the ministries of perfection."

This teaching rejects the literal "Rapture" of the Church of Jesus Christ, the literal tribulation, the literal Anti-Christ and the literal millennium. That is why Rick Joyner can say, "As Christians we should always be spiritually prepared for trials and tribulations; our Armageddon may come at the next stop light" On the "Rapture" he says: "The doctrine of the rapture was a great and effective ruse of the enemy to implant in the church a retreat mentality, but it will not succeed. Already this yoke has been cast off by the majority in the advancing church, and it will soon be cast off by all. . . ." (THE HARVEST, by Rick Joyner).

It does seem that what has been proclaimed for a number of years is indeed coming to pass. We have been told that we will undergo a PARADIGM shift in our thinking - as the Church. So, don't let "the OLD ORDER brethren steal from you what God is wanting to do".

It is not anything new! President Bush also thinks he is ushering in a NEW ORDER. In VITAL SPEECHES OF THE DAY, VOL. LVI, No. 23, September 15, 1990 James P. Pinkerton, Deputy Assistant to the President for Policy Planning had this to say: ". . I'm here to talk about George Bush, the first President to govern in the spirit of the New Paradigm. . . I believe this decade will be remembered as the time when a NEW ORDER for the age was established not only in the U.S., but around the world. . . . I am armed with an idea: the New Paradigm. So I will address this talk to we few, we happy few, we band of brothers and sisters! . . .This is not the end of anything: this is the beginning of the New Paradigm. . . Because of his (the President's) policies, America stands at the horizon ready for the dawning of the New Paradigm around the world. There is a new energy, a force that has cracked the Berlin Wall, dismantled the Soviet Empire, freed Nelson Mandela, and democratized Nicaragua. This new vitality has redefined how the world works."

Then interestingly enough later on, the article has something to say about the OLD ORDER. "These people - I call them Old Paradigm Pessimists - pose a pathetic choice: either go back to the Great Society, they tell us, or fall into a Grim Society."

"Referring to the Kuwaiti crises, Congressman Gephardt reiterated, "We can see beyond the present shadows to a New World Order where the strong work together to deter and stop aggression. This was precisely Winston Churchill's and President Roosevelt's vision for peace for the post war era. Their hope suspended in time for 50 years has come alive in this new post-communist era." (Congressman Gephardt following President Bush's address to a joint session of Congress).

President Bush addressed Congress on the Saddam Hussein affair: "And today that NEW WORLD is struggling to be born - a world quite different from the one we've known. . . ."

At the turn of the century, Albert J. Beveridge, statesman/historian remarked to the United States Senate, "God has not been preparing us for vain and idle self-contemplation and self-admiration. No, He has marked the American people as His chosen nation to finally lead in the redemption of the world." (Ernest Lee Tuveson, REDEEMER NATION, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1980).

From all the materials at hand, it does seem clear that THE NEW ORDER that is arising is, among other things, a REPLACEMENT for the Nation of Israel.

However THE NEW ORDER has been tried before with grim results



Despite what the governments of the day say, regardless of the New Prophets, there will be no NEW ORDER until the PRINCE OF PEACE sets up His Throne on the Throne of His father David in LITERAL JERUSALEM. In that day, Israel will mourn as they behold Him whom they have pierced and they will be saved in a day. Yes indeed, the Kingdom of God is within you. You are heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ. Even now you are seated with Christ in heavenly places! However, IN THAT DAY, when Christ returns with the ten thousand of his saints He will usher in the true NEW ORDER. Any other New Order whether it be in the Church or in the world is a deception of the enemy. Anything else will pave the way for the revelation of Satan's great "Religious Political Leader" and "Superman" - the ANTICHRIST.

According to WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY, the term "New Order" means: "the fascist political and economic system that the Nazis set up in Germany and tried to establish throughout Europe". The architect of which was none other than the notorious Adolf Hitler. The term was the essence of the philosophy of the Third Reich that influenced the theologians, politicians and masses. There is no doubt on the part of the Jews, especially those that experienced the scourge of World War II that the spirit of the term was and still is Anti-semitic and Fascist in nature.

Try as hard as they like, the Kingdom Now/Dominion/Restoration theologians and prophets cannot hide the fact that the term "New Order" has a sinister and political overtone. Categorically, the term "New Order" (a christianized term) and "New Age" (a theosophical term) are synonymous. Both are political and religious and share the same worldwide goal of establishing a system of government to the exclusion of the literal presence of

the Messiah in the person of Jesus Christ. The "New Order" of religious thought is strikingly parallel to the "New Age" message Aleister Crowley, an English Buddhist, received from a spirit being in April 1904, " that the old age was passing away, and a new age was dawning. It was a New Age that had been anticipated for decades by occults throughout Europe. . . that the religion of the New Age could not take its place in the world until the old religion (Christianity) was smashed."

Throughout the history of the Church, the term "New Order" had come to mean different things from one generation to the next. Some reformers, with their followers, used the term to give meaning to their theological, social and organizational innovations. Essentially the term has always meant the discarding of the old for the new. Whenever the Church used the term to dogmatize a major theological position - ideology and politics was usually behind it. And, as always, the term gives quality support to either liberalism or legalism.

Many evangelical and fundamental leaders see conformity to Roman Catholicism as part of the "New Order" uniting Christendom. A significant percentage of Pentecostals and Charismatics share this view. The "new revelations", plus the "signs and wonders" allegedly wrought by the modern prophets and apostles, the Charismatics see as sure signs of the "New Order" emerging. To the accompaniment of this, we have the political prophets that believe "restoration" or "reconstruction" theology holds the key to the "New Order" taking dominion over the earth. Finally, there are those that believe the "New Order" or "New Age" is already in the making, i.e.: (i) The "Manifest Sons of God" are being perfected; (ii) the "New Breed" of people are emerging; (iii) that believers are putting on "immortality" and, (iv) the Melchizedeck priesthood is being formed in the Church.

However the term is used, the philosophical and political nature of it is at enmity with the Gospel of Christ. The main appeal in the current use of the term is for the established denominations to relinquish their structures and faith and merge with the "New Order" and accept the control of the "Gnostic" leaders. CAUTION !!! Whenever this term is used, great caution is necessary on the part of the Christian.

The following are some of the aberrant teachings and tendencies stemming from the "NEW ORDER" concept. Not all the proponents of the "NEW ORDER" necessarily subscribe to some or all of the following points. However, to varying degrees many do.

NEW ORDER ABERRATIONS	BIBLICAL ORTHODOX POSITION
(1) Deals primarily with political, moral and social issues. The object being to build an alternative society, (NEW ORDER	(1) Deals primarily with the cause of the issues, namely, the problem of sin in the heart of the man. (Matt. 15:18-20)
(2) Repentance is an attitude, i.e. a positive attitude toward God and self.	(2) Repentance is a sincere admission of being a sinner and total reliance of God's mercy through faith in Jesus Christ. (Lu. 18:13; I Jo. 1:9; Eph. 2:8-9)
(3) The NEW ORDER stresses reform and conformity to a system based on works and rewards.	(3) The Bible stresses death to self, the world, the flesh and a resurrection to a new life in Christ Jesus. (Rom. 6:3-12)
(4) The GREAT COMMISSION is to Christianize the world to fit into the NEW ORDER or NEW WORLDVIEW.	(4) The GREAT COMMISSION was to evangelize the world, "and preach the gospel to every creature" in the anticipation of the literal return of the Lord Jesus Christ and His millennial reign on earth. (Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 1:9-11; Rev. 20:6)
(5) Love is the basis for unity and not doctrine or one's beliefs.	(5) LOVING, BELIEVING and LIVING for God according to the Holy Scriptures is the basis for true unity. (Phil. 1:27; II Ti. 3:14-17; Acts 2:42-44; II Ti. 4:2-4; I Cor. 5:11; Matt. 4:4)
(6) Scripture is interpreted allegorically and spiritualized to mean however it is perceived.	(6) Scripture is interpreted literally and is not to be spiritualized to mean anything private. (Pet. 1:20-21)

(7) Rejection of the literal “Rapture” of the Church, the Tribulation, the Anti-Christ as a person and the millennium.	(7) Believe in the literal “Rapture” of the Church, the Tribulation, the Anti-Christ as a person and the millennium. (I Thess. 4:13-17; II Thess. 2:1-11; Dan. 9:24-27; Matt. 24:21, 22; Rev. 20:6)
(8) Rejection of Israel as a Chosen People of God. Teaches that the Church has replaced Israel.	(8) Accepts Israel as a Chosen People of God. Believes natural Israel is destined to fulfill all the prophecies pertaining to her as a nation on earth. (Rom. 11:1-32)
(9) Believes the modern prophets and apostles will usher in the NEW ORDER.	(9) Believes the great Apostle and Prophet, Jesus Christ will usher in GOD’S KINGDOM on earth. (Rev. 19:11-21; 20:1-10)
(10) Believes the Church is the literal ongoing incarnation of Christ.	(10) Believes Jesus Christ was and is the only divine incarnation to the world. (John 1:14; Matt. 1:23; I John 4:1-3; II John 7)

God bless you!

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