



Discover Treasure in K.C.

by Kevin Colas

Are you coming to Kansas City? The city's Adam's Mark Hotel is the site of the 1999 IBFNA Conference, June 22-24, 1999. Kansas City is famous for many things, but the favorites are fountains, and lip-smacking barbecue! First time visitors to the area are amazed at the diverse attractions they find in this Midwestern treasure. Skyscrapers, fantastic food, fascinating museums and some of the best shopping anywhere are all part of the local allure. This transportation hub is known as the "Heart of America," centrally located within 250 miles of both the geographic and population centers of the nation. The maximum distance from Kansas City to anywhere in the continental United States is approximately 1,900 miles, or half the distance from coast to coast.

Though famous for steaks and barbecue, the colorful area offers an incredible variety of cuisine. Visitors are delighted by the abundance of excellent restaurants of every ethnic origin. And with over sixty barbecue restaurants to its credit, this urban center is the nation's barbecue headquarters!

It's been said that Kansas City has more fountains than Rome, and more miles of boulevards than Paris. Some of the more interesting places to visit here include the Liberty Memorial (WWI), Harry S. Truman Library, National Frontier Trails Center, Jesse James Farm and Museum, National Agricultural Hall of Fame, Hallmark Cards Visitor's Center, NCAA Visitor's Center, and the Arabia Steamboat Museum.

We of the host committee sincerely invite you to experience our Midwestern hospitality along with the normal wonderful fellowship and powerful preaching that always accompany our IBFNA Conferences!

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by Pastor Charles L. Dear,
Moderator, IBFNA

The Cult of Government

The changing political scene in America has raised many questions for Christians about responsibility and loyalty to a corrupt leadership, but the real threat for believers today is the elevation of our government systems above God and the Church in the hearts of the people. When we realize how powerful government has become, at our expense, and awaken to the fact that it has all but replaced God and the Church, we will begin to understand how the Church is under threat by the very system godly statesmen helped bring into existence.

The driving forces behind this development have always been the doctrines of Secular Humanism. While many of us have forgotten its tenets and younger men in the ministry have never read its manifestos, we need to honestly appraise the measure of their success. Since we first read them twenty-six years ago, the evidence will confirm that they have sustained evolution, destroyed morality, asserted a lawless freedom of choice and set forth a globalist agenda that has undermined the founding principles of our nation. The advancement of this philosophy has successfully driven a wedge between the people and God, so that government has taken His rightful place. God has been driven so far out of the American public marketplace that we now meet people here who have no idea Who Jesus Christ is.

The relentless pursuit of Secular Humanism and the evolution of cradle-to-grave government have gone together hand in hand to demonstrate perfectly what it means to be a cult. Of all the errors of doctrine you can name among them, there are two threads common to them all: 1) the exaltation and deification of man: his intelligence, his self-sufficiency, needing nothing greater than himself; 2) the denial, diminishing and/or humanizing of God, and the rejection of the supernatural. Government institutions have evolved and grown to provide the organization and structure necessary to support an increasingly godless society, and government has become all things to all the people.

First, there was the ingathering of control over labor and industry that took place back in the late sixties. While we cannot set the exact date, a line was definitely crossed where more than half of all the citizens of the United States, in one way or another, became employees of the government. Government contracts for hard industry dwarfed those from private enterprise, and working people suddenly found themselves greatly beholden to political decisions made from City Hall to the White House. Even big labor found itself indebted to systematic subsidies, which cultivated a dependence upon strong centralized government. Remember well the public horror and outcry when government was shut down for just a few days.

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Godly Separation or Worldly Conformity?

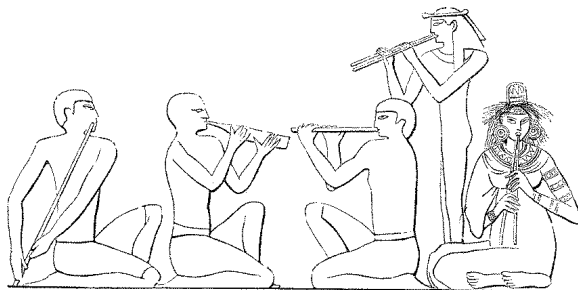
by C. H. Spurgeon

“Only ye shall not go very far away.” *Exodus 7:28.*

This is a crafty word from the lip of the arch-tyrant Pharaoh. If the poor bonded Israelites must needs go out of Egypt, then he bargains with them that it shall not be very far away; not too far, for them to escape the terror of his arms and the observation of his spies.

After the same fashion, the world loves not the non-conformity of nonconformity, or the dissidence of dissent; it would have us be more charitable, and not carry matters with too severe a hand. Death to the world, and burial with

Christ, are experiences which carnal minds treat with ridicule, and hence the ordinance which sets them forth is almost universally neglected, and even contemned. Worldly wisdom recommends the path of compromise, and talks of “moderation.” According to this carnal policy, purity is admitted to be very desirable, but we are warned against being too precise; truth is of course to be followed, but error is not to be severely



denounced. “Yes,” says the world, “be spiritually minded by all means, but do not deny yourself a little gay society, an occasional ball, and a Christmas visit to the theatre. What’s the good of crying down a thing when it is so fashionable, and every-

body does it?” Multitudes of professors yield to this cunning advice to their own eternal ruin. If we would follow the Lord wholly, we must go right away into the wilderness of separation, and leave the Egypt of the carnal world behind us. We must leave

its maxims, pleasures, and its religion too, and go far away to the place where the Lord calls His sanctified ones. When the town is on fire, our house cannot be too far from the flames. When the plague is abroad, a man cannot be too far from its haunts. The farther from a viper the better, and the farther from worldly conformity the better. To all true believers, let the trumpet-call be sounded, “Come ye out from among them; be ye separate.”¹

¹ C. H. Spurgeon. *Morning By Morning; or, Daily Readings for the Family or the Closet* (New York: Robert Carter & Brothers, 1883), p. 179.

Fellowship Notices

Death:

Pastor Virgil W. Romans, March 15, 1999
Faith Baptist Church, Terre Haute, IN

Survived by Mrs. Erlene H. Romans
15 Rose Avenue
Terre Haute, IN 47803-1528
(HOME) (812) 232-4115

Prayer Requests:

Rev. Leo D'Arcangelo
West Chester, PA
Fourth stage of Hodgkins Disease
and advanced stage of Sclerosis

Dr. & Mrs. William Hopewell (Ruth)
along with grandson Drew, leave June 24 for
Scotland to replace missionaries on furlough

Rev. Dave Strong
Wilmington, NY (retired in May 1998)
Battling lung and liver cancer

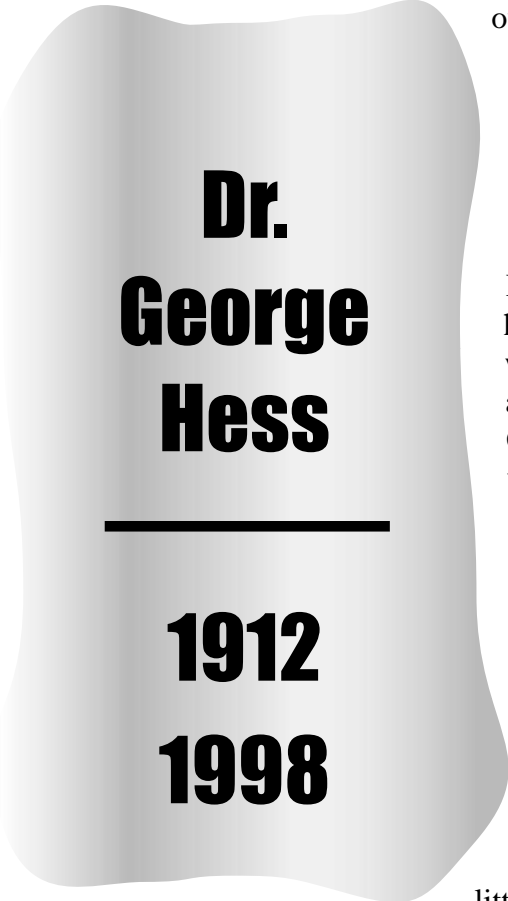
by Pastor Roy Ferguson, Berean Baptist Church, Bunker Hill, IL

Dr. George Hess was a stalwart fundamentalist and a loyal member of the IBFNA from our earliest days. Many in the fellowship may not have known him. Pastor Ferguson shared these memories at the memorial service. This brother provided a living commentary on I Timothy 3:8-16. “For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus” (I Tim. 3:13). [Editor]

Our thoughts today are on the life of a man who was many things to many people. He was viewed from a wide perspective by those who knew him. . . . We raise the question today: Who was George J. Hess? We respond to the question with multiple answers.

First and foremost, he would reply that he was **a child of God**. As a 12 year old boy, Dr. Hess put his personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The most important decision in his life took place in April 1924 during evangelistic meetings at the First Baptist Church in Litchfield. For the rest of his life, he knew he belonged to God—not because of his good morals, good works, church membership or religious rituals but because of his faith in Christ’s shed blood on Calvary’s cross. That faith and faith alone secured his forgiveness of sins and eternal salvation. More than anything else in his life, this made him the man he was.

He was **a son and brother**. He was born on May 23, 1912 to George S. and Dottie E. Hess in Litchfield, IL. . . . Dr. Hess was **a husband**. On December 27, 1937, he married Lucile Gehring in Jacksonville, IL. God gave this loving couple



over 60 years together. Theirs was a marriage marked by love, a close working partnership, and devoted companionship. It was and will be a marriage to be held up as an example of a godly Christian home. Mrs. Hess survives the Doctor’s home-going with a wealth of wonderful memories to enjoy and cherish. He was **a father**. God blessed Dr. and Mrs. Hess with three children. . . . Their lives were enriched by his wise counsel, warm fellowship, witty humor, keen insight and godly example. . . . He was **a grandfather** to nine special young people and for those who have already married, a grandfather to their mates as well. . . . He was also **a great-grandfather** to five special little ones. What a heritage Dr.

Hess leaves these grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was a man who walked faithfully with God before them and who reflected God’s love for them through his daily life.

He was **a physician**. Early in life he began preparing for this work as he “practiced medicine” on his dog, Teddy. Later he graduated from Illinois College in Jacksonville and Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. He engaged in family practice for two years in Litchfield and then 37 years in Bunker Hill,

Independent Baptist Fellowship of North America

Ninth Annual Conference • June 22-24, 1999

Conference Theme: Unconventional Warfare

*“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God
to the pulling down of strong holds.”*
II Corinthians 10:4

Tuesday June 22, 1999

Morning

- 8:00 Registration
- 9:30 Keynote Address by Richard Harris
"Supernatural Warfare"
- 10:30 Fellowship Break
- 11:00 "The Conflict of the Ages" by William Darrow

Afternoon

- 12:00 Lunch
- 2:00 Forum: Should Members Be Required
to Break Fellowship with GARBC?
PRO: Bob Payne & Clay Nuttall
CON: Richard Harris
- 3:00 Workshops:
 - A. "Small Groups Without Cells"
by James Singleton and Jeffrey Bailey
 - B. The Dangers of the Deliverance Movement"
by Robert Delnay

Evening

- 5:00 Dinner
- 7:00 "Traitors In The Ranks" by Jack Mount

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Morning

- 9:00 Prayer Time: Jim Wendorf
- 9:30 "Avoiding Becoming A Casualty of War" by Lawrence Brown
- 10:30 Fellowship Break
- 11:00 "Choosing Our Battles Wisely" by Martin Masitto

Afternoon

- 12:00 Lunch
Touring in Kansas City

Evening

- 5:00 Dinner
- 7:00 "The Local Church Under Attack" by Willard Benedict
- 8:00 "Mighty Men of Valor" by Charles Kempf

Thursday, June 24, 1999

Morning

- 9:00 Prayer Time: Gary Freel
- 9:30 "Where Are the Battle Fronts? A Global Perspective" by Mark Nelsen
- 10:30 Fellowship Break
- 11:00 "Doing Damage to Satan's Strongholds" by Carlos DiLeo

Afternoon

- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 Fellowship Business Session: Charles Dear

Evening

- 5:00 Dinner
- 7:00 Closing Message: "Victories Won and Assured" by Clay Nuttall

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Chairman of Program Committee

Pastor Charles Dear

Chairman of Resolutions Committee

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Members of the IBFNA receive *THE REVIEW*, published four to six times per year, as part of their membership; non-members can subscribe for \$15 per year. Membership is \$15 for an individual or \$25 for a husband and wife.

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New Membership System Beginning June 1999

Responding to problems of our members, confusion and suggestions from the office personnel caring for the memberships and subscriptions, we want to initiate a new policy on membership and subscriptions. We hope this new policy will clarify and simplify record-keeping for the office and eliminate confusion for members. This should facilitate a more timely printing of our Directory.

1. All memberships and subscriptions expire the first day of the national conference, regardless of when application is made.
2. After the conference is over, those who did not reapply for membership/subscription at the conference will receive correspondence encouraging them to sign up by August 1 to be included in the new directory.
3. After August 1, we will accept subscriptions and applications for membership, with the understanding that they will expire the first day of the next national conference. We will hold or return all requests received April through June before the conference.
4. All applications for membership after August 1 will not be included in the directory, but will be noted as additions in a column for that purpose in the next edition of *THE REVIEW*.
5. The Directory will be distributed no later than September 1.

Directory Changes

Mr. and Mrs. William W. Jahnke (June)

Old: Dalton, PA 18414
New: 200 Maranatha Blvd.
Sebring, FL 33870
(Home) (941) 314-9241

Dr. and Mrs. Duane King (Ethel)

New: 47 Chigger Hollow Drive
Crawfordsville, IN 47933-9474
(E-Mail) edking@link2000.net

Rev. Martin Masitto in West Chester, PA
E-Mail correction: pastorm@bbcwccs.com

Rev. Joel Weaver in Sellersville, PA
E-Mail correction: gibm@bethelbc.org

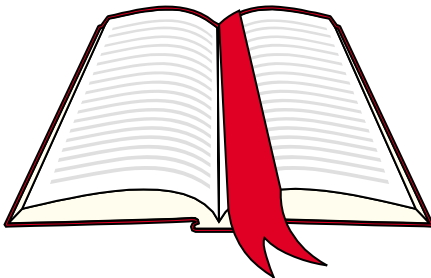
Rev. Jim Wendorf in Sellersville, PA
E-Mail correction: jimwendorf@bethelbc.org

Mr. Jonathan Wymer

New Mailing Address: PO Box 2478
Poulsbo, WA 98370 (stayed the same)
New: (E-Mail) jdwymer@juno.com
(360) 779-6844

retiring in 1979. He was active in several medical organizations and served a term as the National President of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons. Through his medical practice he greatly touched hundreds, even thousands of lives, countless homes, and an entire area from which he drew his patients. What a help and blessing he proved to be in nearly four decades of medical practice.

He was **a church member and leader**. He joined Berean Baptist Church on September 7, 1958. During the following years he would serve as Deacon, Church Treasurer, and Head Usher. He provided wise counsel and encouragement to the various Pastors he sat under, to the church leadership and to the church family. His ministry of prayer, comfort and help to the church congregation will be long remembered and deeply appreciated.



Dr. Hess carried on this type of ministry outside of his church, too. He was **a friend, listener, confident, and encourager**. That was a unique characteristic of his medical practice to both young and old. In his retirement years he greatly expanded that role. These qualities will be the most remembered and most missed by so many in our community. He had proved himself to be an able and willing counselor who welcomed the opportunity to share in and encourage the lives of so many.

In a different vein, not all in our community possibly realized what a role he played on the national and international level. He was **a fighter**. His passion against Communism, Socialism, and

Liberalism resulted in extensive travels, speaking engagements, and an active personal ministry as a Christian leader. For over 25 years he served on the Executive Committee of the American Council of Christian Churches. In 1979 he received that organization's Contenders Award in recognition of his valiant fight for righteousness and truth.

His knowledge, zeal, burden and passion for the Lord took him to the speaking platforms of many colleges and universities—both sacred and secular—across our land. He appeared and spoke on national radio and television network news programs. He was in demand as a speaker in churches, conferences, and conventions in the U.S., as well as foreign countries. Certainly God used him in a major way throughout his life, even outside our local area.

He was **a community figure and positive role model**. His alma mater, Illinois College recognized that as they gave him the Distinguished Citizen Award in 1980. Many would readily agree that such an honor was a fitting and well deserved recognition for Dr. Hess, not for just that year but for his entire life.

Finally, he was **a man of quiet hobbies**. He enjoyed his walks and work in the timber. He loved to lay out walking trails for family and friends to use on his property. He relaxed by cutting wood and spending time in God's great creation. He was an avid reader, a lover of poetry—even writing some. He carefully followed current events.

Dr. George Hess was a special man to multitudes of people in his own unique way and through different relationships. His influence will be felt even as it is missed by all who knew him. Heaven is a richer place because of the home-going of this godly man. Earth is a little poorer yet his memory, legacy and example will continue to touch and mold the lives of all who knew him long after this earthly sojourn.

Secondly, there was the massive growth of the welfare system for both citizens and non-citizens that increased the number of government dependents significantly and developed a voting base that would perpetuate and expand the system, its bureaucracy and thereby government control over the lives of more people than the days of the Great Depression or after World War II. Thus the “cradle to grave” concept of government has mushroomed at a phenomenal rate over the past forty years; and the eyes of the people have become transfixed upon government leaders, making God and the Church non-essential elements in their lives.

Perhaps the most distressing development in this exaltation of government has been the deifying of its leaders. Whereas historic Christianity brought our nation a clear set of absolute moral principles, which have caused this nation to thrive, we see now a cult of government that follows the patterns of mythology like those of the ancient Greeks and Romans. Contrary to Christianity, the gods of mythology were infamous for their corruption and immorality; but being gods, they could not be held accountable for their “sins.” Failing to recognize the similarities to our government leaders, we shall undoubtedly go the ways of Rome and Greece as well.

Since the anointing of Saul over Israel, we have been warned by God Himself how costly human government would be, but like Israel we have been willing to pay the price to be like all the heathen nations. The Church now faces a critical challenge for the hearts of the people to turn from the unfulfilled promises of men to the God Who is ever faithful to His Word and the Truth of the Gospel.

Pastors and Bible-preaching churches must first hold no false expectations that government is going to be our helper or problem-solver to turn this nation back to the Bible and to God. For all that we have heard over recent decades of Christian alliances and coalitions to

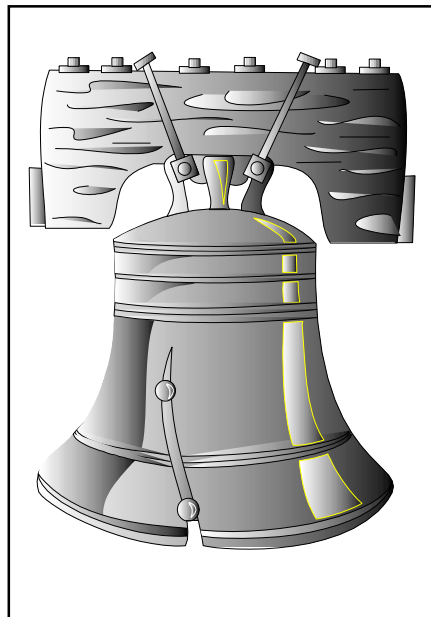
elect conservative government leaders, it ought to be clear by now that much of that effort has gone for naught. While I would not deny godly men the right to run for political office, we must admit that except for a few tax collectors and soldiers, there is neither statesman nor politician recorded in the New Testament as a servant of Christ. Furthermore, in keeping with the proper grasp of separation of Church and State, Jesus Himself made the clear distinction of the things of God being rendered to Him, and the things of government being rendered therewith. On the other hand, what Scripture does teach us is that all of God’s

prophets confronted the sins of the public leaders of their day, and, since John the Baptist, they challenged them to turn from their sins and yield to Christ.

Secondly, it should be clear that a great many of the freedoms assured us by the founding fathers are under attack; and preaching the Gospel, personal evangelism and sending missionaries will become increasingly more difficult and challenged by governmental authorities more than ever before. The cult of government is growing in power and acceptance by the people. Nevertheless, we must never lose sight of the apostolic admonition that we “ought to obey

God rather than man” no matter what the cost. However, a growing number seem to have forgotten that principle and, in the process of retreating from confrontational ministries, have abdicated rights and freedoms that no government has the power to take away.

It will be the task of Christians on the threshold of the next Millennium to balance a proper (though temporary) citizenship here, while being faithful to Christ and His service. Where our loyalties will surely come into conflict, we should seek redress through every means provided by law to preserve our rights to fulfill the Great Commission. However, we cannot realistically expect a competing cult to support our message of turning from false gods, including the god of government, to trust in the True and Living God.



PERSPECTIVES

The Naked Truth

“Truth and Error went swimming. Error got out first and stole Truth’s clothes. Truth got out, but was too proud to wear Error’s clothes. That is why whenever you see error, it will always be clothed with some Truth . . . but Truth is always the naked Truth.”

Much of that which is identified as being “evangelical” is revealed in its loss of Biblical convictions. Someone (with tongue in cheek) has suggested the qualifications to be an “evangelical” in 1999. Among those listed were these:

- Theological orthodoxy is only important as a starting point. One must be willing to follow the latest church fads and to always choose cooperation over separation.
- It includes being able to pray with those who are theological pagans and to be well read on the latest philosophical-scientific offerings.
- Of course one must always defend fellow evangelicals even at the expense of truth, as well those who are in a position of denominational authority.
- The practice of making worship **Fun Time** is vital while letting the latest trends and perception to be the guide for interpreting Biblical questions.
- Another identifying qualification is to be able to answer the inerrancy of the Scriptures question in such a way that both sides believe you sided with them.

*“Beware
of false
prophets . . . in
sheep’s
clothing”*

Matthew 7:15

Some pastors and people in the pews in fundamental churches are being greatly influenced by popular evangelical writers and speakers. For example, after I preached a series of messages on the Christian Home, a leading member of the church spoke to me and said, “Well, Pastor Colas, I want to remind you that Dr. James Dobson presents a different view than yours.” To this church member this popular evangelical leader, who had the picture of Mother Teresa on one issue of his publication, has the true answer. However, that which is overlooked is not what the pastor or Dr. Dobson declares, but what does the Bible say!

We need to test all teaching, preaching, and writing by God’s standards and not ours. *“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them”* (Isaiah 8:20).

PERSPECTIVES is written by
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IBFNA Coming Events

May 24-25, 1999, Regional Conference, People's Baptist Church, Frederick, Maryland
Local Committee Chairman: Michael Davidson

June 22-24, 1999, Annual Family Bible Conference, Adam's Mark Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri;
Local Committee Chairman: Bob Houchin; Program Chairman: Charles Dear

October 1999, Regional Conference, Parsippany Baptist Church, Parsippany, NJ
Host Pastor: Alan B. Brown

June 2000, Annual Family Bible Conference, Philadelphia Area

Also IBFNA Members are invited to attend:

July 5-8, 1999, World Congress of Christian Fundamentalists at BJU, Greenville, SC
(864) 242-5100, Ext. 3120; Reservation Secretary, Box 34555, Greenville, SC 29614-0001

October 26-28, 1999, American Council of Christian Churches, Hardingville, NJ
Host Pastor: Mark Franklin

November 1999, Confraternidad Internacional de Bautistas Independientes (CIBI), Argentina;
For information: Michael McCubbins