

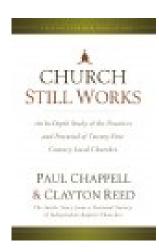
# AUSTRALIAN INDEPENDENT BAPTIST NEWSLETTER APRIL, 2014

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Independent Baptists are a very diverse group. However, even among independents there are those who lead and those who follow. One very influential leader of many independent Baptists is Paul Chappell, pastor of Lancaster Baptist Church, Lancaster, CA and president of West Coast Baptist College. Paul Chappell holds a yearly conference called Spiritual Leadership Conference http://slconference.com/which has a great influence on both older and younger independent Baptists across America.

### NO JUDGMENTAL SPIRIT AT WEST COAST BAPTIST COLLEGE

http://wcbc.edu/about-us/philosophy Concerning Music "Students at West Coast Baptist College will be taught the importance of appreciating and growing spiritually through the means of godly music. Students will also be taught that worldly music and Christian rock music are destructive to their maturing as a Christian." However, "Students will not, however, be taught to have a judgmental spirit of other ministries with slight variations in music style from that which is taught at West Coast Baptist College. They will be taught that a critical and judgmental spirit is as grievous to the Lord as perhaps an unintentional variation in music style by a like-minded fundamental church." Heb 5:14 "But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."



# THE MIXED MESSAGE OF PAUL CHAPPELL

http://www.paulchappell.com/books/ Paul Chappell is one of the stars of contemporary independent Baptists. Chappell is the pastor of a large independent Baptist church in California and president of West Coast Baptist College. In 2009 he co-authored CHURCH STILL WORKS with Clayton Reed. Reed is pastor of Southlake Baptist Church, Southlake, TX. The following is from the web site of Southlake Baptist

http://www.southlakebaptist.com/connect/missions/ "Cooperative Program Missions – We give directly to the Southern Baptist Cooperative program." Here we have a star of the independent Baptists, Paul Chappell, coauthoring a book on independent Baptist churches with a man whose church supports the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative program!

This would have been anothema once in independent Baptist circles but it doesn't seem to make a stir today. Is there no longer a difference between independent Baptists and Southern Baptist churches? Probably not as much as there once was.

### MENTAL HEALTH, ECUMENISM AND RICK WARREN

http://www.worldmag.com/2014/04/rick\_warren\_launches\_mental\_health\_ministry 1 April, 2014 Rick Warren Launches Mental health Ministry (Edited by DCB) - Rick Warren's "The Gathering on Mental Health and the Church" brought more that 3,300 "responsive, emotional" people into "Saddleback's Worship Center". Why a ministry directed at mental health? Supposedly "Christians are aching for more and better mental health ministry in the church."

The event "...featured a lineup of pastors, academics, and psychiatrists who spoke about the church's potential and necessary role in dealing with mental illness and disorders. According to Saddleback, about 600 of the attendees are struggling with mental illness." The daylong conference was hosted "...by Saddleback, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness-Orange County". Another "ministry" wagon for the churches to jump aboard. 2Timothy 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

### WORLD VISION'S TURN AROUND

http://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2014/28-march/news/uk/world-vision-u-turn-over-same-s ex-marriage 28 March, 2014 (Edited by DCB) - World Vision's president had announced "...that the charity had lifted its bar on hiring Christians in same-sex marriages. But after two days of heavy criticism from Evangelical leaders, including calls for donors to withdraw funding, he reversed the decision, seeking forgiveness for a 'mistake'." Even Franklin Graham "said that World Vision's plea for unity was 'offensive - as if supporting sin and sinful behavior can unite the Church'." 1Corinthians 6:9, 10, 11 "...Be not deceived: neither fornicators...nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 ...shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." With salvation comes change!

# THE CHANGING FACE OF THE GARBC

http://www.garbc.org/ The history of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches (GARBC) has been one of a conservative group both in theology and music since its inception in 1932. However, that conservatism has changed with the times. The raising of the hands used to be what the



Pentecostals did but not a Regular Baptist! Not anymore. The photo is from a GARBC event in Grand Rapids, MI in March, 2014.

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