

# The SERVANT

*Educating the Church about False Religions and the Lost about Jesus Christ*

September

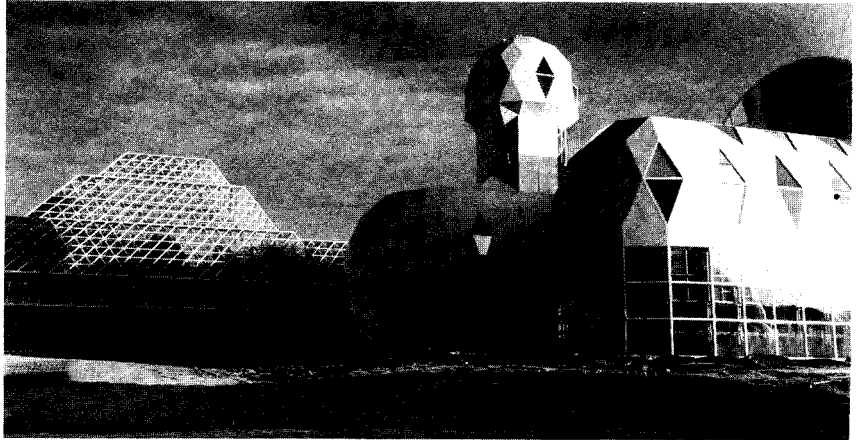
Published by CHRISTIAN AWARENESS FELLOWSHIP

1992

## BIOSPHERE 2: Space Age or New Age?

Situated in the desert north of Tucson, the Biosphere 2 is an ecological experiment designed to test the ability of eight humans and thousands of plants and animals to survive in a closed environment. But numerous internal problems have plagued the Biosphere 2 that raises doubts to its scientific credibility and link its past to a New Age cult.

The giant 3-acre greenhouse is the brain child of John P. Allen, director of research and development for Space Biospheres Ventures, the parent company for Biosphere 2. Allen has a controversial past which includes being the leader of a commune known as Synergia Ranch during the 1970s. Located near Santa Fe, N.M., Synergia Ranch has been called a "Jonestown-like cult" in the book *The Communal Experience* by University of California professor Laurence Veysey.<sup>1</sup>



Allen, who was known as "Johnny Dolphin" at that time, has been accused of practicing mind control and physically abusing members.

Allen has admitted to verbally abusing and hitting a woman on the commune. Former Synergia Ranch member Cathleen Burke said, "I was attracted by...

the wonderful idealism about a New Age. I really believed in all the things we were supposed to be working on-- ecology, a new civilization. People are attracted to the ideals and ideas, which John [Allen] is so eloquent and brilliant at. Then their guilt and shame is played on , and bango, you're hooked."<sup>2</sup>

See Biosphere p. 2.

### Also In This Issue:

**The Message of William Branham**  
part 2 by John Kennah

**New Age Video**  
available for  
CAF Partners

**So. Baptists Study**  
**Freemasonry**

**Ministry News**

## New Agers Converge On Sedona

Almost 3,000 New Agers pilgrimaged to beautiful, red rock Sedona, Ariz. last July to celebrate the imminent arrival of the New Age. The event, called the Harmonic Convergence II, is a prelude to a period of harmony, enlightenment and psychic powers, New Agers believe is coming. This New Age is supposed to arrive at the beginning of the 21st century.

A pamphlet given out by the Sedona Visitors Center said that it is possible to change the world, including politics and weather, by a collective consciousness of New Agers. The participants hummed,

chanted and meditated in large circles near Sedona, despite summer rains.

The first Harmonic Convergence occurred in 1987 and was observed by 150,000 followers worldwide. They congregated to areas believed to be power points of spiritual energy such as the Egyptian pyramids, Stonehenge, England, Chaco Canyon, N.M. and around four "vortexes," near Sedona.

New Age promoters predicted 10,000 believers to arrive in Sedona. They blamed the lower than expected turnout on inclimate weather and a lack of coverage by the news media. See Sedona p. 7

## Biosphere cont. from p. 1.

Burke claimed that Allen used information from peoples' pasts to control them. Many mind control cults use similar tactics to keep members from leaving the group and obeying orders. Although Synergia Ranch has been called a cult, Biosphere 2 cannot technically be called a cult because it is not a religious organization.

Other followers of the defunct Synergia Ranch are now part of a core group that runs Space Biospheres Ventures. Former members include the chief executive officer Margaret Augustine (known as "Firefly" at the commune), chairman of the board Ed Bass (the Texas oil magnate who has funded the \$125 million project) and five of the eight biospherians.<sup>3</sup>

Lessons learned by Biosphere 2 will be valuable in restoring the environmentally ravished biosphere 1 [Earth], said Allen. "We can accelerate evolution itself by assisting in the planet's evolutionary drive."<sup>4</sup> Allen taught an apocalyptic philosophy that life on Earth is headed for ecological destruction and that man's only hope is to start a New Age civilization on the planet Mars.<sup>5</sup>

A pervading theme at the Biosphere 2 is the concept of Gaia. Gaia is the mythological mother Earth goddess. The "Gaia Hypothesis" is the concept that planet Earth is a single conscious entity and that individual animals and humans are only cells and organs of Gaia's body. Some witches' covens and New Age churches worship Gaia as their deity.

Books offered in the Biosphere 2 gift shop include: *Gaia: The Growth of an Idea*, *Gaia: A New Look At Life On Earth*, *Gaia: Atlas Of Planet Management*, and *Gaia: The Human Journey*.

Top scientists and former employees are speaking out against the "glass Noah's ark." David Stumpf, a plant biochemist, was a research associate with the University of Arizona's Environment Research Laboratory. The ERL was contracted to do research for Biosphere 2. Stumpf said he told Biosphere 2 officials in 1985 that carbon dioxide levels may become too high in the air tight structure. He was then criticized by Allen for relying on science instead of what Stumpf called a "New Age, holistic and mystical approach."<sup>6</sup> Stumpf says SBV rejects science in favor of a New Age philosophy. "They sincerely believe that their whole thought process is superior. Because 'traditional science screwed up the earth so we don't need it'."

Other scientists have quit the project because of alleged cover-ups concerning atmospheric problems. Senior computer programmer Rocky L. Stewart quit his job with SBV because of what he calls a pattern of deception being exhibited.<sup>7</sup> A mechanical device known as a CO<sub>2</sub> scrubber was installed in the Biosphere 2 to extract carbon dioxide from the structure's atmosphere. Officials did not admit to the scrubber's existence until one month after the closure. Literature from SBV states, "For two years all the air, water, plants and animals in the system will feed upon and sustain one another- 100% of the air, water and waste is recycled."<sup>8</sup>

Three months into the experiment, 10% of the Biosphere 2's atmosphere was replaced by outside air. SBV officials later admitted to the incident.<sup>9</sup>

In addition to atmospheric problems and criticisms from the scientific community, a mishap inside Biosphere 2 caused another unplanned opening. Biospherian Jane Poynter cut off the end of her middle finger on a rice thrashing machine while working in one of Biosphere 2's farming sections. Poynter left the sealed experiment to have bone and finger surgery at University Medical Center in Tucson. According to the Arizona Daily Star, she returned to the Biosphere 2 later that day and snuck in a duffle bag filled with needed supplies.<sup>10</sup>

SBV officials have admitted to bringing in supplies and also that they had stocked Biosphere 2's refrigerator and pantries with more than a three months' food supply before the start of the experiment. A two years' supply of animal feed, such as hummingbird nectar and monkey chow, were also stowed in Biosphere 2 raising serious doubts to the experiment's credibility and apparent deceptive tactics. Malnourishment is also a concern. The death of pollinating bees, birds and crop diseases in the structure have led to major crop failures. The biospherians have lost between 15 and 50 lbs. each.<sup>11</sup>

To regain its lost credibility, SBV has assembled an independent committee of scientists to review the experiment. The committee has opened the port holes in the Biosphere 2 half a dozen times to take air, plant and soil samples from the enclosure. Blood specimens from the eight researchers were also taken for study. In addition, other supplies were brought into the enclosure in August.

Science is lacking in much of the Biosphere 2 experiment, yet where science is lacking, tourism abounds. Plans for the ecological "for-profit" corporation to construct a golf course, hotels, gift shops, restaurants and an RV park in the fragil desert have met with criticism from local residents.

The experiment has failed even before it began, since the biospherians and at least some of the animals will not be recycling food as claimed, and none of the inhabitants will be completely recycling air. True science does not involve deception and New Age religious philosophies. It is hoped the designers of Biosphere 2 will appreciate the wisdom of the CREATOR of biosphere 1.

## NOTES

1. Cited in the *The Village Voice*, April 2, 1991.
2. *Tucson Citizen*, June 11, 1991.
3. *Tucson Citizen*, June 12, 1991.
4. *Tucson Citizen*, June 13,
5. *The Village Voice*, April 2, 1991.
6. *Tucson Citizen*, June 14, 1991.
7. *Arizona Daily Star*, Nov. 2, 1991.
8. Allen, John. *Biosphere 2: The Human Experiment* (Penguin Books, N.Y. 1991).
9. *Arizona Daily Star*, Nov. 2, 1991.
10. *Arizona Daily Star*, Oct. 12, 1991.
11. *Arizona Daily Star*, April 28, 1992.

## LETTERS

Dear Sir:

I am writing to see if you would please send me the information on William Branham as you did before. I have been sharing it with men here and I believe it has been successful as the Message service has gone down from 16 to five or six people. Praise God!

Every time I see these men trying to pull people into the Message, I share these papers with them. Unfortunately, these men got a hold of the papers and took them. They do not want this out on the yard.

I would appreciate it if you could send me more info. I want you to know that this paper work is not just sitting around, but is being used and does have an effect.

Again, I would like to thank you for your inspired help in this matter. I thank God for using you in this ministry. It is very much needed. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you close to His heart always.

Arizona State Prison

To Editor, The Servant:

I would like to know what evidence was used for making the statement in "The Message of William Branham" (Winter 1992) that "Pentecostal" leaders such as Kenneth Hagin, Oral Roberts, Tommy L. Osborne, Gordon Lindsay and the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship International, were at one time greatly influenced by Branham.

I have followed these men over 20 years, particularly Kenneth Hagin, and know of no mention of Branham or his teachings from any of these Godly men. I doubt then that they were "greatly influenced."

Unless evidence can be provided a retraction of the statement should be printed as well as apologies sent to each mentioned. Slander is quite a serious sin, and perhaps you should be more careful of your remarks.

Lansing, Michigan.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Thank you for your letter. Although "greatly" is a subjective term, I have to stand by the statement that each of these men were influenced to some degree by Branham. Perhaps it should have been footnoted.

In Kenneth Hagin's book, *Ministry of a Prophet* (Faith Library Publications, Tulsa, OK. 1979, p.8) he calls William Branham a prophet. Douglas Weaver says in, *The Healer-Prophet: William Marrion Branham*

(Mercer University Press, Macon, Ga, p.171), "Branham's ministry must also be considered, at least in part, as a precursor of the Faith/Confession movement that is currently the fastest growing phenomenon in the charismatic movement. Hagin is called the founder, and is the self-acknowledged 'prophet' of the movement."

Oral Roberts' ministry was influenced by Branham's success as well. David Harrell, in his book, *All Things Are Possible* (Indiana University Press, 1975, p.42), refers to an interview with Gordon Lindsay. "Oral Roberts' early methods in his independent deliverance ministry may have been influenced by his observation of Branham. Lindsay recalled that Roberts discussed the matter with the Branham team in Tulsa in the summer of 1947, and again when he attended a Branham meeting in Kansas City in 1948."

T. L. Osborn's healing ministry was inspired as a direct result of one of Branham's campaigns. On pg. 64, Harrell quotes Lindsay an incident where Osborn was attending a Branham service. During this meeting, Osborn witnessed the deliverance of a deaf-mute little girl as Branham prayed for her. Osborn seemed to experience a thousand voices speaking to him, "You can do that." Harrell continues, "Out of this experience was born a unique missionary ministry that has reached tens of thousands for God." Osborne also gave the address at Branham's memorial service in 1965. His sermon is published by Message churches in booklet form.

Gordon Lindsay, Branham's campaign manager during the late 40's and early 50's said of himself, "The personal testimony of the writer is that the ministry of William Branham has powerfully affected his own." (Gordon Lindsay, *William Branham: A Man Sent From God*, Wm. Branham, publisher, 1950, pg. 17).

On page 161 of this book, Harrell makes this statement regarding Branham's association with the FGBMFI, "For a time the evangelist's most reliable support came from the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International... Branham meetings occasionally were underwritten by local chapters of the fellowship, and he became a frequent speaker at the group's regional and national meetings... When he died, Demos Shakarian wrote, '...His spirit of service was an inspiration ["In Memorium" by Shakarian in *Voice*, journal of the FGBMFI (Jan-Feb 1966, pg. 29)].

*Voice*, Feb. 1961, said of Branham, "in Bible Days, there were men of God who were Prophets and Seers. But in all the Sacred Records, none of these had a greater ministry than that of William Branham."

I sincerely hope this clears up any misunderstanding that has arisen as a result of the statement in question.

Sincerely in Christ,  
John Kennah, CAF

The **SERVANT** is published by the **CHRISTIAN AWARENESS FELLOWSHIP, Inc.** a non-profit ministry. Jack Gracie, president, Tom Perkins, editor, Sue Herzog, asst. editor, photography. Comments, suggestions and corrections are welcome as are your testimonies and your encouragement. ©1992 Christian Awareness Fellowship PO Box 35335, Tucson, AZ 85740-5335 (602) 742-3032

# The MESSAGE of William Branham

part 2 by John Kennah

In March, 1963, William Branham was javelina hunting in the desert northeast of Tucson, Ariz. While pursuing a herd of the wild pigs, he heard a loud blast. He claims that before long he was lifted up into the midst of a group of seven hovering angels. The angels told him that he was to return to his church in Jeffersonville, Ind., and reveal the meaning of the seven seals from chapters 6-8 of the book of Revelation. Immediately he left for Jeffersonville and during the week of March 17, 1963, he preached a series of sermons now known as the "The Revelation of the Seven Seals."

Two months later, an issue of *Life* magazine contained a story of a huge, mysterious cloud over Flagstaff, Ariz. The smoke-ring like phenomenon was photographed on February 28, 1963.<sup>1</sup> It was said to be floating approximately 26 miles high-- too high to have been formed by water vapor. The article offered no explanation for its existence. Branham discovered the article, and in June, 1963, he announced for the first time that he had been visited by the seven angels on his hunting trip.<sup>2</sup> He told his followers that the cloud was formed as the angels departed from their meeting with him. Peary Green, pastor of a Message church in Tucson, demonstrated the believers' unquestioning acceptance of the story, saying, "It was when these seven angels departed from Brother Branham's presence that they formed the mysterious, science-baffling cloud in the sky."<sup>3</sup> Branham added further spiritual significance to the cloud when he said that the Lord showed him that it was in the shape of Jesus' head.<sup>4</sup>

Evidence shows that the cloud was the result of a rocket detonation above Vandenberg Air Force Base in southern Calif. on February 28.<sup>5</sup> The explosion occurred about 27 miles high, concurring with the altitude of the mysterious cloud. High altitude winds drifted the cloud over Flagstaff, 200 miles north of Tucson, by the time it was photographed.<sup>6</sup>

According to the Arizona Game and Fish Department, javelina season ran from March 1 through 10 in 1963.<sup>7</sup> If Branham was javelina hunting on the date of the cloud's appearance, then he was hunting out of season. Branham's hunting trip actually did not take place until after March 4. A sermon he preached on this date indicated that this hunting trip had not yet taken place.<sup>8</sup>

Rebekah Smith, one of Branham's daughters, recently wrote an article about the inconsistencies between the dates of the cloud and her late father's angelic visitation at Sunset Peak, near Tucson. Smith admits the cloud formed on February 28, 1963, and says that

Branham's angelic experience occurred while he was hunting on March 8, 1963. This is the first time in nearly thirty years that a Message publication has ever made a distinction between the dates of the two incidents. Smith explains the discrepancies by quoting Branham from an obscure tape. She writes, "Speaking to a small group of people that had gathered in the home of Brother Tom Simpson, he explained, 'I looked and right there were those Angels, just as plain as they could be. I looked to see when it was, and it was a day or two before, or a day or two after, I was there'."<sup>9</sup>

But Branham has said on at least eight different occasions that the cloud was formed by the angels at the same time they visited him on his hunting trip.<sup>10</sup> Branham's son, Billy Paul Branham, said in a letter, "Brother Branham said it was Seven Angels bringing their Message from the throne of God and they met him there on Sunset Mountain on that day, and that cloud was their leaving the earth's atmosphere. I would not believe anything else but what Brother Branham said."<sup>11</sup> Billy Paul Branham is a spokesman for the William Branham Evangelical Association in Jeffersonville, Ind. and was perhaps the most intimate associate of Branham.

## Discrepancies Discovered

The mysterious cloud and the events surrounding Branham's angelic commission were to become a milestone in his prophetic career. Ironically, it was these same events that were to prove to me that the Message of William Branham was a series of false teachings. I had been a follower of Branham for nearly ten years, but started to doubt his claims. I began to pray desperately for the truth. Was William Branham a prophet or not? One day while in prayer, I felt the Lord impress on my heart, "Why did I send my Word? Look in the Bible for your answers."

What a simple solution! I discovered that I had accepted Branham as a prophet before verifying his teachings with the Bible. Once I did that, I had made my understanding of the Bible subject to the Message. Discrepancies and contradictions I saw in the Message were attributed to my lack of spiritual understanding by other followers. But if I had compared the Message with the Bible before accepting it, I might have seen these questionable areas as warnings against its authenticity. My bewilderment left and I replaced Branham with the Holy Spirit as my teacher.

see FALSE PROPHECIES page 5

## False Prophecies

cont. from page 4

On December 23, 1962, Branham shared with his church a vision that he had the day before. He told the congregation that this vision showed him hunting in the desert when he heard a loud explosion. He then saw himself lifted into the midst of five of the "mightiest" angels he had ever seen.<sup>12</sup> This vision was supposed to be a prophecy of his March 1963 experience with seven angels. During his testimony of the supposed fulfillment of this vision, he said that seven angels appeared to him. In every reference to this vision after its fulfillment, he consistently said that he saw seven angels instead of five.<sup>13</sup>



Branham said that he had once prayed for a boy named Donny Morton, who had a terminal case of meningitis. He implied that the child was healed of his disease according to "thus saith the Lord."<sup>14</sup> A *Reader's Digest* article about Donny's case mentioned Branham's prayer. He said to the child's parents, "...do not give up hope. With faith in God's power, and help from the medical world, your little son will live." Donny's health began to improve dramatically, but within five months of this prediction, the boy died from a combination of meningitis and pneumonia. The article ends, "The personal miracle Morton [Donny's father] sought-- that his child's life be saved-- was denied. But out of his search for it came another miracle, because this Saskatchewan farmer's selfless and unquestioning pilgrimage across half a continent stirred the hearts of thousands."<sup>15</sup>

Branham and his son, Billy Paul, were once standing in front of the May Company in downtown Los Angeles. He told his son, "Billy, I may not be here but you won't be an old man until sharks will swim right where we are standing."<sup>16</sup> This statement was in reference to the prophecy that California would one day sink into the ocean as the result of a

catastrophic earthquake.<sup>17</sup> Branham was 56 years-old when he called himself an old man.<sup>18</sup> In September 1992, Billy Paul Branham will be 57 years-old.

Most Message followers are familiar with a vision Branham had concerning his shooting of a grizzly bear. The bear rug lies in Branham's Tucson trophy room as a testimony of this fulfilled prophecy. Most of his followers do not know that Branham also prophesied at least three times that he would shoot a large brown bear. He said, "Many of you remember the vision I had, where I shot the grizzly bear, nine-foot grizzly bear... I had another. Remember, it's on tape here, I seen a great huge brown bear. That might be a Kodiak and it wouldn't have worked down there in Canada 'cause they're not there, you see. But where ever it will be, it'll be. It will be, that's THUS SAITH THE LORD. It will be."<sup>19</sup> It never was. There is no evidence that this prophecy was ever fulfilled before Branham's death in 1965.

One of Branham's most quoted mispredictions concerns his contention that the world would end, and the millennium begin by 1977. He said, "...I still maintain this prediction after 30 years because, Jesus did NOT say no man could know the year, month or week in which His coming was to be completed. So I repeat, I sincerely believe and maintain as a private student of the Word, along with Divine Inspiration that 1977 ought to terminate the world systems and usher in the millennium (Emphasis added)."<sup>20</sup> Many believers left the Message in despair when this "inspired" prediction did not come true.

## The Seven Seals

Branham taught that his interpretation of the seven seals of Revelation chapters 6-8 was revealed to him by the Holy Spirit.<sup>21</sup> His explanation of the fourth seal casts doubt on its divine inspiration. Speaking of the four horse riders in the first four seals he teaches, "Then we find out that... the first was white, then the next one was red, the next one was black, and the fourth one... all of these other three was represented in it because pale is red and white and so mixed together...[the pale horse] mixes its colors of red, white, and black. Three colors in one."<sup>22</sup>

What Branham did not know was that the Greek word for pale is *chloros*, which means "pale green." One would question the validity of an interpretation that says that white, red and black produce pale green.

## The Seven Church Ages

Branham believed that the seven churches in Asia (Revelation, chapters 2 and 3) were symbolic of seven historical ages throughout the history of

continued on next page

Christianity. He said that God gave him the supernatural ability to determine the precise dates in history of each age and who the angel (messenger) of each age was:

Branham taught that he himself was the messenger to the last church age of Laodicia, which started in 1906. From 1750-1906 was the Philadelphian Age. John Wesley was the messenger. The Sardis Age, 1520-1750, had Martin Luther as the messenger. From 606-1520, the Thyatiran Age, Columba was the messenger. The Pergamum Age, 312-606, had Martin as its messenger. The Smyrna Age, 170-312, had Irenaeus as messenger. The first church age, Ephesus, 53-170 A.D., had the Apostle Paul as the messenger.<sup>23</sup>

Branham made poor choices of messengers for at least two of his church ages. The second chapter of Revelation contains the letter to the messenger of Ephesus. John wrote the book of Revelation around 95 A.D. Paul could not have been the recipient of this letter as Branham taught, because the apostle died about 68 A.D., almost 30 years before the letter was written.

Branham chose Columba as the messenger to the Thyatiran Age. But Columba died in 596, nine years before his age began.

It is interesting to note that all of Branham's choices of church age messengers embraced the concept of the Trinity. Branham, though a trinitarian himself at one time,<sup>24</sup> denounced the concept as being, Thus saith the Lord, "of the devil."<sup>25</sup>

Deuteronomy 18:20-22 says that a prophet who speaks in the name of the Lord anything that God did not tell him to say, or who makes a prophecy that does not come to pass, is not to be listened to. More than once William Branham has taught doctrines in the name of the Lord that is not from God (e.g. Serpent's Seed, no Trinity, Church Age Messengers). In addition he foretold, or prophesied events that did not come to pass as predicted.

According to the written Word of God, it must be concluded William Branham was not the 20th century prophet he and his followers claimed him to be. In the next edition of *The SERVANT*, additional false teachings will be discussed along with the state of the Message churches today.

## NOTES

1. "Odd Sights at Heights," *Life* (May 17, 1963) vol. 54:20, p. 112.
2. Branham, William M. *Standing in the Gap* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol. 6, bk. 7 p. 20-2.
3. Green, Peary. *Acts of the Prophet* (Tucson Tabernacle Books, Tucson, Ariz., 1969) pg. 104.
4. Branham. *Trying to do God a Service Without it Being God's Will* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol. 7, bk. 2, p. 13-14.

5. Weaver, C. Douglas. *The Healer-Prophet: William Marrion Branham* (Mercer Univ. Press, Macon Georgia, 1987) p. 101.

6. MacDonald, James E. "Cloud-Ring in the Upper Stratosphere," *Weatherwise* (June 3, 1963) vol. 16:3, p. 148.

7. "State of Arizona 1962-3 Big Game Map and Hunt Regulations." Ariz. Game & Fish Dept. Pamphlet on file.

8. Branham. "Absolute," sermon March 4, 1963. Cf. Branham. *Trying to do God a Service...* p. 8-9.

9. Smith, Rebekah. "The Road to Sunset," *Only Believe* (Tucson, Ariz. June 1992) vol. 5:1 p.5.

10. For a list of Branham's quotations placing himself at Sunset Mountain (Tucson) during the cloud formation, ask for the open letter to: *Only Believe* / Sister Rebekah Smith.

11. Branham, Billy Paul. Sept. 13, 1991. Letter on file. Typographical errors corrected in quotation.

12. Branham. *Reproach for the Word* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol. 2, bk. 16, p. 4-5, 7.

13. Branham. *The Revelation of the Seven Seals*, p. 68; see also Branham, William M. *Feast of Trumpets*

(Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol. 3, bk. 16, p. 7; Branham. *Ashamed of Him* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol 3, bk. 9 p. 27.

14. Branham. *His Unfailing Words of Promise* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol. 15, bk. 3, p. 21.

15. Smith, Alma E. "The Miracle of Donny Morton," *Reader's Digest* (Nov. 1952) vol. 61, p. 29.

16. Green. *Acts of the Prophet*, p. 119

17. Branham. *Choosing of a Bride* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol. 2, bk. 28, p. 35.

18. Branham. *Leadership* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol. 7, bk. 7, p. 27.

19. Branham. *Possessing All Things* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol. 10, bk. 4, p.3. See also: Branham. *Wisdom Versus Faith* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol. 3, bk. 17, p. 8;

Branham. "Presuming," sermon June 24, 1962.

20. Branham. *An Exposition of the Seven Church Ages*, (? Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) p. 322.

21. *The Revelation of the Seven Seals* p. 122, 231, 569.

22. *The Revelation of the Seven Seals*, p. 301, 307.

23. Branham. *The Revelation of Jesus Christ* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) p. 140.

24. *The Revelation of the Seven Seals*, p. 119; See also Branham. *Witnesses* (Spoken Word Pub. Jeffersonville, Ind., n.d.) vol. 25, bk. 6, p. 5.

25. Branham. *Footprints on the Sands of Time* (Spoken Word Pub.- Editor Jeffersonville, Ind., 1976) p. 606.

CAF has the footnoted publications above on file. Photocopies of individual pages as well as other information on The Message are available on request. Donations to cover copying and mailing costs are appreciated.

## SEDONA from p. 1.

But not all the residents of the little town 200 miles north of Tucson were disappointed by the low turn out. Christian Awareness Fellowship members Deborah and Jack Gracie interviewed Sedona residents on their views of the New Age. One western clothing store owner said she wished the media would show that New Age beliefs are not shared by everybody in their community. Sedona is a beautiful place to raise kids, but the New Agers are trying to take the city over, she said.

According to the business woman, New Agers are trying to get themselves elected to the city council in order to promote their views on the environment and in public schools. She explained that a decision to rebuild a washed-out bridge was only accepted by the city after the community came in force to promote it. The New Agers considered the area important to their faith because it was "holy ground," and tried to stop its reconstruction.

Forest service officials also complain about the making of medicine wheels. New Agers clear out areas of land to arrange large rocks in geometric designs. The wheels were first used by Indian witch doctors and are supposed to promote healing and spiritual awareness. Often crystals are left in the wheels as a part of the ceremony. This altering of the landscape on federal land is against the law, as is trespassing on private ranch land to get to the vortexes.

The local economy does not benefit too much from New Age tourism, unless one caters directly to them, said a clerk in an appliance shop. Other New Agers benefit the most from the visitors by selling crystals and books, reading tarot cards and horoscopes, holding workshops on New Age issues and guiding tours.

CAF member Sue Herzog recently went on a



vortex tour. "The tour was about \$20 more expensive than the scenic tour of the area because it was personalized to what we wanted to see or experience," she said.

"It was just the tour guide, a family of three and me on the three-hour jeep tour. We hiked up some of the vortexes and were given time to meditate and 'feel the power.' At one stop our tour guide took out some Native American medicine cards and gave readings to each of us. The family that was with us had come all the way from Washington, D.C. to experience the power of the vortexes in Sedona."

Jack Gracie said that the New Age take-over of the town reminded him of the book *This Present Darkness* by Frank Peretti. Most of the people of Sedona do not want their resort town to be known as a New Age Mecca. They feel they are victims of the New Age, Gracie said, "and the New Agers themselves are also victims- of Satan's deceit. They have believed the lie of reincarnation, instead of resurrection, and that they themselves can become gods."

## So. Baptists Vote to Study Masonry

The Masonic lodge is incompatible with faith in Jesus Christ, is deceitful and is condemned by the Word of God, says James C. Holly, M.D., an eight-year member of the Southern Baptist Convention.

During the Southern Baptist Convention in June, Holly distributed 10,000 copies of a booklet he wrote, *The Southern Baptist Convention and Freemasonry*, comparing biblical teachings with those of the Masonic lodge. A motion to make a year-long examination of Masonry was approved at the Convention.

Masonry, an international fraternal organization, claims there is no conflict between their teachings and religion. But it has long been condemned by many Christian leaders and denominations as being a secret organization with occultic influences. Denominations that forbid or discourage members from joining Masonry include the Assemblies of God, Lutheran Church (Wisconsin and Missouri Synods), Salvation Army, Free Methodist Church, Methodist Church in England, Presbyterian Church in America and the Catholic Church.

The Southern Baptist Church is the largest

Protestant denomination with over 15 million members. According to the Arizona Baptist Beacon, 18% of its deacons and 14% of its pastors are or have been members in the Masonic lodge.

Steve Dowdle, Ph.D. is Associate Pastor at Casas Adobes Baptist Church in Tucson, and also directs its counseling center. His grandfather was a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason and both his mother and grandmother were active in the Eastern Star, a Masonic auxiliary for women. "All of them said Masonry is a wonderful organization," Dowdle said, "but I have a problem with secret organizations, oaths and rites. Feelings run very deep-this is a sign there is a problem with Masonry."

Most people are ignorant of the occult, according to Dowdle. "Even Sunday School Board President James Draper was a Mason, until he looked into their teachings and left," Dowdle said. He also agrees with Holly that Masonry is seductive in nature and occultic.

For information about Masonry, please write for the 57-page booklet *The Southern Baptist Convention and Freemasonry*, available for \$3.50.

# MINISTRY NEWS

**JACK GRACIE** will be teaching classes on the cults at Casas Adobes Baptist Church, Sundays at 5:00pm. CABC is located on the corner of Ina and La Cholla in Tucson. Classes will begin on October 4 through December 6. There is no charge for the classes, but there will be recommended books. Different subjects will be discussed each class and all are welcome.

Sunday, October 11 at 6:00pm Mormonism will be the topic at First Evangelical Free Church, located at 4700 N. Swan in Tucson.

Thursday, October 22 at 7:00 to 9:00pm, Jack will be speaking on the occult at the Family Life Radio Counseling Center. FLR is located at 7355 N. Oracle Rd. in Tucson. This talk is open to the public and there is a \$5.00 charge. Please call ahead to reserve seats.

**CAF VOLUNTEERS ARE AVAILABLE** for teaching, speaking engagements and movie presentations, for your church, Bible study, or organization. Members are also available for counseling, and witnessing. Call or write for more information.

**CAF MEETINGS** (prayer, business and planning meetings, or Bible studies and teachings) are the usually held twice monthly at Calvary Chapel Northwest, 1097 W. Prince Rd. near Flowing Wells. For more information, call or write the CAF.

**BE AWARE BULLETIN** is a new CAF monthly publication. It will contain information on current events in the cults. Subscriptions to *The Servant* are available to anyone free of charge. *The Servant* is published quarterly and has indepth articles on false religions, while the *Be Aware Bulletin* will be mailed out approximately every month. It will contain quotations of interest from media sources and CAF meeting announcements, speaking engagements, prayer requests, etc. *Be Aware Bulletin* is available only to CAF members and financial supporters, because of printing and mailing costs involved.

**RADIO MINISTRY:** CAF members are guests on the Good News Daily Magazine radio show every Monday from 3:00 to 4:00pm on KVOI 690 AM. This is a live call in program. If you live in the Tucson area, plan to tune in. We have had interesting topics on the Watchtower, Mormonism, Biosphere 2 and Freemasonry. We have also had discussions with members of the United Pentecostal Church and followers of William Branham as well as former cult members. We appreciate the response we have had. Your call-in questions and suggestions for future shows are welcome!

**CHRISTIAN CONNECTION Computer B.B.S.** now has a conference area for CAF. Updated meeting and presentation announcements as well as Servant and Good News articles will be available for downloading. Christians with modems can log on at (602) 889-8796.

**WITNESS TO THE WITNESSES OUTREACH** Dozens of CAF members and other Christians passed out tracts, held signs and witnessed to 40,000 Jehovah's Witnesses at their annual district convention in Tucson this summer. Thanks to all those involved: Calvary Missionary Press, Alpha & Omega Ministries, El Camino Baptist Church, Calvary Chapel High-ways & Hedges, Casas Adobes Baptist Church, Solid Rock Foundation, Good News Communications (KVOI AM and KGMS FM) and all those that braved the 100+ degree temperatures along with pushes, shoves and threats from angry J.W. guards in order to proclaim His gospel!

**AL GORE'S BOOK, *Earth in Balance; Ecology and the Human Spirit*,** is the subject for an upcoming article in the Good News by CAF Board member Duane Burgess (write for a free copy). Vice-presidential candidate Gore apparently has a New Age world view, although he claims to be a Baptist. In the book he says, "The richness and diversity of our religious tradition throughout history is a spiritual resource long ignored by people of faith, who are afraid to open their minds to teachings first offered outside their own belief system." He says **goddess worship** would offer us new insights, and that Native American religions offer a rich tapestry of ideas about our relationship to the earth.

## CHRISTIAN AWARENESS FELLOWSHIP

(602) 742-3032

P. O. Box 35335  
Tucson, AZ 85740-5335

Address Correction Requested

Nonprofit Organization  
U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit Number 1772  
TUCSON, ARIZONA



# The Mission of CHRISTIAN AWARENESS FELLOWSHIP

*Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many...At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people."*

**Matt. 24: 4-5, 11.**

This is one of the key scripture passages on which Christian Awareness Fellowship bases its ministry. Jesus warned us not that false prophets may appear, but that they will appear and will deceive many people. This is not hard to realize when we see there are over 2,000 non-Christian cults in the United States alone.

In 1990, Mormons converted 1,000 people per day, while the Jehovah's Witnesses were at a close second, with 709 converts per day. According to those statistics, 365,000 people have joined those two cults alone since you received our last newsletter.

CAF is committed to doing the Lord's work and being good stewards of the resources He provides until He returns. Would you consider joining with us in this battle for men's souls? There are many things you can do. **First and foremost is to pray.** Pray for those lost in the cults. Pray for the families of those who are in the cults. And pray for counter-cult ministries such as CAF.

Secondly is to continue to give sacrificially. CAF is a non-profit organization, staffed entirely by volunteers, so your money goes right to the front lines of the ministry. In the past, most of your donations have gone to publish *The Servant*, to pay for postage, and to purchase written material, cassettes and tracts to give to concerned families and friends of cult members.

We would also like to update and expand our radio program **A CLOSER LOOK**. We believe the messages contained are very relevant and important for Christians and non-Christians alike. This would require many hours of research and studio time, along with the added cost of tape duplication and mailing.

In addition we need a new computer to handle our mailing list and newsletter programs. Our computer we use now is obsolete. It has broken down twice since the last newsletter and is not capable of running newer programs. We also need a photocopier, a laser printer, a postage meter and a second phone line to counsel those involved in false religions.

We would also like your input and suggestions. What do you like about *The Servant*? What do you dislike? What topics interest you the most? Do you have a family member involved in a cult or the occult? Have you ever been in a cult? How has CAF been able to help? Also, include your testimony and we may print it in an upcoming issue. Send your prayer requests and praise reports- they are such an encouragement and testimony to what the Lord is doing.

As the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ draws near, there is still a world of people to be reached with His Gospel. Would you consider joining with CAF, so together we can make an eternal difference in people's lives? If you join us as a monthly supporter, we would like to thank you by sending you a video recently released by CAF: **NEW AGE: HOW IT'S MARKETING TO THE WEST**. In addition you will receive "*Be Aware*," a monthly bulletin to keep you informed with CAF activities, in addition to happenings in the world that you probably wouldn't read about in the daily newspaper. Thank you and God bless you!

*"Now the Spirit expressly says that in the latter times some will depart from the faith by giving heed to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons... If you put these instructions before the brethren, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus..."*

**1 Tim. 4: 1, 6.**

**Yes, I want to be a part of the CAF ministry, in helping those deceived come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their savior. Please send the *Be Aware* Bulletin and the New Age video to:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please accept my monthly pledge of:

\$50\_\_\_\_ \$25\_\_\_\_ \$10\_\_\_\_ Other\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I cannot help the CAF financially, but I will pray for the lost, their families and the ministry of CAF.

## BOOKS & BOOKLETS

Mormonism, Mama and Me (Geer)	\$8.00
The Watchtower Files (Magnani)	\$10.00
The So. Baptist Convention and Freemasonry (Holly)	\$3.50
Unmasking the New Age (Groothius)	\$9.00
Confronting the New Age (Groothius)	\$9.00
Islam & Christianity (Tingle)	\$1.50
Jehovah's Witnesses (Martin)	\$4.50

**Previous editions of The SERVANT**  
(Available for any donation)

Fall 1991: Discipling and the Tucson Church of Christ, Wiccans Gather in Tucson, LDS Profits.

Winter 1992: The Message of William Branham pt. 1, Cult Update: LDS-Satanic Conspiracy, Adventist Splinter Group, Boston Church of Christ, In The Beginning.

**TRACTS:** We ask for a minimum donation of 15¢ for each tract ordered. Please write or call for information on large orders. **Topics:** Halloween, Jehovah's Witnesses, New Age, Astrology, Satanism, The Media, Reincarnation, Mormonism, Dungeons and Dragons, Christian Science, Witnessing Tips, Four Spiritual Laws.

## CASSETTES

Teaching tapes by CAF president Jack Gracie at Casas Adobes Baptist Church. Price \$5.00 each.

**The Mormon Priesthood vs. The Believer's**

**Spiritism and Channeling**

**Resurrection & Jehovah's Witnesses**

**How to Witness to a Cultist**

**The Selling of the New Age Movement**

**Ye Are Gods? Deification of Man.**

### CAF VIDEO RELEASE!

#### NEW AGE: How It's Marketed To The West

Are your children being taught occultic practices in school? Are self improvement seminars really just a vehicle to promote the new age? What is the "New Age Movement" anyway?

In our recently released video, CAF Founder and President, Jack Gracie, explains exactly what the New Age Movement is, and shows how subtly it is infiltrating our schools, our workplace and our society. Interviews with New Age leaders, and a teaching by Jack Gracie are included on this 53-minute presentation. **\$25.00**

QTY	ITEM	PRICE	TOTAL

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GIFT For The C.A.F.

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

The **CHRISTIAN AWARENESS FELLOWSHIP** is an inter-denominational, non-profit ministry supported by your prayers and gifts. Donations above the retail prices of materials are tax deductible. Prices include postage. For information on cults, presentations, or for a free subscription to our newsletter, The Servant, write: CAF, P. O. Box 35335 Tucson, AZ 85740 (602) 742-3032