



IBFNA THE REVIEW

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Special IBFNA Conference in 2007

by Dr. Richard Harris

The theme of the 2007 IBFNA Conference will be “**Faithful: From Generation to Generation.**” It will be a critical conference, and the theme is something that each of us needs to focus on at this present time. When Paul wrote to Timothy, he said:

“Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.” (2 Timothy 2:1-2)

This theme is essential for us today. There are literally millions of Independent Baptists across the North American Continent. Tragically, however, our strength sometimes turns out to be our greatest weakness. Like “faithful Abraham” who stumbled when he lied to Pharaoh about Sarah and to Abimelech for lack of faith, so also we are known for being independent; but our very independence causes us to fail one another. We must pass the truth on to the next generation, but we cannot do that if we are not genuinely concerned about the next generation to help them as we are able. We will discuss this problem a little later.

The location of our Conference this year is a great support to our theme. We will be meeting in the **Holiday Inn Patriot Conference Center in Williamsburg, Virginia.** It was here that the great Christian heritage of our nation took root. It was here that men discussed and proclaimed the great truths that would later form the principles on which our nation was built. During the year 2007, Jamestown, one of the historic sites near Williamsburg will be celebrating its 400th Anniversary. From 1607 to 2007, the great themes of Christian responsibility and free enterprise were aptly discussed and illustrated.

It was this system of “limited government” that taught each citizen to govern himself under God, that took root in the hearts of our forefathers and gave us the heritage that we have so enjoyed today. No one has benefited as much from these truths as have the Independent Baptists of this free land. We do not cherish liberty in order that we can do what we please or indulge in fleshly pleasures but that we might do the will of God and honor Him. I am sure this location will be a stimulus to all of us.

First, let me tell you about the good things regarding this conference, and then I want to challenge you to do some things that will enable all of us to make it a success. This is not the first time we will be meeting in Williamsburg. We met there about six years ago, and it was a great conference. We are going back again because so many of you have requested it, but we will not be going to the same hotel. First, the hotel where we will be staying this year is the Holiday Inn Patriot Conference Center, and the cost per room is \$79.00. The hotel where we stayed before wanted to charge us \$119.00. In addition, we were so impressed with the auditorium facilities at the Patriot Conference Center at Holiday Inn. They are open and adequate, and I think you will find them very enjoyable.

We’re very happy that the Lord has provided such a setting for the IBFNA, but I

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Membership & Subscriptions:

IBFNA
754 E Rockhill Rd
Sellersville, PA
18960-1799
215.913.6181
ibfna@verizon.net
www.ibfna.org

EXPORTING OF COMPROMISE TO LATIN AMERICA

BY PASTOR MICHAEL McCUBBINS

Just as pastors in the United States face enemies to the furtherance of the Gospel, so do pastors and missionaries in Latin America have enemies. The Devil rejoices when new enemies present themselves. Even Paul faced enemies to the Gospel, for he wrote:

“For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.”
(1 Corinthians 16:9)

We can easily identify some of the enemies that Paul faced. There were Jewish zealots, pro-Roman forces, Judaizers, Gnostics, et. al. Who are the adversaries in Latin America today?

1. Anti-Americanism. Many people in Latin America have seen Michael Moore’s “Fahrenheit 911.” The movie has given impetus to the rise of Anti-Americanism. Certainly Hugo Rafael Chávez and Fidel Castro have used their influence where they could to criticize the United States. So, why does this affect the pastors in Latin America? It is very commonly believed in Latin America that “the Baptist Church” is an American invention. The average person on the street in Latin America thinks that Baptists are like Catholics in their organization: there must be some sort of a Baptist Pope in the US. The fact that Baptist Missions often have some sort of hierarchy only makes them think that they are right. Local church pastors in Latin America are often viewed as servants of an American religion. With the rise of Anti-Americanism, they are caught in the middle, often having friends in the USA and a ministry in Latin America.

2. Ruchmanism. Peter S. Ruchman has caused a tremendous problem in Latin America. Many of the graduates of his school in Pensacola, Florida (and other missionaries who are his disciples) have gone throughout Latin America with his message of double inspiration. To be sure there are some places in the Reina-Valera Bible which we might criticize, but the Ruchmanites have proposed their own translation. This translation was not made from the Greek and Hebrew texts but was translated by them from the English. They try to pass it off in Latin-America as the 1602 Valera Translation, giving it some credibility which it

does not deserve. They have translated literally even the italicized words of the King James Bible.

3. Purpose Drivenism (Warrenism) and other Church growth movements. Rick Warren’s philosophy is one of adaptation to the likes and dislikes of the target audience. The target audience in Latin America, as in the United States, despises preaching, especially against sin. The Latin American has his own music, such as the Tango in Argentina, the Polka and Guarania in Paraguay, the Mariachi in Mexico, etc. But more and more in all of these countries Rock and Roll predominates, especially amongst the youth. The music is not the only thing which is changing. The least-attended church services are being cancelled. Everything must be aimed at church growth. Sunday Schools have been gutted or disbanded altogether. Deacons have been removed from the leadership of the church since they are viewed as useless in bringing about church growth. The bylaws of the churches are being re-written or ignored, and the changes are not being well received by the older members who long for a good Fundamentalist, Baptist church again. This philosophy has not brought about church growth: it has caused splintering, division instead

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Pastor Michael McCubbins is the pastor of Bible Baptist Church in Arleta, California. For many years he served as a missionary in Paraguay where he planted churches and founded the Maranatha Baptist Bible Institute and Seminary. Pastor McCubbins has written over 70 books, many of which are used as texts in Bible Baptist Seminary and Institute which he started after returning to the States. Pastor McCubbins continues to assist the Latin American churches by operating branches of Bible Baptist Seminary in Argentina and Paraguay.

2006 PERSPECTIVES

BY DR. RALPH COLAS



When the Parliament of the World's Religions met in Barcelona, Spain, a few years ago, one group present was the "Covenant of Goddess." It is a "nonprofit religious organization" located in Berkeley, CA. Their claim to fame was, "We are the largest and oldest Wiccan religious organization, with members in North America, Europe and Australia."

One of their leaders explained that witchcraft is a life-affirming, earth-and-nature-oriented religion, which sees all of life as sacred and interconnected. Rituals, therefore, coincide with the phases of the moon and especially those days, which fall between May Day and Halloween. He explained that, "Our ethical code is '**As it harm none, do ye what ye will,**' which honors the freedom of each individual to do what she or he believes is right."

At one of the workshops, in Barcelona, a self-proclaimed witch, Rev. Selena Fox, spoke to a large group and said, "You must always focus on the here and

"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God."

now and not any future or eternal life. If you be pagan or not, you must understand that Paganism is a world religion. All religions either came from paganism or are in opposition to it."

At that meeting everyone was encouraged to begin calling themselves a priest or priestess, also to become registered in their own country as "pagan clergy" so they could perform pagan weddings, as well as to officiate at weddings for same-sex couples.

One need not be surprised that at such a meeting in Spain, where there were more than 1,000 speakers and 143,000 who attended, that the pagans would be included on the program. (Back in 1993 when the Parliament of the World Religions met in Chicago, Illinois, Chuck Colson, who claims to be an Evangelical, was not only invited to speak but was awarded a million dollar prize given by the John Templeton organization. When

Colson finished speaking, a Buddhist prayed, "By the power of an excellent self-enlightened mind, a perfect mind.")

At such a parliament, credibility is given to all kinds of so-called religious groups. The practice of Syncretism (merging together different religions into one) is very evident. In fact, if anyone disagreed with this practice, they were identified as a "hindrance to world peace and lacking appreciation for the cafeteria-style religion."

A few years ago a practicing witch applied for membership in the Bakersfield, California Council of Churches, and he was received with joy! One of the council's leaders identified the witch as "very sincere and a good person."

The Chairman of our ACCC's Chaplains Commission related that the U.S. Endorsing Agency faces a problem endorsing witches because such did not want to be identified as "Clergy" or "Minister" but rather to be called "Facilitators." The ACCC, along with others, continue to resist changing the chaplain's title to being that of a "facilitator."

It might be as someone reads this article, they are thinking that might happen in Spain, or even out on the West Coast around Berkeley, but not anywhere near where I live. However, a major article in the September 16, 2006, issue of *The Morning Call* newspaper was given this title, "**Stop in for a spell.**" It told of a witchcraft boutique recently opened in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. The owner of Ostarta, Bronwyn Cabot Butler, moved to the Lehigh Valley in the spring.

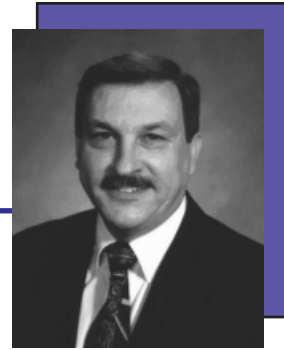
Named after a neopagan holiday that celebrates the start of spring and new beginnings, Ostarta is located

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Perspectives is written by
Dr. Ralph G. Colas, Executive Secretary
American Council of Christian Churches
PO Box 5455 · Bethlehem, PA 18015
tel (610) 865-3009 fax (610) 865-3033

Philadelphia Perspective

Dumpster Diving or Finding Value in Stopped Clocks



by Dr. Charles L. Dear, Editor

There may be some who read this who cannot relate to the subject, perhaps because you have not lived in a sizable city or have witnessed the fine art of dumpster diving. The principle is fairly simple: We throw away an awful lot of stuff that others may find valuable; and while it's all mixed together with the worst things (and usually the worst smells) imaginable, there are some foolhardy souls who will actually climb into a dumpster to see if there are any good things to be found. Admittedly, it is a desperate measure, but those who indulge have already convinced themselves that the rewards are worth the humiliation and unknown risks. Besides, they'd hate to miss something really good, especially when it's been overlooked by others!

As I follow some of the reading habits of pastors, missionaries and church members, I never cease to be amazed at their trolling in polluted waters for some prize-winning catch, some gem of Truth or Wisdom buried in the muck and filth of unsanctified minds and self-righteous and worldly thinking peers. Perhaps, like me, you have challenged some of your brethren asking why they waste so much time reading such authors or such corrupting subjects, and the answer is always the same:

“Well I don't agree with everything he says, but there are still some good ideas in there that I can use in my church or in my ministry!”

Such thinking is not only as foolish as a spiritual form of dumpster diving, but it also sets up our people who hear us freely and positively quote some of the evangelical authorities of our day, to do some of their own dumpster diving following our example. Consider, for example, the huge numbers of religious fiction books being purchased by our people or the religious magazines that grace their coffee tables,

because they contain articles by someone they heard you admire even though those authors have long since moved to the far left of the evangelical spectrum.

Like the proverbial stopped clock, that only tells the right time twice a day, we have come to settle for contemporary authorities and personalities that need only be fundamental or separated part of the time. Indeed, can we even say that some of those whom we admire are even fundamental or separated *most* of the time? The ugly truth is they are neither fundamental nor separated if they perpetually indulge in any compromise, even if it's just part of the time.

We need to seriously weigh the collateral damage resulting from our dumpster diving. While indulging ourselves that we can dumpster dive safely, we have set an example before our people inviting them to do the same, even though they will be at far greater risk because they possess even less discernment than our own. Any protest on our part that we can handle the obvious errors and hold our noses as we work around their rank compromises to glean the real treasures hidden between them is folly of the highest order. It is nothing less than an egotistical form of self-deceit that in the final analysis jeopardizes both pastor and people. First, we're not really all that smart; and second, we would be guilty of carelessness towards the spiritual welfare of our people.

Consider the Lord's thoughts on spiritual dumpster diving:

Matthew 7:15-17 *“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. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.”*

[continued on next page](#)

“Philadelphia Perspective” continued

May I paraphrase the text in the light of our subject and put it this way: Just because a stopped clock happens to be exactly right once or even twice a day doesn't make it an authority on correct time.

There are some things that even a false prophet may get right, because it is almost impossible to get some truths wrong; but there are better sources and better people from which to get the truth, beginning with the Word of God. Time and again, Jesus sorely rebuked the religious leaders of his day because they quoted the authority of their own commentaries above the text of the Word God had given to them. The real authority of God speaking through his Word was eclipsed by the exalted opinions of men, and Jesus marked it well as hypocrisy. It was no less than first century spiritual dumpster diving.

How many times do we need to be burned by supporting the latest high profile personalities while turning a blind eye to their otherwise glaring weaknesses or errors, only to find them waxed worse over time, and then having to apologize to our people that we ever started to follow in their footsteps. Somebody needs to tell pastors and people alike that the religious “emperors” of our day, like a Rick Warren or Chuck Swindoll, really aren't wearing any Fundamentalist or Separatist clothes! In fact, most of them never did! Shame on them for deceiving and misleading so many, but more shame on us because we have bypassed the real fountains of living waters and become content to serve our people from the corrupt cisterns of vain men (Jeremiah 2:13). Surely our people deserve more than the sullied fool's gold retrieved out of some ecclesiastical dumpster. *



IBFNA 2007 Family Conference

Theme:
Faithful: From Generation to Generation

Where:
Holiday Inn Patriot Conference Center
3032 Richmond Road
Williamsburg, VA

When:
June 19 - 21, 2007

Cost:
\$79.00 per room

Hotel Reservations:
Call 1.800.446.6001 and don't forget
to mention you are attending the IBFNA
Conference for the conference price.

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want to issue a warning to you. People have already told me they were putting in their reservations now, and I am certain the hotel will fill up quickly so don't wait too long to send in your reservations. The phone numbers are 757-565-2600 and 1-800-446-6001. Tell them you will be attending the IBFNA Conference so you can avail yourself of the price of \$79.00 per room. The address of the hotel is 3032 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185. If you would like to look it up on the Internet, the website is www.hipatriot.com

We are considering a schedule that will enable you to see as much as possible in the area. It is loaded with historic areas and family recreational places that you can attend. When we have the details of the conference completed, we will let you know. *

“Latin America” continued from page 2

of separation, and a worldly nature to the church instead of the salvation of souls.

Bible doctrine suffers in every area since everything is aimed at bringing more people into the church. The Gospel, if it is preached at all, is lacking even the essential elements (faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ). Instead of a unity of doctrine, there appears to be a unity, almost worship, of the personality of the pastor. Where the pastor’s personality does not lend itself to this, these ideas of church growth do not work.

4. Neo-Evangelicalism. It is very sad to see how many churches, which once were known for separation, have now moved to a neo-evangelical position. Often churches in Latin America are known as XYZ Mission churches. If the mission moves toward neo-evangelicalism, many of the churches will follow since they are influenced by the missionaries in that direction. Some of the churches may do this even when the mission has a reputation for being sound. This leads me to the conclusion that our missionaries must teach a loyalty to the Word of God and not to man. The doctrine of separation must be taught, and not assumed. The Latin American pastor must be equipped with all the tools, so that he can stand on his own. *

Pastor Mike McCubbins’ flute solo accompanied by his wife Elaine at this year’s



IBFNA Family Conference in Lancaster Pennsylvania.

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between a bakery and a wine institute. Inside its yellow walls are custom-made spell bottles, herbs, candles, oils, magic wands and crystal balls. There is even a cauldron or two on offer, according to storeowner Butler.

She has a bag of salt by the door for protection, and the broom over the doorframe to keep negative energy out. Butler likes to wear black and paint a half moon on her forehead when she’s behind the counter.

She told that there is a large neopagan and witch community in our Lehigh Valley **and there are at least three stores like hers in the valley!** She told the reporter who interviewed her that, “the word ‘witch’ comes from the old English and means ‘wise one.’” “Witchcraft has nothing to do with devil worship or evil or turning enemies into frogs. We don’t even believe in the devil. Hell doesn’t exist. To me, hell is a case of acid indigestion,” says Butler.

Giving more information, Butler went on, “Witches believe in a divine energy, and they use rituals, spells, and magic to connect with deities, celebrate events and achieve goals. They believe people can do what they like as long as their actions don’t hurt others, and by the ‘three-fold-law’: If you do something bad, it will come back to you three times.” This witch lived in Salem, Massachusetts, for five years; and her cell phone has a ring which goes like this, “Ding-Dong The Witch is Dead” from *The Wizard of Oz*. Butler cackles.

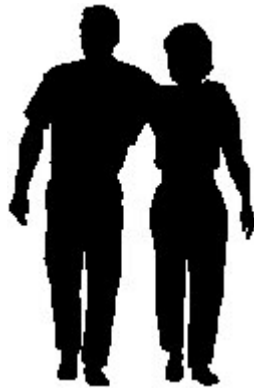
When advice is given by these witches that the best “ethical code” is **AS IT HARM NONE, DO YE WHAT YE WILL**, it leaves decision making up to the individual. God’s Word tells us of the time when the children of Israel did the same. It is recorded in Judges 21:25, “...every man did that which was right in his own eyes.” However, when God’s commands are pushed aside, disaster always follows.

Psalm 14:1 declares, “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.”

There are many religious folk all around the world who deny the reality of a real devil. My dad, who went to Heaven back in 1988, after 60 years of pastoral ministry, used to say, “If there isn’t a devil, there ought to be a devil to check up on all the devilment being done!” Of course, my father believed in a real devil and fought him for many years with the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. *

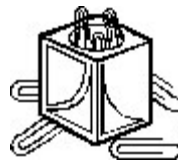
Memorial

Rev. David Kilgore went home to be with His Lord and Savior on 8/21/06 at age 75. He had gone walking with his wife, the love of his life, sat down in the car and went into eternity. He was born February 31, 1931 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He graduated from Park High School in Racine, Wisconsin and entered the U.S. Army, serving overseas in Korea. After being honorably discharged in 1953, he returned to Racine, where he met Doris Olsen. They were married in June 25, 1955. In 1958 he went to Omaha, Nebraska and entered Omaha Baptist Bible College (now Faith Baptist Bible College), graduating in 1962. They applied and were accepted for church planting by Hiawatha Land Independent Baptist Missions (now CBM) in 1962. In 1963 they went to their first field in Wabeno, Wisconsin. They have since served in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; Park Falls, Wisconsin; Levering, Michigan; Clermont, Florida; Wall Lake, Iowa; Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; and Manitowoc, Wisconsin. He retired in 2005. He is survived by his wife, Doris; daughter and son-in-law, Diane and Michael Condon; son and daughter-in-law, Donn and Diana Kilgore; three grandchildren and brothers, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and friends. His desire throughout his life was expressed by his life verse "That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God" Colossians 1:10. He sought to fulfill this in all he did. He loved the Lord and worked diligently for Him. He is sadly missed by his family and friends. *



“His Lord sayeth unto him, Well done thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.”
Matthew 26:21

News and Notes



By now you should have already received your copy of the 2006 – 2007 IBFNA Membership Directory. If your information listed has any inaccuracies, please contact the Membership Office via email: ibfna@verizon.net or phone: 215-913-6181 and inform us. Look for changes to member contact information to be listed in future issues of *The Review* so we can all stay in touch with each other.

IBFNA Membership Directory Changes -
Please change the following names listed in the “Index of Membership” starting on page 36:
Listed under “N” - Nochol should be Nichol;
Listed under “W” - Ward, Peter should be Waud, Peter.
The church and parsonage address for G. Victor Perry has changed to:
57 Cross Road, Lawrenceville, PA 16929-9768.



***Wishing you a blessed
Christmas season***

The REVIEW is the only official publication of the Independent Baptist Fellowship of North America. It is written to review current events, to educate readers about the issues facing today’s fundamental Bible-believers and to promote the Independent Baptist position. Published four - six times a year, subscriptions are automatic with IBFNA membership. For more information, write or call the IBFNA Membership & Subscription Office. IBFNA contact information is listed on the front page.

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Savior.*

