

# Friday Church News Notes

## NEW ANGLICAN HYMNBOOK FEATURES RASTAFARIAN SONGS

Friday Church News Notes, August 24, 2007, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org)

The Anglican Church in Jamaica is adding reggae songs by Bob Marley (“One Love”) and Peter Tosh (“Psalm 27”) to its new hymnal. Ernle Gordon, Rector of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Kingston, said: “I don’t live in England; I live here, so my theology and how I think must reflect my cultural morals. The theology has to be Caribbean-oriented. You have to interpret the Bible according to where you are” (“Anglicans Go Reggae,” Jamaica Observer, August 2, 2007). In fact, the theology of the church of Jesus Christ was established 2,000 years ago in the New Testament Scripture and we have no right to change it. Rather, we are to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints (Jude 3). Rector

Gordon is a theological liberal who doesn’t agree with those that “have linked up with the fall/redemption theology, which is very heavy on guilt, and judgment and damnation” (“Bling-bling Gospel,” Jamaica Gleaner, August 28, 2005). Marley and Tosh also rejected the Bible’s gospel. Though they sang about biblical themes at times, they interpreted the Bible through their Rastafarian religion. Rastafarianism

was developed in Jamaica in the 1930s, following the coronation of Haile Selassie I as king of Ethiopia. It looks upon Selassie as God and blacks as God’s chosen people. The name Rastafarian is from Selassie’s pre-coronation name, Ras Tafari Makonnen. In Rastafarianism each individual is autonomous and are typically not accountable to an organization, but generally Rastafarians abstain from meat, use marijuana (considered the “wisdom weed”

(Continued on page 2.)



Bob Marley smoking marijuana



## INDIAN POLITICIAN BLAMES AMERICA FOR GLOBAL WARMING

Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, chief minister of West Bengal in India, has accused the U.S. of being “largely responsible for global warming” (“Buddhadeb Blames U.S.,” *The Economic Times*, Aug. 21, 2007). He made the statement at a seminar on global warming organized by the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce. He said, “It is strange that the Americans who are responsible for global warming are now advising us on how to improve environment.” Mr. Bhattacharjee needs to open his eyes. One Tata truck on his highways belches out more eye-burning, nose-tingling, lung-

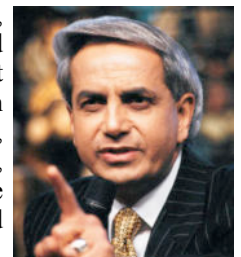
(Continued on page 3.)  
*Above, smog in Calcutta*

## BENNY HINN’S MINISTRY CAUGHT SCREENING HEALING CANDIDATES

Friday Church News Notes, August 24, 2007, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org)  
In an expose of Benny Hinn’s lavish lifestyle and deceptive healing practices, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation’s *The Fifth Estate* documented with hidden cameras how that his staff screens audience members who come forward for healing (“Evangelist Hinn Lands under a Cloud,” *The Star*, Toronto, August 17, 2007).

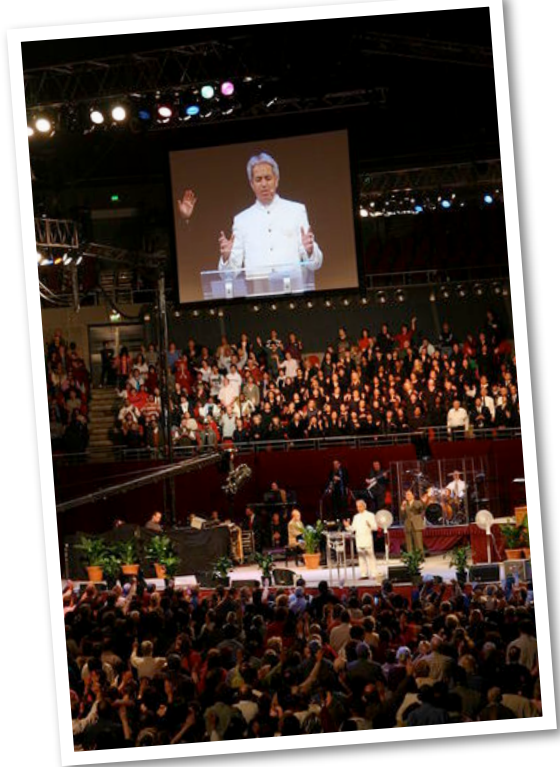
Those with obvious physical ailments are not allowed to get near Hinn. Justin Peters, a Baptist pastor in Mississippi who

has studied Hinn, was quoted as saying, “It’s always somebody that has some kind of illness that can’t be readily seen” that makes it to the stage. CBC tracked down some of the people who claimed healings, only to find that “they were either still sick, never had the condition they were supposedly cured of, or had died.” (Continued on page 2.)



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The report also documented Hinn’s lavish lifestyle, his fancy cars, 7,000-square-foot ocean-side mansion, private jet, etc. In 2003 the *Dateline* program on NBC asked Hinn’s ministry to provide confirmation of the 56 cases of healing that were claimed at one of his crusades. Hinn’s people came up with only five cases of what they called “irrefutable and medically proven miracles.” When *Dateline* researched these five cases, it found that only one of the people involved could provide medical records, and her doctor suspected that the woman never had the Lou Gehrig’s disease she claimed to have been healed of (*Charisma Online*, Feb. 20, 2003). In January 2005 a 52-year-old man died of an apparent heart attack while attending Hinn’s “healing” crusade in Bangalore, India (“When the miracle failed to save a life,” *Deccan Herald*, Jan. 23). At a Hinn crusade in Fiji in January 2006 a “crippled man” on crutches who was “healed in his legs” had been photographed earlier by missionary friend Ryan Gray walking into the stadium without needing the assistance of the crutches he was carrying. Bogus “faith healers” like Hinn bring reproach to the cause of Christ. No one ever died when they were seeking healing from Christ, and He healed everyone that came to Him! God often heals today in answer to prayer, and we thank the Lord for it, but there are no apostolic gifts of healing operative today.



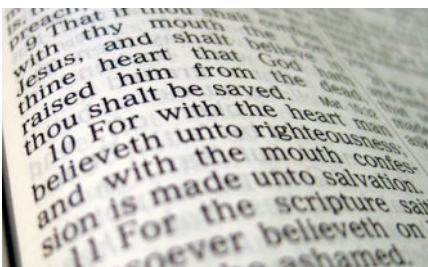
RASTAFARIAN MUSIC - CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

and the key to cosmic consciousness), believe in reincarnation, and promote world peace and non-violence. They believe the Rastafari are the true Israelites and many believe that half of the Bible has been lost. They reject Jesus Christ as the only Lord and Saviour, believing that Jesus was merely another “avatar” like “Moses and Elijah” and that he predicted the coming of Selassie (Leonard Barrett, *The Rastafarians*, p. 106). Rastafarians do not cut their

hair and typically twist it into dreadlocks. The Rastafarian expression “I and I,” which is used in place of “we,” means “God is in all men” (Barrett, p. 67). Rastafarians believe the term JAH (for Jehovah God) in Psalm 68:4 refers to Haile Selassie. Bob Marley spread the Rastafarian religion through his music. Today you can hear the jerky, melancholy reggae music blaring out in places as diverse as London, Amsterdam, Kathmandu, and Mexico City.



**Peter Tosh**



1 JOHN:41

*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*

## GLOBAL WARMING - CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

killing smog than the average 500 vehicles on American highways! The crown jewel of West Bengal, Calcutta, is one of the filthiest, most polluted cities in the entire world. A May 3, 2007 *BBC News* report said, "Some 70% of people in the city of Calcutta suffer from respiratory disorders caused by air pollution." A CNN report on May 22, 2000 said, "Dust, smog and choking pollution are a way of life in India," and added that thousands die each year from pollution *in New Delhi alone*. I've been to India dozens of times, and this is no exaggeration. The global warming circus just keeps getting weirder, but it is a myth. The U.S. Senate Committee on Environment, under the direction of courageous Senator James Inhofe of Oklahoma, recently assembled statements by reputable scientists that debunk Al Gore's fairy tale. Reid Bryson, founding chairman of the Department of Meteorology at the University of Wisconsin, said the temperature of the earth is increasing but it has nothing to do with man's activities. "Of course it's going up. It has gone up since the early 1800s, before the Industrial Revolution, because we're coming out of the Little Ice Age, not because we're putting more carbon dioxide into the air" ("Sizzling study concludes: Global warming 'hot air,'" *WorldNetDaily*, Aug. 20, 2007). Geologist Robert Giegengack, chairman of the Department of Earth and Environmental Science at the

University of Pennsylvania, said he doesn't even consider global warming among the top 10 environmental concerns. He debunked Al Gore's thesis that temperature increases because more CO2 in the atmosphere traps the sun's heat. "That's just wrong ... As temperature rises, CO2 rises, and vice versa. It's hard for us to say CO2 drives temperature. It's easier to say temperature drives CO2." Joseph D'Alea, the first director of meteorology at The Weather Channel said: "We are responsible for just 0.001 percent of this atmosphere. If the atmosphere was a 100-story building, our anthropogenic CO2 contribution today would be equivalent to the linoleum on the first floor." Former Harvard physicist Lubos Motl said that those who are promoting the fear of man-made climate change are "playing the children's game to scare each other." Dr. Fred Singer, professor emeritus of environmental sciences at the University of Virginia, maintains that warming is negligible and that "the impacts of warming and of higher CO2 levels are likely to be beneficial for human activities and especially for agriculture." One veteran meteorologist summed up the thinking of these scientists by saying, "You can go outside and spit and have the same effect as doubling carbon dioxide."

## PASTOR KICKED OUT OF ISRAEL

An American pastor and his wife have been ordered to leave Israel because they are suspected of being involved in missionary work ("Evangelical Pastor Told to Leave Israel," *Jerusalem Post*, Aug. 16, 2007). Ron and Carol Cantrell have lived in Israel for 19 years and two of their children are married to Israelis. The *Jerusalem Post* said that Cantrell, who has a ministry called Shalom Shalom Jerusalem, "categorically denied the allegations." We have no idea why an "evangelical pastor" would

live in Israel without being involved in missionary work, but apparently he is involved in something other than evangelism in spite of the Bible's commands (i.e., Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Philippians 2:15-16). This story reminds me that Israel, though back in her land, is still spiritually blind and stubborn. She continues to reject her Messiah and to hound Christian evangelists as she did 2,000 years ago when Paul was preaching the gospel. When a friend tried to witness to a Jewish man in New York City a couple of years ago, the Jew stuck his fingers in his ears and ran down the street shouting, "No, no, no." Thankfully, it will not always be this way. "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the

fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob" (Romans 11:25-26).



## EVANGELICALS AND SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS IN DIALOGUE

Representatives of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) and the Seventh-day Adventist Church (SDA) recently conducted the second round of discussions that began in 2006. The objective of the dialogue is to determine whether the SDA will become a member of the WEA. After the latest discussion August 5-10 in Berrien Springs, Michigan, David Parker, executive director of the WEA Theological Commission, said though there are differences "that does not mean there cannot be cooperation and fellowship." The Adventists have been on a campaign for several years to enter the mainstream of evangelicalism.



They have participated in Billy Graham crusades and ecumenical Bible translation projects. In the process they have tried to gloss over some of their more controversial doctrines. We have documented their heresies in the book "Avoiding the Snare of Seventh-day Adventism." In the early 1990s the Adventist periodical Ministry reviewed my book and claimed that by using some older Adventist books I was misrepresenting their doctrine. I replied to the editor that many of the quotations in my book are taken directly from Ellen White's writings, and when the Seventh-day Adventists renounce her prophecies and writings, then, and only then, will I modify my book. I explained further that the publications in question that I quote in my book are still in print by Adventist presses and distributed by Adventist bookstores and that if the Adventists do not want people to judge them by these older books, they should stop printing them and renounce them in no uncertain terms, and when they do I will modify my book! Friends, beware of the heresies and deceptions of Seventh-day Adventism. (They are also deceptive when they claim that they teach that salvation is by grace alone without works. See my book for irrefutable evidence from their own published books and official correspondence courses.)

### CONCLUSION

Friends in Christ, do not be discouraged by any of this. It is God's will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. These things remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the coming of the Lord. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ day by day? "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof" (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service list. To SUBSCRIBE or UNSUBSCRIBE or CHANGE ADDRESSES go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/fbis/subscribe.html>. Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, [fbs@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbs@wayoflife.org). David Cloud is the director of Way of Life Literature and author of the Friday Church News Notes.