

AUSTRALIAN INDEPENDENT BAPTIST NEWSLETTER
MARCH, 2013
Editor: David C. Bennett, D. Min.
STANDING UNASHAMEDLY FOR THE KING JAMES BIBLE
Blog: www.whatyareckon.wordpress.com

1 Timothy 4:1 *“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils”*

<http://robbryerse.com/about/>

(Edited by DCB); “After pastoring fundamentalist churches for a decade, I was a part of a team that founded Vintage Fellowship, an wonderfully messy **emerging** church in Fayetteville AR, where I have the privilege to serve as Narrator and Directional Leader (emphasis added).” “I graduated from Biblical Theological Seminary in Hatfield PA **and Baptist Bible College in Clarks Summit PA** (emphasis added).” This young man admits to being in the emerging church movement but also note he is a graduate of BBC of Clarks Summit PA! This school was once a fundamentalist school approved by the GARBC (when it had the approval system) but today BBC seems to be turning out many young men who are leading churches strongly into CCM and here into the emergent church movement.

<http://robbryerse.com/> (Edited by DCB) “A month ago, more than four hundred people from around the country convened at St. Mary’s Episcopal Cathedral in Memphis to think about the future of the church. My wife Vanessa and I were among them. We were at Emergence Christianity, a National Gathering, also known as EC13. The impetus for EC13 was the release of a new book by Phyllis Tickle, called Emergence Christianity.” “Emergence Christianity is on the forefront of a missional quest for **social justice**. And it is popping up in both established denominations and in new entrepreneurial church and ministry start-ups (emphasis added).”

David Cloud has an excellent e-book on the Emerging Church at http://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/emerging_church.php and as David says “... we must deal with the emerging church because its influence is growing.”

<http://www.stufffundieslike.com/2012/11/fundamentalist-interrupted/> (Edited by DCB) “...Robb Ryerse, a former fundamentalist pastor who has just released a new book about his transformation away from fundamentalism.” Robb says “About eight years ago, I was pastoring a fundamental Baptist church where I was preparing to preach through Genesis. I knew all of the answers I had been taught – literal seven-day creationism, a literal walking-talking snake, a literal garden with a literal angel with a literal flaming sword.

And I also knew the questions that began to gnaw at me:

- Why do Genesis 1 and 2 sound like they were spoken in two different voices?
- Where did Cain’s wife come from?
- What happened to the dinosaurs?
- Doesn’t a global flood feel like a bit of an over-reaction?
- How could God be willingly tied to such a family of scoundrels?”

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“My fundamorphosis has freed me to embrace grace and mystery like never before. I now have a belief system that is big enough to handle my doubt. I am very comfortable saying, “I don’t know.” I don’t feel the need to convince everyone to agree with me nor to condemn them when they don’t. I think I’m a lot more humble, honest, and hopeful. More than anything, my fundamorphosis has been about becoming something fundamentalism never encouraged. I became authentic. I am finally free to be me (Underlining added).” At least this young man said he “think”s he is “more humble, honest, and hopeful” rather than “I am more....”

The Gospel of John in 8:31 tells us “*Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, **and the truth shall make you free.***”

We are living out what Paul said to the Ephesian elders in Acts 20:29 “*For I know this, that after my departing shall **grievous wolves enter in** among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also **of your own selves shall men arise**, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.*” The danger lies “**without**” and “**within**”. Entering from without the church are evangelists, seminary professors and presidents, college presidents and professors, and missionaries to name just a few that will enter into the local congregation “*not sparing the flock*”. Then there are the pastors “within” who are not either saved or are still a novice (1Ti 3:6 Not a novice...) and are being “*tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness*”. At least so it seems this young man did not lead the church he was in at the time into the emergent movement BUT just by his the position he HELD he HAD to do some damage.

<http://robbryerse.com/i-opposed-gay-marriage-and-i-repent/> (Edited by DCB) This is where this leads. In 2004 this man was in a Michigan church which he calls fundamentalist and opposed same-sex marriage. But now he says “I was wrong when I said that the Bible clearly teaches a traditional definition of marriage. I was wrong to be insensitive to the lives and struggles of gay and lesbian people. I was wrong for perpetuating state oppression of a group of citizens. I was wrong and I repent.” Not that anyone who has gone this far will pay attention but God did say in Ro 1:26 “*For this cause God gave them up unto **vile affections**: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is **against nature**: 27 And likewise also the men, leaving the **natural use of the woman**, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is **unseemly**, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.*” Of course CCM and emergent church all repudiate Bible separation so therefore obedience to god and His Word demands “*from such turn away*”. Paul warned in his day and we too must be warning the churches!

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/ex-pastor-jack-schaap-seeks-minimum-sentence-in-teen-sex-case-87748/> (Edited by DCB) EX-PASTOR-JACK SCAHPP SEEKS MINIMUM SENTENCE IN TEEN SEX CASE- 5 January, 2013 (Edited by DCB) - Scapp’s legal team “...has requested in a new court filing that he be given the minimum 10-year sentence for his sexual relationship with

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a teen girl from his church. He blamed the affair on stress and depression.” **If he had stress before all this he would certainly have MORE NOW!**

http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/hammond/first-baptist-church-pastor-starts-feb-in-hammond/article_438784f5-9474-57e6-812a-f1e6f8ea71f1.html 14 January, 2013 (Edited by DCB) “First Baptist Church members on Sunday night voted in a new pastor to lead their congregation, according to the church's website. John Wilkerson was selected by a vote of 94 percent. He will begin serving as pastor Feb. 17.” Of course Wilkerson “Hyles-Anderson in 1989 and taught at the church's City Baptist Schools for a year before moving to California to teach at a Baptist school in Long Beach.” Who would venture to follow in the foot steps of the two Jacks? Stay tuned to more news in the coming days from First Baptist Church of Hammond, IN.

<http://www.ncls.org.au/default.aspx?docid=3385> (Edited by DCB) More on the emergent church and in Australia “The **Baptist Union of Victoria** is one denomination that has decided to get into the midst of the fringe. Baptist leaders recognised in 2002 that the writing is on the wall in terms of declining church participation and that they needed to read and respond. Accordingly they put \$1 million into funding alternative models that might enable people to explore and express their Christianity outside the walls and boundaries of traditional churches. Specifically, they decided to ‘identify, train and resource 20 people who will plant and lead some new models of the Church over the next 5 years’” (emphasis added).

“One of the first things undertaken in this project was to invite Anne Wilkinson-Hayes to come here from the U.K. to facilitate the development of the new communities. Anne is a Baptist minister who was working in South Oxford and had both fostered and researched **emergent forms of church** in Britain (emphasis added).”

<http://www.solacechurch.org.au/> (Edited by DCB) In Australia “Solace is an emerging Christian church. We have two communities that meet weekly; Tuesday Stuff and Sunday Stuff. We are also a network that helps people enjoy authentic, Jesus-centred, spirituality in their everyday lives. Anyone can create a rich spiritual life for themselves. Solace helps you by connecting you to supportive people; helping you engage with the **timeless wisdom teachings of Jesus** and inspiring you with the diversity of the Christian tradition (emphasis added).”

<http://www.solacechurch.org.au/aboutus> “Christian ministry academics would describe Solace as an 'Emergent Church'. **Solace has links to the Anglican and Baptist denominations** (emphasis added).” Obedience demands being a separatist!

Because of Calvary.
David C. Bennett, D. Min.