

Time's Up ...Nearly!

Kenneth Copeland, in the January issue of *The Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine, says we are now living at the end of time. "I don't know if it's this year. I don't know if it's next year. I don't know if it's next week. But I *do* know He's coming and it's a whole lot sooner than most of us think."

"Time as we have known it is over," Copeland writes. "These are different times we're living in now. And what I'm about to tell you is almost unthinkable, not from a bad standpoint but from a good one."

"You and I have entered into a space of time, a little, narrow band of time, which, in the scheme of all mankind, is the biggest and perhaps the most important block of time since the creation of Adam. We have stepped over – in the spirit realm and the natural realm – into exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think (Ephesians 3:20)."

The time Copeland is speaking of culminated with Jesus. As an example of the kind of acts characteristic of this period, he points to John 6:5-13 and Matthew 14:19-21. These passages illustrate that Jesus used a boy's five loaves and two fishes to feed thousands. At that point, Copeland says, the "whole sowing and reaping process [was] condensed into a matter of moments."

"The reaper caught up with the sower," he says.

Copeland also points to Amos 9:13, which reads:

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of the grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt.

"The word prophesies that there is a time coming when seedtime and harvest time will run together," he says, indicating that this phenomenon occurred when the lad "sowed his bread and fish into Jesus' ministry that morning, and went home later with 12 baskets full." That's the "kind of time we're living in today."

"For all practical purposes," he says, 2,000 years have come and gone since Jesus' birth and ministry. Six thousand years since Adam was created.

"Where does that put us on our spiritual clock?"

We have entered that little sliver of time between Adam's lease on earth – and consequently, Satan's dominion in this earth due to Adam's Fall – and the period of time we read about in Acts 2:19-20: "*And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come.*"

"Although we are the ones who are wedged into this narrow band of time, really, it is God who's being pressed and pushed. And by pushed I mean everything God promised would come to pass during the past 6,000 years must come to pass before the beginning of Jesus' millennial reign. Everything He ever said is coming to pass – and only God could accomplish that.

"This sliver of time we're living in is the moment just before the catching away of the Church, and the final outpouring when God can do whatever He wants to do..."

"You and I are in a moment of grace which, for us, means we are reaping a harvest of 2,000 years worth of gospel seed."



Kingdom Briefs

Christians Ministered to Arafat, Charisma Article Says

Many Christian leaders reportedly met with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat at various times and shared the gospel with him. Two who did were British author and pastor R.T. Kendall and Canon Andrew White, special envoy to the Middle East for the Archbishop of Canterbury. White described Arafat as a "devout Muslim who loved Jesus, and a friend." Kendall said he met with Arafat five times before he died. "He had a soft spot for Jesus, that I know," Kendall said. However, neither man could say that Arafat had actually received Jesus as Savior and Lord. "We'll not know until heaven what happened in his heart," said Kendall. (Source: **Charisma magazine**)

More Christian Films Headed to the Big Screen

Among the Bible-based books set for film production are *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis, *The Visitation* by Frank Peretti and *One Night With the King* by Tommy Tenney. Movie executive Richard Gazowski predicts a "renaissance" of Christian films now that the barriers have been beaten back by the success of *The Passion of the Christ*. Gazowski, president of What You See Is What You Get (WYSIWYG) Filmworks, said he expects these films to do well. WYSIWYG conducts a Christian film festival. *The Passion* has grossed more than \$370 million in North America. *Woman Thou Art Loosed*, which is based on the best-selling book by T.D. Jakes, reportedly cost \$2 million to make and has grossed more than \$6 million. (Source: **Christian Retailing**)

eHarmony.com Founder Couples Book, Online Service

Many television viewers have seen the cherubic face of psychologist Neil Clark Warren, founder of eHarmony.com, in commercials touting his online relationship service. Now Warren, along with Ken Abraham, has written a book, *Falling in Love for All the Right Reasons: How to Find Your Soul Mate* (Center Street: \$22.99). "Although the book is written to tell the story of eHarmony – and likely to build clientele – Warren's higher purposes is to demonstrate how the relationship principle he has discovered in decades of research can help couples considering marriage know if they are right for one another." (Source: **Christian Retailing**)

(Continued on page two)

What's Inside?

- Religious People Have Lower Rates of Suicide, Study Says – Page 2
- Bishop Eddie Long, Dr. King's Daughter March to Protest Same-Sex Marriage – Page 2
- Four Christians Face 47-Year Terms for Reading the Bible at a Gay Rally – Page 3
- Procter & Gamble Boycott Picks Up More Supporters – Page 3

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Religious People Have Lower Rates of Suicide, Study Says

A study conducted at New York City's Columbia University examined the influence of religious affiliation on suicide attempts in 371 depressed inpatients at a psychiatric institute. About half of the study participants had attempted suicide at least once in their lifetime, according to Reuters Health.

The study, which was reported in the *American Journal of Psychiatry*, found that "depressed men and women who consider themselves affiliated with a religion are less likely to attempt suicide than their non-religious counterparts."

"If someone acknowledges being religious, all else being equal, they are at lower risk to act on suicidal thoughts than someone who does not acknowledge religious affiliation," study co-author Dr. Maria A. Oquendo told Reuters Health. "It does not appear to make a difference what religion they state their affiliation for," she said.

The Reuters Health article said that previous research has shown that religious countries tend to have lower rates of suicide than secular nations. Studies have also shown that a higher degree of religious commitment is associated with less suicidal behavior.

Overall, men and women who said they belonged to a religion had a history of fewer suicide attempts than those who reported no religious affiliation.



Bishop Eddie Long, Dr. King's Daughter March to Protest Same-Sex Marriage

In an attempt to establish a unified black vote, the Rev. Bernice King, daughter of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, and Bishop Eddie L. Long, a prominent Atlanta pastor, joined in a march to demonstrate their opposition to same-sex marriage.

The "Reigniting the Legacy" march on December 11, which was led by King and Long, began at the Martin Luther King Center for Nonviolent Social Change. The event was criticized by gay rights organizations, which said it betrayed the legacy of Dr. King.

King's widow, Coretta Scott King, has supported marriage rights for gays and lesbians, as have civil rights figures such as Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) and Julian Bond, chairman of the NAACP, according to a report in the *Los Angeles Times*.

Bishop Long's goal, said the *Times* article, was to "re-establish an authoritative voice for the black church on issues including protection of marriage, school choice, affordable health care and wealth creation for minorities." He said it was not to protest same-sex marriage.

In November, Georgia voters approved a state constitutional amendment banning gay marriage. In the run-up to the election, the issue split Georgia's black leadership, sometimes setting pastors at odds with the political caucus forged in the civil rights era.

The *Times* article said gay activists were well aware of Long's opposition to same-sex marriage. One gay activist said, "I think it's very sad. I think he's abusing the good name of Dr. King and the work he did creating equality for all Americans."

Bernice King, Dr. King's youngest daughter, said she has become the "spiritual daughter" of Bishop Long, who has built the largest of Atlanta's megachurches.

Kingdom Briefs

Continued from page one

Amway Founder Jay Van Andel Dies at 80

Jay Van Andel, one half of the partnership that founded the Amway Corp., died December 7, 2004, of apparent heart failure. He was 80. With his partner, Richard Devos, Van Andel created the worldwide direct sales company that relied on a network of independent distributors. The company began in their basements in 1959, where the two created L.O.C., Amway's famous all-purpose cleaner. Over four decades they built their business into a multibillion-dollar empire. The two became generous philanthropists to Christian and conservative political causes. (Source: *Los Angeles Times*)

2 Largest Pentecostal Denominations Form Partnership

The Assemblies of God and the Church of God in Christ have agreed to a corporate partnership to operate the School of Urban Missions, an urban Bible college with campuses in Oakland, California, and New Orleans. The Memphis-based COGIC is a predominantly black denomination, and the Springfield, Mo.-based Assemblies of God is predominantly white. It marks the first time that the two Pentecostal fellowships have come together on such a joint project. (Source: *Ministries Today*)

LaHaye Upset Over New Fiction Series

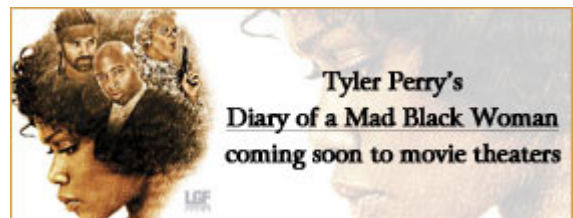
Tim LaHaye, co-author with Jerry Jenkins of the massively successful *Left Behind* series of books, said he feels betrayed by his publisher, Tyndale House, because it is publishing another fiction series based on a different view of Bible prophecy. Tyndale released *The Last Disciple*, the first novel in a series co-written by Hank Hanegraff and Sigmund Brouwer, in October. The book is based on the view that most of the events in Revelation occurred in the first century, a perspective that is in sharp contrast to that presented by LaHaye and Jenkins in their best-selling series. "They are going to take money we made for them and promote this nonsense," said LaHaye. A spokesman for Tyndale said both points of view are supported by a large number of evangelical scholars. (Source: *Christian Retailing*)

Animated Series, 'Davey & Goliath,' May Be Resurrected

The Lutheran Church revived its 1960s-era animated series "Davey & Goliath" for a special Christmas program on the Hallmark Channel, but the hope is that other shows may follow. The original series was produced from 1960 to 1965 and was distributed free to television stations to be aired on Sunday mornings. Davey was a typically mischievous boy constantly being helped out of trouble by his dog, Goliath. Although it was a Christian show, religion was soft-pedaled behind the constant themes that the love of God and parents was unconditional. (Source: *Los Angeles Times*, *Associated Press*)

On the Trail of Good News

Hey, we're sniffing around for news and other uplifting information that might appeal to our national audience. If you know of a unique Christian business, ministry or personality, or of something happening on the news front, give us a heads-up. You might want to send a clipping from your local newspaper or invite us to track down a story from the details you provide. Remember, all our stories are Christ-based and nationally oriented, though they may cut across entertainment, business, lifestyle, political or other lines. E-mail us at newsletter@tkog.biz or mail us your clippings at The Kingdom of God, P.O. Box 1147, Claremont, CA 91711.

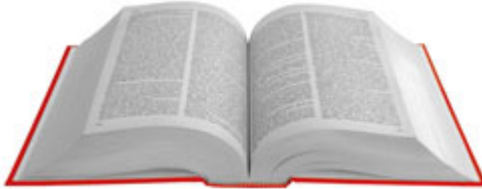


Four Christians Face 47-Year Terms for Reading the Bible at a Gay Rally

Four Christians face up to 47 years in prison and \$90,000 in fines for preaching the Gospel on a public sidewalk in Philadelphia, according to a report from the American Family Association.

The four members of Repent America were arrested on October 10, 2004, while preaching near Outfest, a homosexual event, handing out Gospel literature and carrying banners with biblical messages. Their activities are assumed to be fully protected by the First Amendment,

When they tried to speak, said to the online report sent by Donald Wildmon, chairman of the AFA, they were surrounded by a group of radical homosexual activists



dubbed the *Pink Angels*. A videotape of the incident shows the *Pink Angels* interfering with the Christians' movement, holding up large pink symbols of angels to block the Christians' messages and blowing high-pitched whistles to drown out their preaching.

"Rather than arrest the homosexual activists and allow the Christians to exercise their First Amendment rights, the Philadelphia police arrested and jailed the Christians," wrote Wildmon. "In the 27 years of this ministry, I have never witnessed a more outrageous miscarriage of justice than what is happening in Philadelphia." The incident was also reported on Bill O'Reilly's show, *The O'Reilly Factor*.

Three members of Repent America, along with founder Michael Marcavage, were charged with eight crimes, including three felonies: possession of instruments of crime (a bullhorn), ethnic intimidation (saying that homosexuality is a sin), and inciting a riot (reading Bible passages relating to homosexuality), despite the fact that no riot had occurred.

"You may think I am exaggerating," wrote Wildmon. "I'm not. Our AFA Center for Law and Policy is representing these four individuals at no cost. We will take this case all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary to get justice. There is so much more about this case I don't have room for it in this letter. We have prepared a 25-minute VHS/DVD in which two AFA-CLP attorneys discuss the case in detail.

"Please help us with our expenses in representing these committed Christians. With your tax-deductible gift of \$15, less than the cost of a cup of coffee once a month for the next year, we will send your choice of either the VHS or DVD. Watch it, then share it with your Sunday school class and church. This VHS/DVD should be required viewing in every church in America."

[Click here to get your copy of the Philadelphia 4 Story](#)

Procter & Gamble Boycott Picks Up More Supporters From Christian Groups

More Christian groups have joined the American Family Association and Focus on the Family in their boycott of Procter & Gamble products, according to the American Family Association. Among the groups upholding the boycott are: The Center for Reclaiming America (Dr. James Kennedy), American Values (Gary Bauer), Point Of View Radio, Council for National Policy Action Inc., Exodus International, Faith2Action, Vision America, Free Market Foundation, and Cornerstone Policy Research.

In October *Kingdom Voice* reported that AFA and Focus on the Family had launched a boycott of P&G because of the giant corporation's support of same-sex marriage and its overall spearheading of so-called homosexual rights. "For Procter & Gamble to align itself with radical groups committed to redefining marriage in our country is an affront to its customers," Dr. James Dobson, who heads Focus on the Family, said. Three products are the main targets of the boycotts. They are: Crest toothpaste, Pampers diapers and Tide detergent. The company distributes more than one hundred popular brands, including Cheer and Gain detergents, Ivory and Camay hand soap, Charmin bathroom tissue, Tampax tampons, Always minipads and maxipads, Scope mouthwash and Noxzema and Old Spice toiletries

The groups charged that P&G actively sought "those who practice the ... homosexual lifestyle to ... work for the company." It said the company sought employees on a homosexual website "whose sole distinguishing characteristic is sex with same-sex partners."

AFA, which is headed by Donald E. Wildmon, reports that nearly 350,000 individuals have already signed the on-line petition supporting the boycott. In addition, many more thousands have signed the hard copy of the petition.

The American Family Association is asking individuals to:

- 1. Boycott three products of P&G** — Crest toothpaste, Tide detergent, and Pampers diapers. (Some are boycotting all P&G products, which we encourage. To print out a list of P&G products, [click here](#).)
- 2. Print out a Boycott Procter & Gamble petition** and distribute among Sunday school and church members and with friends. [Click here](#). ([pdf version](#)) ([MS Word Version](#))
- 3. Please register your support** for the boycott at pgboycott.com.
- 4. Call Chairman A.G. Lafley** at 513-983-1100 and politely let him know that you are participating in the boycott and will ask others to do the same.
- 5. Help spread the word** by forwarding this to friends and family.

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