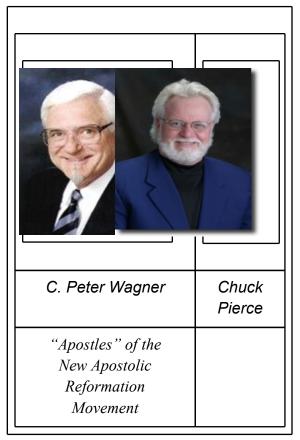
THE NEW "APOSTOLIC REFORMATION" DECEPTION



(In case anyone is wondering from whence we come: Though less than the least of all saints, this writer believes and seeks to walk in the full Gospel of Christ including the baptism in the Holy Ghost with the fruit and gifts of the Holy Spirit. So, I do not write from the perspective of one who denies the work of the Holy Spirit. All the gifts and callings of God are to be operated by His grace and <u>to glorify Jesus Christ alone</u>, and not mere men. The LORD will never contradict His own Word and all gifts properly used will be in full accordance with Holy Writ (1 Pet. 4:10-11; 2 Pet. 1:16-21). Please proceed prayerfully and from a biblical mindset like the "noble" Berean believers of Acts17:11. As true disciples of Jesus, and in light of the numerous warnings of false prophets in the last days, our goal should be to glorify Him fully, which would include discerning what is authentic and what is not (Ezek. 44:23; Matt. 7:15-23; 1 Jn. 4:1).

• "Beloved, <u>BELIEVE NOT every spirit</u>, but try (test) the spirits whether they are of God: because MANY false prophets are gone out into the world." 1 John 4:1

C. Peter Wagner and Chuck Pierce make up *Global Harvest Ministries* which regrettably has worldwide connections and influence among many leaders. Other leaders involved include Mary Glazier, Pat Francis, Dutch Sheets, and Lance Wallnau. are some of the other people involved in this movement.

Believers in Jesus are commanded not to just accept everyone who comes in Christ's name but to rather "try (test) the spirits" - that is, put to the biblical acid test all who come in the LORD's name. The Ephesian Christians did so and Jesus was glorified: •"...thou canst not bear them which are EVIL and <u>thou hast tried (tested) them which</u> say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars." Revelation 2:2

The first thing one can recognize, is that these men do not preach the Word of God but rather their own visions like the false prophets of old identified as counterfeit by the prophets of God (read Jer. 23; Ezek. 34).

These men emphasize what they call "The Seven Spheres of Influence," etc.

"He (Lance Wallnau) calls them the seven mountains. The warfare strategy is that 'if the world is to be won, these are the mountains that mold the culture and the minds of men. Whoever controls these mountains controls the direction of the world and the harvest therein." (p. 114) [emphasis added]

They speak of taking these 7 mountains of society but never with the Gospel with social program. Such is not the work of the true Church of Jesus which tells us these men are beguilers because they are misguiding others while not holding to "the doctrine of Christ" and by this be know that they do not have God (2 Jn. 7-11). Their approach and methodologies only include reform without repentance, and transformation without truth.

No mandate in Holy Scripture calls for such presumptuous activities from these or any other self-appointed wolves in sheep's clothing (Matt. 7:15). This brazen arrogance underscores the presumptuous, self-directed spirit of these evil and deceptive beguilers (Jer. 23; Ezek. 34).

Isn't it Jesus Himself who is going to destroy those 7 mountains and the evil doers of the Babylonian religious and political system? Read Revelation 17-19.

Lucifer sought to elevate himself and was brought irreversibly low (Isa. 14:12-15). He wanted his independence from God and so now he lost it for good. Jesus is coming and may God bless each of us with the oil of His enabling grace and Spirit to be put under deep into His death and burial, raised as and when and how He sees fit and ultimately raised to glory with Him in the New Jerusalem (Isa. 37:31; Jn. 12:24-26; Rev. 3:5; 21:1-7).

• "The LORD first makes us realize humility (beggars at the dunghill), then raises us to sit with princes." Travis Bryan III

Pride-filled people are imitating their father the devil who is "king over all the children of pride."

• "He beholdeth all high things: he is a king over all the children of pride." Job 41:34

Of Wagner and Pierce, Mike Oppenheimer of LetUsReason.org states:

• "These men are architects of the new paradigm who have promised a river but they have sold to the church an empty well. Wagner has written several books, one is called *The New Apostolic Churches* that explains the new apostolic spirit that is raising international leaders. Contrary to their claims of restoring apostles and prophets to the Church to complete a five-fold ministry mentioned by Paul in Ephesians, this movement can be more identified as Nicolaitans warned of in Rev. 2:15-16. But it is taking many churches by hook or by crook. The prophetic movement has for all intents and purposes proven to be a repackaged discipleship/shepherding movement under the title of church growth.

- •The stories of lives being ripped apart by people prophesying over them have become an in-house disaster that is often swept under the rug. Yet it daily continues with some new faces (and old) and a repaired program with a barrel full of excuses waiting to be used.
- I have watched, studied, and spoken out on this movement since it was known to me in the late 80's (as have numerous others). What we see today is the iceberg rising; no longer is 75% of it hidden but is becoming more known all the time. A new Priesthood government is being set up that can only be comparable to what has been practiced in the Roman Catholic church hierarchy throughout its history. They are called 'the anointed,' 'apostles and prophets' and the Church must listen to them, allow them to minister and lead to be healthy and fulfill her commission. Without them we will be unable to complete our commission by Jesus; so they tell us."

Illegitimate Authority & Unwarranted Control

C. Peter Wagner and Chuck Pierce are the inventors and propagators of what they call "The New Apostolic Reformation Movement." (NAR) Typically, those who invent some new movement conveniently happen to be the ones "God" supposedly places to lead. In this case these "apostles" are supposed to have the authority to rule over others. They position themselves as the "men of the hour" whom God supposedly speaks through. They convince people that they are God's special spokesmen. In order to do this - to beguile gullible, biblically illiterate people - they downplay, ignore, and even disparage the true super apostles of our LORD - Paul, Peter, John, etc. These men were Christ's authentic apostles of a surety and they truly honored "the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus." (Heb. 3:1)

It is interesting that they themselves just happen to be the "super apostles" heading up the show in this case. A review of their teachings will reveal that these men, like all similar ministries, believe that modern apostles have an extraordinary amount of authority that Christians must submit to or be outside of the will of God. Such a teaching, spoken or insinuated, is cultish. It should be noted that the apostle Paul - a genuine apostle of Jesus Christ - never claimed to possess such an authority over God's people. He also never taught or sought to exercise such dominion/authority over the people for which Jesus bled to purchase. In fact, the apostle Paul said:

•"<u>Not</u> for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand." 2 Corinthians 1:24

True servants of Christ are submitted to Him and live to help the joy of those they come to serve. Compare this with the 'lording it over' mentality of the false prophets being exposed in this article. It is "by faith" in Christ that saints are saved and "stand" in their relationship with God and that is first and foremost and has nothing to do with mere men. Paul claimed no authority over those he led, instead, he postured himself as one who helped them consider the joy of Christ's salvation.

Jesus gave His disciples authority over demons and sickness but never over people (Matt. 10:1-8; Lk. 10:18). The LORD Jesus has "all power in heaven and in earth," and has sent all who know Him to teach His sayings. We are called to preach His Gospel to others but never to try to control another human being to all nations and yet

The LORD told us that His name is "Jealous," that He is "a jealous God," and commanded: "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." (Exod. 20:3; 34:14)

The believer's loyalty to mere men must be based upon that higher and prioritized loyalty to God (Matt. 22:37-40; 2 Cor. 8:5; Col. 3:17).

In their misguided desire to reign over others, these men are like Moses, who before his time, went forth and tried to do the will of God and wound up killing a man. These men are killing (bringing spiritual death) to many others in their rebellion against the LORD. Unlike Moses, these men have yet to repent and surrender their lives and futures to the coming King of all kings. These self-appointed men and women want so badly to be in control that they will stop at nothing to put themselves in authority over others (sound like Lucifer?) This is the exact opposite of what the Son of God taught. He taught that if we would humble ourselves He would in His coming kingdom would exalt us to rule with him.

Those who lift themselves up before they are prepared by the LORD through long hard seasons of testings and purging, will be "lifted up with pride" and "fall into the condemnation of the devil."

"Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil." 1 Timothy 3:6

Those who are like their "father the devil," lust after power in this life, and will be brought low – into the pit of hell for eternity (Jn. 8:44). 1 Corinthians 13 tells us that love "seeketh not her own." Love is humble, it "vaunteth not itself," and is like Christ - "lowly." (Matt. 11:28-30) It's "the meek" that shall inherit the earth," and the LORD is going to "stain the pride of all (fleshly) glory." (Ps. 37:11; Isa. 23:9) Jesus said, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." (Matt. 5:5)

These men are like David's two sons, Adonijah and Absalom, who tried to usurp the authority of the king and "stole the hearts of the men of Israel." (2 Sam. 15:6) Satan is using these men, along with all false prophets, to steal the heart affections that are due only to the "only Potentate," Jesus Christ (1 Tim. 6:15).

These self-appointed, so called apostles, are usurping Christ's authority to reign over His

earth, the peoples of the earth, and His own saints that He personally purchased with His own precious blood (Ps. 24:1; Heb. 1:1-3; 1 Pet. 1:18-19). Jesus Christ made all things, sustains all things, and alone is "Head" of the people He purchased with His won blood back to the Father (Col. 1:12-18).

The Son of God made clear that the only legitimate authority (that which He authorizes) is servant-authority – authority from Heaven, invested in us in order to serve others, not dominate them. The true leader in the kingdom of God serves as a slave and not as a ruler. Those who rule over people will be humbled to hell (Matt. 23:11-12).

Christ says and demonstrates that in His kingdom, greatness is not measured by dominion over other people but it's measured by how we give ourselves in service to other people.

Jesus has been given "all power" and sent His people with His delegated authority to do His work, which never included power over other people – lost or saved. He's LORD, not us! His authority did include power over devils and sicknesses (Matt. 10:1-8; Lk. 10:17-19).

The element of an evil control seems to under gird and pervade this "Apostolic Reformation" movement. Paul also asked the following rhetorical question: "was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" (1 Cor. 1:13) If Paul wasn't crucified for us, certainly no modern day leader was. Right? When we give undue loyalty or adoration to mere human leaders, we enter into idolatry and spiritual adultery. Only the One who has nail-scarred hands and feet and is risen from the dead is worthy of our worship. Also, only those who "watch for your souls" by honoring and diligently speaking into your heart the full-counsel of the oracles of God are to be submitted to (Acts 20-:20-32; Heb. 13:7, 17). The leader who doesn't honor God by living and teaching by His Word alone, is never to be submitted to by the LORD's people.

When any leader assumes undue control, it is the "deeds" and "doctrine of the Nicolaitanes" which Christ said He hated and "will fight against." (Rev. 2:6, 15-16) "Nicolaitanes" means *conquer the laity*. Nico =*conquer* and laitanes = *the laity*.

In typical nicolaitane opportunist fashion, recently, after that pastor in Illinois was shot dead in the pulpit, one of the NAR (New Apostolic Reformation) so-called apostles said that if this man had had proper "covering" he would not have been shot. That's actually true, but not as this deceiver sees it. The "covering" we need is the LORD and not these self-exalting wolves who are so full of themselves that they vainly believe that everyone needs them to "covering" them. Whose sins did they handg on the cross and died for? Were they raised from the dead after shedding their innocent and sinless blood? pppffftttt "Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin: That walk to go down into Egypt, and have not asked at my mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt!" Isaiah 30:1-2

covering, reveals openly just how delusional and arrogant he is.

The Great Shepherd of His sheep never authorized such authority to mere men. In fact, Jesus taught: "But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." (Matt. 23:11-12) The measure of leadership is in serving others as unto the LORD. The true apostle will be found to have a heart that is broken and bowed before the LORD Almighty and a disposition to serve and not reign over God's people. In light of what Christ, "the apostle and high priest of our profession," taught, the next time someone comes around claiming to be an apostle, I think it may be good to say something like; "Well good brother, in that case you are to be the greatest servant among us so grab that broom in the corner and please sweep this dirty floor!" (Heb. 3:1) A man who is not postured to serve God's people manifests his own desire to wrongly position himself and be served by God's people which in contrary to Christ's teaching concerning His leaders (Matt. 20:20-28; Phil. 2:3-5). When giving instructions to "elders," the apostle Peter wrote: "Neither as being lords (rulers) over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock." (1 Pet. 5:3) The body of Christ was purchased by His very own blood and is "God's heritage" and not man's. Lording it over "God's heritage" is the work of those men whom Zechariah said reign as "idol shepherds" amidst God's people (Zech. 11:17).

One of the ways these men gain the positioning to control people is by making the people believe that they are the elite priesthood the LORD speaks through to His Church. Nonsense! Ever notice how they always have a new word? -A fresh word "from God"? Perhaps they have to perpetually conjure up new "words" to keep the circus wheel of their movement and ministries spinning and the money rolling in.

The flippant use among "Apostolic Reformation" leaders of phrases like "God is saying to His Church" is presumptuous at best. These self-appointed leaders pretend to have some special inroad to the LORD and use it to wield a false authority over His people. Of those who would control or be controlled in an undue fashion, the Son of God commanded: "Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth." (see Rev. 2:6, 15-16)

Self-Appointed & Self-Elevating "False Apostles"

It seems that sinful men will always invent some new way to elevate themselves above others. This is no exception. Isn't it interesting that these men who claim the LORD is restoring apostolic leadership just happen to be those "apostles" He is elevating to rule over His people (as they vainly suppose). Quite convenient isn't it?

Isn't it interesting that they named their movement using the term "apostle" instead of servant? Why not "New <u>Servant</u> Reformation Movement"? Would that not be more biblical in nature? - in humility? Make no mistake, these men are self-appointed and self-elevating. It's all about them and not Jesus Christ, who is "THE Apostle and hight priest of

our profession." (Heb. 3:1)

• "Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus." Hebrews 3:1

Here the Holy Spirit tells us to **"consider ... Christ Jesus"** whom He tells us is **"<u>the Apostle</u> and High Priest of our profession."** The divine Person of the Holy Ghost here points us to Jesus Christ, the only Apostle that really matters. He never, not once, directs men who have been saved by the precious blood of **"the Apostle and High Priest of our profession,"** to look to human apostles. And we know by this that any person who even suggests such a thing is a **"false apostle."**

Only people who don't read and heed their Bible can be hoodwinked by such rank charlatans.

• "Let me not, I pray you, accept any man's person, neither let me give flattering titles unto man. For I know not to give flattering titles; in so doing my maker would soon take me away." Job 32:21-22

Perhaps the most authentic and powerful (human) kingdom apostle said this when dealing with self-appointed leaders at Galatia:

"But of these (some other supposed apostles) who seemed to be somewhat, (whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: <u>God accepteth no man</u>'s <u>person</u>:) for they who seemed to be somewhat in conference added nothing to me." Galatians 2:6

This is no new thing friends. As long as sinful men have been on earth, there have been those who emulate their father the devil in seeking to exalt themselves to rule over other men oppressively and to gain power and advantage and the rush of superiority over them (Isa. 14:12-15; 2 Pet. 2:19). This is exactly what these modern day **"false apostles"** are doing as they operate among the professing church.

The idea that the LORD speaks through some special group of elite leaders is bogus and violates Scripture. God has chosen to speak through His Son and through His Word to bring men to Him and to bring about His desired end (Isa. 46:9-10; Lk. 24:47; Jn. 20:31; Heb. 1:2). The Good Shepherd of the sheep told us **"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."** (Jn.10:27) Any leader that makes it look like he has special access to the LORD should be departed from immediately, marked and openly exposed for the antichrist wolf that he is (Rom. 16:17-18; Eph. 5:11). The notion that God speaks from the top down among men is heretical. Think about this: Does Jesus need a so-called apostle's permission to speak to an individual sheep He bled on the cross to save?

Jesus taught us not to be called by titles that elevate one brother above another because He said "<u>one is your Master</u>, <u>even Christ</u>; and <u>all ye are brethren</u>." (Matt. 23:8) The LORD Jesus said: "I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes." (Matt. 11:25) From this statement we know that God actually hides His truth from those who are wise in their own eyes and reveals it to those who are humble and broken before Him. Those who elevate self through man-instituted religious hierarchy are doomed to destruction (Matt. 16:18; 23).

The apostle Paul said "that ye might learn in us not to think *of men* above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another." (1 Cor. 4:6) Under the direct inspiration of the Holy Ghost, Paul also stated: "charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up." (1 Cor. 13:4) "Emulations" is one of the 17 "works of the flesh" listed in Galatians 5. By definition, "emulations" means *striving to excel at the expense of another*. This is in contrast with what Christ taught and demonstrated in seeking to serve others and to prefer them above ourselves (Matt. 18:3-4; 20:20-28; Phil. 2:2-5). Of this sin this passage promises "that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." (Gal. 5:21) At the expense of the masses, these men are willing to reign as kings, to be honored above that which is correct for mere men who are in their very best state "altogether vanity." (Ps. 39:5). What did Jesus do when the people attempted to make Him king? To elevate oneself and office is to strive to excel at the expense of others whom they lure in to partake of their strange fire.

• "When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to

make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone." John 6:15 The LORD Jesus hid Himself when men sought to lift Him up. Today we have men in leadership who do just the opposite. They seek out and draw to themselves the praises and accolades of men instead of retreating from undue elevation and instead of seeking the praise that comes from God alone.

Speaking of religious leaders of His day, Jesus said: "For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God." (Jn. 12:43)

Paul said that those those who seek to please men more than God are not Christ's servants (Gal. 1:10).

When Peter sought to circumvent the cross of Christ, Jesus "turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for <u>thou savourest not the things</u> <u>that be of God, but those that be of men</u>." (Matt. 16:23)

When the LORD Jesus died on the cross **"the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom"** and God came out to meet on a personal level every many who would believe and come unto Him (Mk. 15:38; Heb. 4:14-16; 10:19-22). In contrast to the revelation of Holy Scripture, the goal of the counterfeit leader is to position himself as a true "prophet" or "apostle" of the LORD so as to gain the preeminence over and allegiance of as many as he can lure in. The wise saint will learn the Word and walk in the Spirit and not be snared by such a wolf. The Bible teaches us that Jesus Christ is the only true **"Head"** of His one Church (Eph. 5:23; Col. 1:16-18; 2:18-19). According the Jesus Christ there is only

"one shepherd." Only One bled to redeem and He alone is King of all kings and LORD of all lords (Rev. 19:16).

• "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, *and one shepherd*." John 10:16

To pose as a Christian leader and posture oneself as one who wields extraordinary authority over God's people is the height of evil arrogance. To do such is to not operate according to Christ's Word and to use the name of the LORD in vain for one's own selfish end (Exod. 20:7). False prophets come in His name but without the earmark fruits we are to **"know them"** by (Matt. 7:15-23; 24:3-4, 11, 24). Humility is one such earmark fruit, and not seen in the arrogant, power hungry deceivers who have headed up the charismatic movement over the last few decades (Matt. 18:3-4; 20:20-28). Jesus foretold us that these deluded leaders would have gifts, miracles, and prophetic words. Christ told us that **"many"** (not a few) deceived men who presently hold positions of influence over multitudes, would call Him **"Lord, Lord"** in their earthly lives and at the Judgment Throne and yet He said He will **"profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."** (Matt. 7:22-23) Why? - Because they do not the will of His Father (Matt. 7:21). The leader who does the will of God is obeying Christ's command to be humble and serve others and never to seek to be served by others (Mat. 20:20-28; Phil. 2:3-5).

Concerning the false prophets in Israel, Jeremiah wrote:

•"I have heard what the prophets said, that <u>prophesy lies in my name</u>, <u>saying</u>, I have <u>dreamed</u>, I have dreamed. How long shall *this* be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? yea, <u>they are prophets of the deceit of their own hear</u>t; Which think to <u>cause my people to forget my name by their dreams</u>which they tell every man to his neighbour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal." Jeremiah 23:25-27

The false prophets of the "Apostolic Reformation" movement are like those of Jeremiah's day. Of these false prophets, the Holy Spirit tells us:

- They "prophesy lies in my name"
- They are "saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed"
- "they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart"
- •They "think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbour"

In this movement one will discover gross and undue emphasis upon miracles, physical healing, signs, wonders, and "words" from God. This is their lure as Jesus foretold it would be (Matt. 7:22-23). 2 Thessalonians 2 speaks of **"the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders."** (2 Thess. 2:9-12) By this and other Scriptures, we understand that Satan can do miracles and yet he cannot counterfeit or produce good fruit as only the Holy Spirit can in the obedient, abiding, born again believers who **"have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."** (Matt. 7:15-23; Gal. 5:22-24). In this "Apostolic

Reformation" movement one will discover the gross lack of sobriety and simple, plain, clear, forthright Bible teaching and learning. Walking in faith through God-guaranteed sufferings, persecutions, hatred, and trials will never be mentioned in their conferences or messages. These hard truths of Holy Scripture are intentionally avoided. Sound doctrine, which produces sound hearts and sound minds, will be absent. The biblical emphasis upon the fruit produced by the Holy Spirit in those who abide in daily communion with Christ will not be tended to in this camp (Jn. 15; Gal. 5:22-24). The denial of the self-life as demanded by Jesus, will conveniently be ignored (Lk. 9:23-24). The truth of the preeminent LORD and Savior and **"Head"** of His true Church will not be emphasized (Col. 1:16-18; 2:18-19). When Christ is truly exalted as the only LORD and **"Head"** over His Church, it leaves no room for men to be exalted. The final authority, divine inspiration, and innerrancy of Holy Scripture will not be upheld in this camp of convoluted confusion and deception.

What do you think the motive would be of the man who hides the whole and naked truth from those he speaks to? Is he afraid that openly communicating the hard truths of God's Word will feed into his own personal agenda, image, and reputation? Is such a man truly serving Christ or himself? (Matt. 10:28; Lk. 12:5; Gal. 1:10)

• "Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets." Luke 6:26

In order to become popular in today's modern ministry world industry, one must say the right things and purposely leave out the things that would offend others. The Son o God guaranteed that any person who is popular among the masses of "Christians" who "heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears" is a false prophet. This is another truth to discern by - "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits." (Matt. 7:15-16)

Christ promised His twelve and all who would follow Him faithfully - "Ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake." (Matt. 10:22) Ever hear these modern day "prophetic" or "apostolic" leaders teach this Scripture and the many like it? Have you ever heard them mention these words which proceeded from the mouth of the One they claim to be serving?

Concerning the replacement of God's Word for a feeling and experiencebased "Christianity," one expose' says:

•"This kind of disdain for the word of God is common among (charismatics)...and we have several documented examples of such. All emphasis is on feelings while doctrine and Bible study are looked down and frowned upon. The Devil is pleased when people follow their feelings over the Bible!"

With the un-scriptural over emphasis on words, signs, and wonders, this movement continues to produce experience or feeling-based "Christians" who live lives of hyped flakery because they are not rooted and grounded in a relationship of God's love and

Word and therefore do not possess sound hearts and minds as the LORD intended. These precious misled souls are therefore not prepared for the LORD's return for His true Church, each member who is **"subject to Christ,"** sanctified, being cleansed, laying down his personal life, being washed by His Word, and purified of their iniquities (Eph. 5:25-27; 1 Jn. 2:28-3:3). These are those whose hearts are not **"established with grace"** and they are therefore **"tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive."** (Eph. 4:14; Heb. 13:9) Mature believers who are deep into God's Word **"have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."** (see Heb. 5:11-14) These who aggrandize God's holy words far above those of mere men, will not be tossed about with the manipulations of these modern leaders who prey on weak, ignorant, and gullible souls.

- "That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they (beguilers) lie in wait to deceive." Ephesians 4:14
- "Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For *it is* a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein." Hebrews 13:9

Is there a conspiracy?

• "<u>There is a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof</u>, like a roaring lion ravening the prey; they have devoured souls; they have taken the treasure and precious things; they have made her many widows in the midst thereof. Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they showed *difference* between the unclean and the clean,..." Ezekiel 22:25-26

Is there a cause?

•"For <u>the leaders</u> of this people cause *them* to err; and *they that are* led of them *are* destroyed." Isaiah 9:16

Is there a threat?

•"For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. Acts 20:29-32

Are their blind leaders?

• "Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch?" Luke 6:39 The threat of deceivers and losing out due to being led astray by false prophets is a severe and present danger (Col. 2:4, 8; 2 Pet. 3:17).

When we study the Scriptures we gain an historical view of the beguilers and how they operate. These men are the emissaries of the father of lies and war against the Almighty by seeking to draw away His precious sheep and devour them (Matt. 7:15; Jn. 8:44; Acts 20:27-32; 2 Cor. 11:13-15; Jude). They selectively design their ministries by picking and choosing what Scripture they wish to utilize to tailor make their ministries to draw people. Deceivers refuse to communicate a balance of the full-counsel of God's Word (Acts 20:20, 27). The modern day false prophets are no new thing. They operate just as those in Jeremiah's day. These leaders use the LORD's holy name for their own advantage with their dreams, words, signs, and wonders (2 Thess. 2:9-12; Jude 16). Their goal is the listening ear of the **"simple"** (unlearned; those who do not correctly discern via known truth - the revealed truth of God's Word).

• "The simple (naive; un-discerning) believeth every word: but the prudent (wise) *man* looketh well to his going." Proverbs 14:15

If they can get their audiences to believe that God speaks through *them* (the so-called "apostles") then they garner their allegiance, following, and support.

A recent conference held by Wagner and Pierce (*Global Harvest Ministries*) was titled "What the Spirit is Saying to the Church Today: International Congress on Prophecy." This title alone tells us that the aim of this conference was to pretend to tell others what the LORD was supposedly saying to His people through prophetic words and not through the Scriptures and by the Holy Spirit (Isa. 8:20).

7 times our LORD Jesus told us that we are to "hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches" and not what some priesthood of self-appointed "apostles" are saying to the masses (Rev. 3:22). These supposed "apostles" and "prophets" always seem to have a "word" for the body of Christ. This is how their little circus act works. They have to keep the wheel spinning in order to capture and keep the ear of their audiences and attract new followers. They claim to be directly inspired by the LORD, but we should ask ourselves: Do their claims reconcile with Holy Writ which was given us by the Holy Ghost? (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 2:16-21) By claiming to be hearing from God and getting these words of direction and prophecy for His people, these men are able to capture the ear of many who buy into their claims. Their followers then become dependent upon these supposed spiritual super heroes to get their words from God instead of developing a life in His holy Word for themselves and hearing what the Holy Spirit is saying through the immutable content of His Word. By doing this they intercept the heart affections of God's people and as He tells us - "think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell." (Jer. 23:15-27) Christ promised that His sheep hear His voice and will not follow the voice of false shepherds (Jn. 10:1-18). Please read the following passage carefully and prayerfully;

•"But there were <u>false prophets</u> also among the people, even as there shall be <u>false</u>

<u>teachers</u> among you, who privily (secretly) shall bring in damnable heresies (lies that damn the soul), even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And <u>many shall follow their pernicious w</u>ays; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall the<u>ywith feigned words</u> make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not." 2 Peter 2:1-3

Notice that the Holy Spirit warned that "false prophets" and "false teachers" during the New Testament era would "with feigned (fictitious) words make merchandise of you." We are foretold that they would niftily feign or craft fictitious stories and supposed words from God and dreams to attract ears and captivate hearts for their own cause and coffers - "make merchandise of you." These are those which preach "another gospel," replacing the LORD's "doctrine" with "good words and fair speeches." (Rom. 16:17-18; 2 Cor. 11:2-4) Beloved, beware of those who seek to subtly position themselves as God's spokesmen or special agents, claiming that He speaks to them to lead His sheep. Jesus told us that He speaks to each of His people individually and this is so as to protect them from being led astray by the voices of false shepherds whom He told us are **"grievous wolves,"** thieves and robbers (Jn. 10:1; Acts 20:29).

Jesus said:

•"I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd...<u>My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me</u>." John 10:14-16, 27

The leaders of these perpetually mutating false movements seek to make all who discern appear as though they are an angry mob who are operating out of a divisive heart. Not so. The false prophet would even subtly cast doubt upon your own personal ability to hear the LORD, yet Jesus, the Good Shepherd, stated "My sheep hear my voice." (Jn. 10:27) He speaks to His people in their hearts, leading them individually by His Spirit and through His Word wherein are contained "all things that pertain unto life and godliness." (2 Pet. 1:3-4) It is to the advantage of the prophesied "false prophets" to ostracize their audiences from those who would expose or "mark them" for what they are (Rom. 16:17-18). Being wise, astute in the Scriptures, discerning, and void of gullibility is a biblical mandate (Prov. 14:15; Ezek. 44:23; Acts 17:11; Rom. 16:17-19; Col. 1:9-10; 2:4, 8; Jude 3-4; 1 Jn. 4:1; Rev. 2:2). Ignorance is not a virtue, but rather a self-imposed curse that is being capitalized on by the prince of darkness to bring deception, delusion, and damnation to those who do not learn and discern via the full-counsel of God's Word (Prov. 14:15; Hos. 4:6; Matt. 22:29; 2 Thess. 2:9-12; Heb. 5:11-14). Those who do not know God's Word are prey to the epidemic curse of false prophets on the scene in this late hour. Discernment, marking false doctrines

and teachers, warning, etc., are divinely-given mandates and to be done out of the love of "the Great Shepherd of the sheep" to protect His precious saints/flock (Heb. 13:20). The apostle Paul did 3 things to prepare believers to meet Christ - 1. *Preach*, 2. *WARN*, 3. *Teach* (see Col. 1:27-2:9). Those in leadership who do not preach the full-counsel of the original Gospel, WARN of wolves in sheep's clothing/false teachings and false prophets, and teach the full-counsel of God's Word are not fulfilling what the LORD commands of leaders. *Naming Names: Is it Biblical?*

- •"Now I beseech you, brethren, <u>MARK THEM which cause divisions and offences</u> <u>contrary to the doctrine</u>which ye have learned; and avoid them. <u>For they that are</u> <u>such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly (selfish agenda);</u> and <u>by</u> <u>good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple...but yet I would</u> <u>have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning ev</u>il." Romans 16:17-19
- •"And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words...BEWARE lest ANY man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Colossians 2:4, 8

The LORD has a remnant who are filled with His Holy Spirit, love His Word, are valiant for His truth, building up the saints, warning of deception, discerning instead of naive, and winning the lost as they look for His soon return. The remnant of Christ's elect follow the doctrine and pattern set forth in New Testament Scriptures He left us to cause us to know His will and be protected from the epidemic deception He foretold would come in the last days (1 Tim. 4:1-6; 2 Tim. 3:1-7, 13; 4:2-4).

•"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit (not mere men) saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death." Revelation 2:11

Beloved, let's recall again that Jesus warned us 7 times to hear what the one Holy "Spirit" is saying and to*overcome* by His power, blood, and Word (Rev. 2-3; 12:11). So as good Bereans (Acts 17:11), we are to discern<u>through the Scriptures</u> what the Holy Spirit (who gave us the written Word) is saying because He would never contradict Himself (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20-21). The primary method the LORD uses to guide His people is His own Word and His Holy Spirit that lives inside each true saint (Ps. 119:105; 133; Rom. 8:14; Gal. 5:16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). His Word which He has magnified above His own name, not the word of any mere men, is **"a lamp unto our feet and light unto our path."** (Ps. 119:105) We are to cry out as David did - **"Order my steps in THY WORD (not the words of mere men claiming to represent Him): and let not any iniquity have dominion over me." (Ps. 119:133) Hearing what the Holy Spirit is saying should mean that we cut off from our hearing the voices of those who claim to be hearing the Holy Spirit at all. This is proven in**

that most of what they claim to be the Spirit is not reconcilable with the Holy Scriptures (2 Tim. 3:16).

Testing Apostles

These men who are claiming to be apostles should be open and ready to be tested right? To the Ephesian Church Jesus said:

•"I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars." Revelation 2:2

Here Christ commended the Ephesian saints for testing and discerning false apostles among them who did not possess the earmark fruit of a true leader in God's kingdom. Humility of character and pure sound doctrine are at the foundation of those traits which validate authentic men of God (Matt. 18:3-4; 2 Tim. 3:10). The believers at Berea tested Paul against the Scriptures to see if he was true or false (Acts 17:11). For this act the LORD said they were **"noble."** Paul spoke of **"false apostles"** and told us they were ministers of Satan (2 Cor. 11:13-15).

Lance Wallnau is tied in with other these other "false apostles" (Rev. 2:2) such as Chuck Pierce and C. Peter Wagner. This alone tells us who he is, according to Ezekiel 22:25-27. <u>Chuck Pierce Lance Wallnau</u>

Okay, read this following quote from C. Peter Wagner, the head wolf of the "New Apostolic Reformation."

- "We all agree that the society to be transformed is not just one big conglomerate, but a unified whole that is made up of several vital pieces, each one of which must take its own path toward transformation. These segments of society should be seen as apostolic spheres."--C. Peter Wagner, The Church in the Workplace, (Regal, 2006), p. 112 [emphasis added].
- Seven Apostolic Spheres <u>http://herescope.blogspot.com/2007/06/seven-apostolic-spheres.html</u>

Did you truly hear what Wagner was spouting here? Doesn't the LORD Almighty know about the "pieces" of His creation and "society" and is He not in control of how things unfold? Ever notice how that these false apostles we were warned to beware of all have a plan for the world while they completely ignore the plan God has already given and the facts of how things are going to unfold in the last days? This is Luciferic arrogance they speak from.

Concerning Wagner, one person commented: "Did you notice that they all say the same thing? They have told you exactly what they plan to do, to overtake the 'gates of commerce', so that it can provide a tipping point to control the culture. C. Peter Wagner has said that he wants an 'Apostolic Government' by 2012."

Marks of a True Apostle

Authentication. There *are* true apostles and prophets today. We see this in Ephesians 4:11. See also Acts 11:27; 13:1. Is it not best to refrain from promoting ones self as an "apostle" or "prophet" and identify oneself as a servant of Jesus Christ the nail-scarred risen Savior? Like those who claimed to be apostles among the Ephesian church, it seems clear that most of those who are claiming to be apostles can be found to be false when measured against Scripture (Rev. 2:2). These Paul calls "false apostles." (2 Cor. 11:13-15)

When speaking of "false prophets" Jesus said we would "know them by their fruits." (Matt. 7:15-16) Let's look at the fruits of a true apostle:

• "But thou hast fully known my <u>doctrine</u>, <u>manner of life</u>, <u>purpose</u>, <u>faith</u>, <u>longsuffering</u>, <u>charity</u>, <u>patience</u>, <u>Persecutions</u>, <u>afflictions</u>, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of *them* all the Lord delivered me. Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." Isn't it interesting that Paul then says: "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Timothy 3:10-17

Paul says here that "thou hast fully known my":

- "doctrine"
- "manner of life"
- "purpose"
- "faith"
- "longsuffering"
- "charity"
- "patience"
- "Persecutions"
- "afflictions"

Of the 9 things listed here of a known true apostle's ministry and life, by no accident the first listed is "doctrine." Sound doctrine is very important to the LORD and this is the very first thing mentioned as to validate the divine origin of Paul's apostleship. "Doctrine" is mentioned 51 times in Holy Scripture. All who claim to be apostles today are to be weighed against this true apostle of Christ. According to the record of Holy Scripture, sound and full-counsel doctrine is of the highest importance in the divine economy. In fact, under the inspiration of the Spirit, the apostle Paul told us that any person, including an angel from Heaven (not hell), who brings "any other gospel" brings "another gospel" and is "accursed."

(Gal. 1:6-9) Paul told us in this Galatians 1 passage that there are those who would "pervert the gospel of Christ." He also told us that there are "many, which corrupt the word of God." (2 Cor. 2:17) These men are like their master Satan - very subtle and deceptive (charismatic, smiling and and avoiding hard truths). Always remember that what a man doesn't preach (intentionally leaves out) is at least as important as what he does preach. If a leader doesn't declare the full-counsel of God's Word, including dealing with sin, the holiness of God and necessity of personal holiness in His saints, judgment to come, the need to be ready for Christ's return, etc., he is a false teacher and "accursed." He preaches "another gospel" when he chooses to leave out the doctrines and elements of the original Gospel granted us in God's Word. Such a person should be confronted and marked and earnestly contended against for his folly (Rom. 16:17-18; Jude 3-4). If we do not personally study to show ourselves approved unto God we will not know what is being left out of the message of those who parade themselves as godly leaders in our midst. The gross lack of Bible knowledge is the very reason so many prophets have exploded in universal popularity and influence and been heralded by millions claiming to be Bible believing Christians. According to Christ their popularity alone makes them suspect (Lk. 6:26). Those who preach the fullcounsel of God's Word, including the hard truths, have never been popular but instead, like Paul, have received "persecutions" and "affictions" for doing such in obedience to the LORD whom they faithfully serve.

The leader who replaces "the doctrine" of the original Gospel with "good words and fair speeches" is to be marked (Rom. 16:17-18). To argue against such a truth is treasonous and cowardly. Isn't it time to get a spine and obey God by sounding the alarm on the wolves who are devouring the beloved sheep of His pasture? Only hatred would do otherwise. Many parade themselves as loving while they in compromise and cowardice seek to justify and defend their favorite "idol shepherds" who tell them what they *want* to hear instead of the truth they *need* to hear to be saved (Zech. 11:17). These are those whom the Holy Ghost foretold "heap to themselves teachers having itching ears" and "turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." (2 Tim. 4:3-4).

The primary way the LORD leads His New Testament Church is through the Holy Scriptures (2 Tim. 3:16). This is for many reasons including for the protection of individual saints from wolves who claim that they have God-given authority and hear directly from Him to lead His Church and yet their teachings and "revelations" contradict Holy Writ. We know this is false because in John 10 the Good Shepherd told us that He speaks directly to His sheep and they hear and follow Him.

One way leaders have defied God is by displacing His Word as the Textbook of ultimate and highest authority. They have brought in other men's books in place of God's Book. One such book concerning purpose driven (instead of Word and Spirit led) has swept the nation due to the epidemic of deluded leaders. This particular book which does not even call men to repentance from sin or present the Gospel, has been brought in to the local bodies where deceived shepherds reside (Isa. 56:10-12). These beguiled shepherds have opened the door wide to the enemy. Instead of studying God's Word, they have bought into the message of a false teacher. See <u>Rick Warren: Purpose Driven Deception</u>.

- •"It was in the Old Testament that God sent the people prophets to hear His message, but this is not what He is doing in the New Covenant. God's message is completed in Scripture and sufficient for any Christian to spiritually grow. Today God speaks through the Scriptures that are the Word of God from Jesus Christ, written through His chosen prophets and apostles (2 Pet. 1:19-21, Heb. 1:1-2).
- •In Heb.1 it clearly and unequivocally states "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds." (Heb. 1:1-2). Previously God gave His revelation in succession, sometimes it lasted a short while, like with Haggai (a month) and other times through the lifetime of the prophet (Moses). The whole Old Testament took 1,000 years to be written. The Hebrews passage is in the past tense; the heir has come, our Creator, and revealed Himself, He gave His words to the apostles and they in turn built the foundation on Jesus Christ. It is Christ whom the church preaches (His Gospel) and teaches (His doctrine). So the relationship of revelation has changed. It has gone from progressive revelation by prophets to the final revelation by the Son." Mike Oppenheimer, of *LetUsReason.org*

The LORD simply does not speak through prophets as He did under the Old Covenant. He has spoken in His Word through His "MORE SURE word of prophecy." When we study 2 Peter 2:16-21, we will discover that the written Word of God is more authoritative than even the audible voice of God the Father speaking from Heaven.

•"For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost." 2 Peter 1:19-21

Jesus said that "the scripture cannot be broken" and that "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away." (Jn. 10:35; Mk. 13:31) It is the aim of

deceivers is to convince people that the LORD speaks through them to His Church and to therefore move their audiences away from the written Word which is unchanging and "forever...settled in heaven." (Ps. 119:89) Yet we are warned "To the law and to the testimony (written Word): <u>if they speak not according to this word, *it is* because *there is* no light in them." (Isa. 8:20)</u>

Christ told us that "Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word." (Mk. 4:15) Replacing God's Word with the "words" of mere men is the work of "Satan" and his emissaries who "are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ." (2 Cor. 11:13) This manipulation is the rule of the day in the charismatic movement. Supposed "revelations" though direct inspiration, prophecy, dreams, and visions take precedence over the written Word which the LORD told us is more authoritative than the very voice of God speaking from Heaven (2 Pet. 1:16-21). The very oracles of God have been replaced with the whimsical and manipulating "words" of "revelation" supposedly from God. The LORD commands: "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles (written Word) of God." (1 Pet. 4:11) In the charismatic movement, the written Word (especially the full-counsel) is not held to and isn't even considered or used to "prove (test) all things" (1 Thess. 5:21). One will find that in this roving "generation of vipers" any supposed "revelation" is accepted as divinely inspired with no thought of testing against the Scriptures (Matt. 23:33). It seems that these men just want some kind or any kind of supernatural activity and it doesn't matter where it is coming from. Here is one example:

•"<u>I'd rather be in a church where the devil and the flesh are manif</u>esting than in a church where nothing is happening because people are too afraid to manifest anything...and <u>if the devil manifests</u>, don't worry about that, either. <u>Rejoice, because at least something is happening</u>." he Coming Revival (p.6), Rodney Howard-Browne

Casting out devils is a New Testament practice. Jesus did it and commanded all who believe His Gospel to go forth and do the same. Christ came to destroy the works of Satan (Acts 10:38; 1 Jn. 3:8). Notice that in Rodney Howard-Browne's statement above there is no mention of casting the devil out of the person who might manifest an unclean spirit (Matt. 8:16, 31-32; 9:33; 10:1, 8; 12:24-28; 17:19-21; Mk. 16:17, etc.). Look up the word **"cast"** in the KJV Bible and study the dozen's of references to casting out the devil and freeing people from his evil. Clowns like Browne do not negate Bible truth and the power of God's Spirit, yet such must always be done in accordance to the written Word which the Holy Spirit gave us and will never contradict (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20-21).

When people do not individually get in the Word and therefore possess unspeakable joy in Jesus, they become prey to deceivers who promise entertainment, action, and experiences that are not reconcilable with New Testament Christianity (Jer. 15:16; 1 Pet. 1:8).

• "Let God be true and every man a liar." Romans 3:4

True under-shepherds are told to "Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples." (Isa. 8:16) Establishing in our hearts that God's written Word is the very highest Word and final authority is ultra important. When we grounded in "sound doctrine" we will have a "sound mind" and "sound heart" (Prov. 14:30; 2 Tim. 1:7; Tit. 2:1). Jesus told us that knowing and doing His Word is the only way to go to Heaven and to have a solid foundation against the storms to come (Matt. 7:21; 24-30). Being rooted and grounded is the Word is what will take the instability and flighty flakery out of the life of the Christian who has come through the ranks of the charismatic movement like this writer. Thank You Jesus for having mercy upon my wretched soul and for leading me out and into Your glorious truth which brings true salvation and liberty (Jn. 8:31-32, 36)!

Doctrinal Comparison

Paul tells us that he did not hold back but rather declared the full-counsel of truth to the believers at Ephesus - "For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." Acts 20:27

The doctrine of counterfeit leaders is seen to be false in that they refuse to disclose Bible Scriptures that do not help their agenda to gain more affluence for themselves by gaining more faithful followers. Leaving out the hard truths of the Word alleviates persecutions which are characteristic of what a true apostle must endure as we see throughout the New Testament canon. Judas committed suicide and only one of the remaining original apostles of Jesus was spared being martyred (John).

We are commanded to "believe NOT every spirit." (1 Jn. 4:1) Part of Paul's "doctrine" and "manner of life" was to prepare the people of God to meet the LORD at His soon return. According to Colossians 1:27, this included 3 things - *preaching, WARNING, and teaching.* To test a leader, one must consider whether or not that leader is regularly "*warning*" the people concerning the threat and danger of wolves who creep into the fold to devour sheep with falsehood (Matt. 7:15; Acts 20:29-30; Col. 2:4, 8). Jesus warned. Paul warned, Peter warned. Jude warned. John warned. As a watchman for the LORD, teaching sound doctrine, testing all leaders and teachings, watching, and warning is the duty (Prov. 27:23; Jer. 6:27; Ezek. 3:17-21; Acts 20:29-32). Any leader who does not watch out for and warn of false prophets, false teachers, and false doctrines, is not in the will of God and will receive severe judgment for such an evil. He is not on his post. Such a person will be held responsible for the demise of precious souls (Ezek. 3:17-21; James 3:1; 2 Jn. 9-11).

Why did Jesus come and shed His perfect blood on the cross?

- "to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight." (Col. 1:22)
- "that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." (Eph. 1:3-4)

Watching out for the sheep of the LORD's pasture includes the regular preaching of the nature of God which is "holy, holy, holy" and the necessity of personal holiness or

damnation (Lev. 19:2; Isa. 6:3; Matt. 5:8; Heb. 12:14; 1 Pet. 1:15-16; Rev. 2-3). Such foundational Bible doctrines are never tended to among charismatics. There is more emphasis on experience and feelings than sound doctrine and a laid down fruit-bearing life. This great apostle Paul also suffered much **"persecutions"** and **"afflictions."** Paul's **"manner of life"** included great trials of afflictions and persecutions. The lives of so many modern day leaders who cll themselves apostles or prophets manifest no resemblance. Their manner of life is one of luxury and not **"suffering"** or **"persecutions"** which come from truly preaching the Word (Mk. 4:17). Like the Ephesian believers did, it's time to test - to try - to compare. What Paul endured as a true apostle is a far cry from the lavish lifestyles enjoyed by most who claim to be the modern day apostles of Jesus.

Compromise & Cowardice Masking itself as Loving

•"If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." 2 John 10-11

According the the Judge Himself, it is a dangerous occupation to cover for or condone in any way wolves. Any one who dares to do such will partake of the same severe judgment of the false prophet they are justifying. Those who come to the aide of these men instead of uncovering them are equally as guilty before God and will partake of the severe judgment to come on all "false prophets" and "false teachers" ... whose "damnation slumbereth not." (2 Pet. 2:1-4)

Jael was blessed for nailing an enemy of God. The people of the town of Meroz were cursed for refusing to help the people of God against her enemies (Judges 5:23-24).

Let me interject here that far too many people seem to be ready and willing and vigilant to come to the aid of, endorse, support and even cover for the wolves who are devouring the sheep of the LORD. Astounding! The Word of God tells us that all such people are just as guilty as the wolves themselves (2 Jn. 10-11). Just because a man has a following, books, tapes, seminars, and a big smile doesn't make him true to God! How shallow can we be!? We can learn much from the garden of creation and the first temptation which was perpetrated by the very same devil we deal with today. Satan is slick and his methods and tools to deceive are as old as mankind - "Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made." (Gen. 3:1) So, to think that a false teacher or false apostle or false prophet will come as a prude with no personality is utterly naive.

•"For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

So, isn't it high time that we cease following men for their personalities and for what

dainty messages they teach and use to lure in and keep their audiences? The the socalled "prophetic movement" and "apostolic reformation" movements are mostly recreational, experience-based fun and games which is irreconcilable with anything seen from the apostles of Christ. Entertainment is a tool in the tool box of the beguiler who is more interested in making the people feel good than he is in feeding them God's Word. Satan's design in this pre-occupational spiritual phenomenon movement is to divert/ mislead the people of God away from the original Gospel and the very purpose for which Christ came - to seek and save the lost and then He commissioned us to do the same (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15-20; Lk. 19:10). Instead of being busy about the Father's business, many today are busy seeking a sign, wonder, word, or miracle - something to make themselves feel better as they become further lulled to sleep, basking in the lurid ease of lavish, lukewarm Laodicea (Amos 6:1; Rev. 3:14-21). Hell awaits. Like their counterfeit leaders whom they have heaped to themselves, their god has become their "belly." (Phil. 3:17-20; 2 Tim. 4:3-4)

Jesus is Coming

Ready or not - Jesus is coming, and many who think they know Him simply do not (Matt. 7:21-23). Only those who literally do His will and are not led astray by Satan's slew of false prophets will be in glory (Matt. 7:21-23). God is calling us to repent and become sound and sober minded in His truth (2 Tim. 1:7, 13; 4:3; Tit. 1:9, 13-16; 2:1; 1 Pet. 5:8). All who do not get into and remain in divine truth will be deluded and ultimately damned (2 Thess. 2:9-12; 2 Jn 1:7-9). There are certain things that are intentionally neglected by false prophets and the return of Christ is one of those cardinal doctrines. Yet Jesus Christ warned:

•"And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting (over indulgence), and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and *so* that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare (trap) shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." Luke 21:34-36

The return of Jesus is said to be the most prevalent doctrine in the whole New Testament Scriptures. Those who refuse to regularly preach the soon return of Jesus and the necessity of readiness in light of His return, are not following Christ and His apostles (Matt. 24-25; Lk. 21; Heb. 9:28; 1 Jn. 3:1-3). This is abundantly clear in that anyone who doesn't preach what Christ and His holy apostles preached is not true to God and is leading precious souls astray (Isa. 8:20; 9:16; Gal. 1:6-9).

The omissions of these modern deceivers are obvious to the fervent student of Scripture and below is a sampling of the falsehoods being disseminated via the false prophets of the "New Apostolic Reformation" movement. These guys are slick (smooth, charismatic, convincing). These are just a few of the things they use to seduce people away from pure devotion to Christ and away from His stated/recorded purpose for their lives. They claim to be hearing from God while contradicting His Word, insolently acting as if their "revelation" is above the final authority of the very Word of God (Jn. 10:35; Rom. 3:4). Is this not the height of arrogance? Few of the things they teach are seen in the Scriptures as something Christ or His apostles emphasized and yet they are writing books, holding seminars, and have made a whole movement out of these things. They capitalize on the ignorance of the masses. Their audience is the unlearned. These men "by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple (unlearned, gullible)." (Rom. 16:18) Remember, that these many false prophets can *only* deceive those who have chosen *not* to love and know God's Word (Hos. 4:6; Matt. 22:29; 2 Thess. 2:9-12; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16). Here is a sampling of the un-scriptural teachings of the "New Apostolic Reformation" deceivers:

- heavenly portals
- strategic spiritual warfare
- territorial spiritual warfare

There is no biblical basis for such witchcraft. These are examples of how these men are "intruding into those things which he (they) hath not seen" and "not holding the Head (Christ)." When a man truly fears and serves God he will follow and declare the teachings of Christ and His apostles. Such a disciple will live out and communicate only that which is according to God's Word.

•"And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words...Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ ... Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God." Colossians 2:4, 8, 18-19

When even Michael the archangel won't storm into the heavenlies and do war with and demand things of Satan, how arrogant are we to do such? This is part of what Pierce and Wagner teach (heavenly portals, strategic spiritual warfare, territorial spiritual warfare). Speaking specifically of false prophets, the Holy Spirit said:

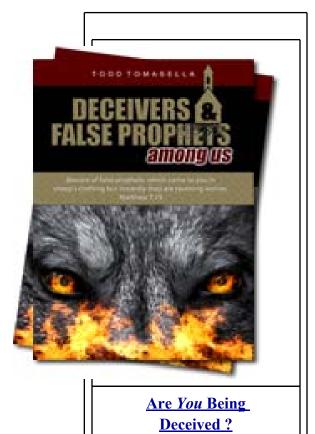
• "Likewise also these *filthy* dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities. Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee. But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves. Woe unto them!..." Jude 8-11

The "New Apostolic Reformation" movement is very dangerous and leading millions astray

from the true Gospel and pure worship of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 11:2-4) Find out for yourself how this is being perpetrated. See below and we encourage you to do you own research. The promoters of this movement are self-appointed "false apostles" who aim to bring others under their false authority through their false teachings (2 Cor. 11:13; 2 Pet. 2:19; Jude; Rev. 2:2). The apostle Paul speaks of "false apostles" in his day and Jesus commended the Ephesian believers for testing and finding self-appointed "apostles" to be false.

•"I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried (tested) them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars." Revelation 2:2

Chuck Pierce is not a reliable source....neither is C. Peter Wagner......Pierce and Wagner are the leading "third heaven", "spiritual mapping," "territorial spirits," leaders, who are treading upon ground they have no business intruding into and teaching things that simply are not biblical.... and have lured in many un-discerning leaders who are facilitating these deceptions instead of marking these men for these heresies (Acts 20:27-32; Rom. 16:17-18; Jude 3-4, etc.).....Jesus Christ is not being exalted in their teachings - "Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath pet soon vainly puffed up by



things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by

his fleshly mind, And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God."

More Falsehood:

Demonstrating his disdain for the Word of the God he claims to represent, C. Peter Wagner writes:

"...we ought to see clearly that the end DOES justify the means. What else possible could justify the means? If the method I am using accomplishes the goal I am aiming at, it is for that reason a good method. If, on the other hand, my method is not accomplishing the goal, how can I be justified in continuing to use it?" (C. Peter Wagner, Your Church Can Grow - Seven Vital Signs Of A Healthy Church, 1976, pg. 137. - emphasis in original)

Note above that Wagner says nothing concerning following the Scriptures, but rather reasons that the end justifies the means.

In violation of Jude 9, Wagner writes:

"More than any place I know, the most prominent Christian leaders in Argentina, such as Omar Cabrerro and Carlos Annacondia, Hector Giminez and others, overtly challenge and curse Satan and his demonic forces both in private prayer and in public platforms. The nation as a whole is engaged in a world class power encounter." (Engaging the Enemy , C P. Wagner. Regal Books, p 46)

The ecumenical ties:

"Traditionally, the message of the Gospel in Latin America has appealed to the working class. But changes have begun to take place, and many middle and upper-class people are now opening their hearts to Jesus Christ. Some of this is happening through the Catholic charismatic movement." (C. Peter Wagner, Look at What God's Doing!, excerpt from On the Crest of the Wave (Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1983).

"Probably the first Asian nation to become predominantly Christian will be Korea (with the exception of the Philippines which is already about 85 percent nominal Catholic.)" (C. Peter Wagner, Look at What God's Doing!" excerpt from On the Crest of the Wave (Ventura, CA: Regal Books. 1983)

More self-promotion:

C. Peter Wagner and Ben F Gray wrote: "The New Apostolic Reformation is an extraordinary work of the Holy Spirit that is changing the shape of Christianity globally. It is truly a new day! The Church is changing. New names! New methods! New worship expressions. The Lord is establishing the foundations of the Church for the new millennium. This foundation is built upon Apostles and Prophets." (*The organisers of the Apostles and Prophets* Conference (APC) Brisbane - February 2000).

For the reasons stated above, any leader associated with these men and such a movement should be rebuked and warned then marked if they do no cut ties completely. Any believer who has been lured into this movement should be warned.

New Prophets to Head the Church? http://www.letusreason.org/Latrain22.htm

Geographical Heresies of the New Apostolic Reformation<u>http://herescope.blogspot.com/</u> 2006/02/geographical-heresies-of-new-apostolic.html

NEW APOSTOLIC REFORMATION MOVEMENT <u>http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/</u> <u>newapostolic.html</u>

SPIRITOFERRORhttp://spiritoferror.wordpress.com/2006/11/13/chuck-pierce%E2%80%99s-%E2%80%98war-season%E2%80%99-and-the-%E2%80%98year-of-the-sword%E2%80%99/

The Agenda & Teaching Of The New Apostolic Reformation <u>http://</u>

www.deceptioninthechurch.com/arise.html

DR C PETER WAGNER IS A CHIEF PROPONENT OF THE RIVER REVIVAL, THE WORLD CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT, ALPHA AND PROMISE KEEPERS <u>http://www.cephas-library.com/</u> <u>apostles/apostles_peter_wagner_m.html</u>

http://spiritoferror.wordpress.com/

www.bibleguidance.co.za/Engarticles/Rebecca.htm

www.DeceptionInTheChurch.com

DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH: for example, use key word searches like "peter wagner false" and "chuck pierce false" and "apostolic reformation" etc. or "apostolic reformation false" Are you born again? <u>PEACE with GOD</u>

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