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BlackSDA _ 3ABN _ The Televangelist

Posted by: sister Jul 7 2006, 03:44 PM

Since I have alluded to "The Televangelist" in a number of my threads, quoted portions of it in some of my posts and it has also been referred to by others; I am now posting it in it's entirety and without comment. It is an interesting read...

Sister

"The Televangelist"
By: Jorgen VanBraun
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"The characters and events portray in the following story are fictional. Any resemblance to any real event or person, living or dead, is coincidental."

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Introduction

Since the dawn of recorded history megalomaniacal men have identified and fostered the deepest communal fears of their fellow beings, presenting themselves as the one true answer to salvation. These men utilize certain tools that they all have in common to achieve and maintain control over, and the worship of their followers.

They identify their followers as a group, or a family that shares specific beliefs and practices that set them apart as unique. Those factors that are the primary differences between them and others make them superior. Often, the leader purports to have a direct connection to the culture's primary deity that is denied to all others. His words and actions carry the weight of divinity. Mistrust between the followers is encouraged. Questioning of the supreme leader is dealt with in the harshest manner available.

Those people who are not members of the group are portrayed as a threat to the group and to the individuals. Non-members are on the wrong side of the cosmic struggle between good and bad. What they say, what they write, everything about them must be viewed as an attempt to subvert, misdirect, and deceive the true believers. They are to look with suspicion on everyone other than their leader.

Whereas outsiders might taint the purity of the follower's beliefs, the leaders often work to build an isolated society where those aspects of life that might result in interaction with unbelievers are internalized. This sometimes involves conquest of territory, and generally results in the creation of boundaries. The leaders portray these boundaries as being there to keep evil out, but they are most often used to keep the believers in.

Control of, and involvement in the personal lives of the followers is common between these megalomaniacs. Monitoring and control of what they do and say is important. It is also important to make examples of those who disobey. It tends to bring the believers closer together, and promote fear in those who might think with some measure of independence.

Love and fear often walk hand in hand. The leader is projected as a benevolent father who has placed himself in a position of great personal sacrifice for the good of his followers. He is loved and revered as a true father to his people. Sometimes a father has to punish his children, but it will always be done in love and with deep regret. He must protect his family from the ravenous wolves circling those whom he loves, and from the insidious turncoats who lurk within.

Any criticism of the leader is portrayed as a broader attack on the group. It becomes the first wave of an apocalyptic devastation of the very fundamentals that make them who they are, in the minds of the believers.

Until a dramatic action takes place, the general public does not view most of these leaders as any serious threat. Emperor Napoleon of France brought much needed freedoms to the populace and, had the support of much of Europe until he brought it to its knees.

Adolph Hitler turned the failed German economy around and provided millions of jobs. He built a well disciplined society out of the anarchy resulting from World War One and the fall of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. As their savior, Hitler had the full support of the German people, and much of the world until his war of conquest became global, and his true intention shone through. His actions, both good and bad, were taken with the best intentions. He firmly believed that a global Third Reich was the only salvation of the world, yet the world he was trying to save turned on him with a vengeance. In the end, he felt that he had done no wrong.

Pol Pot closed the borders of Cambodia and launched an internal bloodbath almost unequaled in history. Using the "loving father who is cleansing and protecting his children" psychology, he decimated the population of his country. He believed that he was saving the true Cambodia by getting rid of all foreign influence, and eliminating those people who showed any sign of being tainted. He did not consider himself a monster, he was a savior.

Jim Jones was active in local and national politics and had the support of the governor of California, the Mayor of San Francisco, and even President Jimmy Carter. He was revered as a great humanitarian who stuck up for the rights of the underprivileged and campaigned tirelessly for those politicians who supported him. He believed that God was working through him for the salvation of humanity. Then, for their own good, he killed close to one thousand people in a single day.

The Baghwan Shree Rajneesh built a cult in Oregon that consisted primarily of wealthy and highly educated people. He drove the leadership out of the town of Antelope walking the edge of the law, but using mostly legal means. He renamed the town Rajneeshes Puram and created a new tightly controlled society. Thousands of people thrilled to the spiritual enlightenment he brought them, and were left destitute and homeless in his wake.

David Koresh was the heavy-handed father of the Branch Davidians. He preached an apocalyptic message in which he was the personification of God on earth. His word was indisputable. In the end, he self-fulfilled his prophecy, and his group went up in an apocalyptic blaze.

These are some of the better known examples of megalomania, and they all had a beginning and an end. They all believed in what they did, and did it with the best of intentions. Are there such characters currently rising in power? Are there well-intentioned, yet evil leaders that we are unwittingly following after?

The Televangelist Prologue: The Inquisition

A long time ago...

The accused cries out in anguish as he is being torn apart. The crowd roars its approval, and the torturer pulls the rack a little tighter. Joints pop and sinews crack, but their sound is drowned by screams of agony. The Inquisition has condemned another soul to death by torture. Some people are upset by today's spectacle, but men of God, men who God called to leadership, men through whom God communicates to the common people have declared they have evidence that this person has committed grievous acts against God and man and is thus deserving of a hideous death.

There are people high in civil and church government who question the methods, and even the

veracity of the leaders of the Inquisition, but those who dare voice their questions soon find themselves shackled to a dungeon wall. No one from the lowliest serf to the Pope on his throne is safe from the tender mercies of the Inquisition.

In the beginning, the Church gave its tenuous blessing to the Inquisition and allowed its propagation. Then the Inquisition grew more powerful than the Church it was meant to support and became a menace. With no one daring to take them on, the Inquisitor's credibility with, and power over the people became absolute.

Now...

Five hundred years later, the world has moved on, and it is now the twenty-first century. Cries of anguish ring out as an accused soul is being ripped apart. The crowd roars its approval and the executioner pulls the rack a little tighter. It has been declared that there is evidence this person has committed grievous crimes against God and man. This time the rack is not a bloodstained wood structure, and the executioner doesn't wear a black hood. This time it is not the victim's body that is ripped apart; it is the soul. This time it is not the Inquisition who accuses, convicts, and executes the victim, but a televangelist. This time there is a different church.

The Televangelist Part 1: The Psychology

A young boy climbs up on a yard table behind the house. With a far way look in his eye, he holds a stick microphone to his mouth. Thousands of spectators packing the imaginary stadium are on their feet. They can't wait to hear the voice of their revered singer. Some forty-five years later, he smiles as the music comes to a close. He steps back as the audience applauds. The cameras continue to roll, sending their signal up to satellites and around the world as he steps up to the microphone and cries out, "Praise God!"

He tells the story of Moses, a lowly shepherd who went on to lead a nation because he followed God's calling. He tells how a humble carpenter (like Jesus) heard God's call and built a global television network even though he only had a high school diploma. He tells how previous to this, he was married to a wonderful singer and how they ministered in song week after week in churches across the country, and how their marriage ended in her tragic death by car accident. He tells how the television ministry started in a series of miracles that began with a minister of another faith donating thousands of dollars worth of television production equipment. He tells about the many sacrifices he and his family endure to keep this ministry going. He tells about the little old ladies who turn down their thermostats to save up more money to support this great work of God. He says, "You too can do great things for God. How? Well God asks, 'What do you have in your hand?'" The people have their pocket books in their hands.

When the meeting is over, he is whisked away to an airport where his private jet is warming up for the trip home. He strides past a well-stocked galley and settles into a leather recliner. Leaning back, he closes his eyes and smiles as his jet soars into the night sky.

Memory takes the televangelist back over the decades to the events that made the man. As a teen, he learned that people are very susceptible to quiet suggestion; that they tend to obsess. He could spot a young couple who seemed to be hopelessly in love. He would go to the boy and tell him that the girl had been seen in private places with other guys and everyone knew that she was being unfaithful. Then he went to the girl and said that her boyfriend thought she was a floozy. Almost invariably he could break them up and end up a confidant to both. This was power.

He thinks back on his first marriage. This was the foundation to his understanding of what makes people believe in, and financially support a ministry. Weekend after weekend he and his family performed music and spoke in churches across the country. He learned that by telling the people that God spoke to him and he listened and did God's bidding, he could grab the majority. He would then wrap up the fence-sitters with a couple of financial miracle stories demonstrating how he stepped out in faith and God followed through by rewarding him. He learned that by giving a story of a person who was impressed by God to give a specific amount that turned out to be exactly what was needed

to keep his electricity on, or make a mortgage payment that he didn't have the money for, other people wanted to be that miracle person and many large checks would land in the offering plate. He learned that music, tears, and stories of personal anguish due to the devil's attacks dramatically increased support. He also learned to publicize any criticism of himself as criticism of God. If someone disagreed with him in any way, they were portrayed as attacking God's work. Creditors, people who had been left hanging in bad business deals, people whose marriages he had destroyed, and others were thus demonized. He learned that if he had reason to worry that someone knew too much about him, he could preempt anything that person might do by discrediting them. He could concoct a nasty story; usually sex based, and spread it around to their friends, family, church leaders, civic leaders, employers, potential employers, business associates and others. He also applied the label, "pathological liar" to them. Then, if that person ever exposed anything it was said to just be the revenge of an angry liar. Those early days were his real schooling.

The Televangelist Part 2: The Family

The televangelist enjoys reminiscing on the subject of his family. No one can say that his family is boring. Indeed, they are a very colorful group.

Many years ago the televangelist's Grandfather on his father's side suffered from paranoid schizophrenia. Thinking that his rooster had developed an attitude that would negatively affect the egg production of the chickens, he tied the rooster to a tree and beat it with a whip. A young boy was awed. On another occasion, he felt that his wife was out of line and needed to be put in her place, he stuck a fork in her head during a meal. A young boy was proud that his grandpa took charge so aggressively to defend his pride. His favorite grandchild, the one he spent the most time with and felt the closest to, would one day be the televangelist. Suffering from depression, two of his uncles committed suicide.

When his father was thirty-five years old he suffered a heart attack that resulted in serious physical debilitation. One aspect of this was an inability to function sexually. Shortly thereafter, his wife started a long-term relationship with her brother-in-law, the televangelist's uncle. Also on his father's side, an aunt took up with one of her nephews and moved to another state with him. One of his brothers, a pastor in the Church, had an affair with another brother's wife that resulted in that brother and his wife divorcing.

Another close relative has also enjoyed a little variety outside of her marriage. She has had some same-sex fun with other women, as well as a fling with a male cousin.

One of the televangelist's older brothers left the Church and went through seminary with another denomination. He became a pastor, and built a church and grade school. Within a few years accusations of child molestation began to haunt him. Several young boys from his grade school accused him of sexual abuse. The televangelist's mother begged the parents of these children to not press charges against her son. They agreed that if the pastor left the state, they wouldn't file charges and he left.

Safely in another state, the pastor took on another church. For several years his church thrived and he was considered a model pastor. Then he molested another boy. This time his mother was not there to jump to his defense, so he left that state in a hurry. He called his televangelist brother to ask for help. Given a good job offer, he moved to a location just across the state line from where the televangelist was located (the area from which he first had to flee) and went to work for his brother. He became the Director of the production facilities, and traveled the world with his brother as pianist at meetings, rallies, and other events.

The televangelist recalled the many evenings spent in strip clubs, and availing himself of the services of prostitutes during his first marriage. As he traveled to various cities producing music records for locals who fancied themselves gospel singers, he was able to enjoy the local street walkers. At home, a young girl from a related by marriage was also fair game for a little variety, as is a young girl associated with his second marriage.

The Televangelist Part 3: The Money

With a sigh of contentment, the televangelist makes his way to the galley for a bottle of apple juice and a jar of cashew nuts. Settling back into his seat, he folds a lacquered walnut table out of the wall. He opens his briefcase and takes out six thick envelopes and one packet wrapped up in aluminum foil. On his way out of this evening's meeting, a number of people came up and handed him checks. These he gave to his assistant to deal with. What he placed in his briefcase could be nothing but cash. He is not disappointed. Counting twice, he comes up with the same figure. The next day, his assistant will turn the checks over to the financial department. He asked the people who gave him this cash if they needed a receipt and they said no. He places the money back in the briefcase.

It is best that the paperwork demonstrate that the televangelist lives on a very low salary. The donors need to believe that their money is going strictly to further God's work. What they don't know won't hurt him. There are many ways other than salary for his ministry to provide for his earthly pleasures. He smiles over at his briefcase. He learned long ago that he could take large cash advances for various reasons and never return cash or receipts. Each day, when the mail comes in, certain people open it, count the donations, and send the money and the totals to his office. He goes over them and sends them on to the accounting department. The amount that arrives in accounting is often much less than the written totals... but then that could be because the people counting the money often make the mistake of counting donations that never happened.

On the televangelist's laptop computer is a half-written book. He has already written and published four. They are all self-published and then he sells them to his ministry at a profit of twelve cents per book. His first book sold more than one million copies in just a few months. Of course as president of the ministry, he has them heavily advertised, many of them given away and the rest sold at a loss. In this manner he is able to control all aspects of the market.

The air pressure in the jet changes and the wall monitor shows that it is beginning its descent. Several years ago it was a relief that he was no longer forced to endure the inconvenience of commercial air travel, with the acquisition of a private jet. No longer does the televangelist have to go through security, and travel on a commercial schedule. He knows that the contributors, and the church that support his ministry, would not appreciate that this convenience is leased at a cost of \$40,000.00 per month, so he has this expense placed in an anonymous account. In addition to the lease, the pilots cost \$700.00 per day, and there are operational costs including gas and maintenance. Well, what the people don't know won't hurt him, and he truly deserves the extra conveniences. Vacations, personal visits, trips to ball games, and medical appointments no longer require a long drive. He now uses the jet for trips that would have required as little as two hours of driving.

Several years ago, a donor who had several jets of his own provided the funds to purchase a small jet. For several months the televangelist was happy with this, until shoulder rubbing with the jet set brought him to the realization that his jet was small and cheap. He flew people here and there meaning to impress them, and found that many of them had flown in much nicer private jets. His could only go one thousand miles on a tank of gas, which meant that he had to make an embarrassing fuel stop on coast-to-coast trips, and he couldn't fly trans-continental.

After a little research, the televangelist found the jet he now used

In the beginning when his ministry was still just a dream, the televangelist went to the pastor of a local church. This pastor was part of another denomination and had his church set up as a television production facility. The televangelist wanted to confer with him on how he should get started, and what kind of equipment he would need. They sat down and developed a plan whereby the pastor would say that he was donating his television equipment to the televangelist, who could then tell the members of his denomination a miracle story. He would say that a pastor of another faith had been impressed by God to donate all of his own television equipment to start this ministry. Of course the pastor kept his equipment, but the story did its job and the money started rolling in. This pastor's wife now serves as Operations Manager for the televangelist's ministry.

One of the first large donations was in the amount of \$50,000.00 and the televangelist was able to use almost half of that to pay off some personal debts. This was, of course, in the best interest of the ministry because such distractions would only hold him back. Thus began a very profitable portion of his life.

As the years passed, financial directors came and went. One of them went under a dark cloud of scandal. It was discovered that he was diverting funds into his personal accounts, paying his bills with company checks, and walking away with enormous sums of money. To the surprise of those few people who knew what had happened, the televangelist chose to keep this story under wraps. The financial director was terminated, but not prosecuted. Nor was he required to pay anything back. Indeed, he was given a company vehicle as a gift.

Not long after this, The United States Postal Service discovered that a mail carrier was opening letters addressed to the ministry and taking cash donations. The televangelist went to the federal prosecutors and begged them to drop the case. He did not want it pursued.

In both of these situations, prosecution would have resulted in close scrutiny of the ministry's financial books.

The Televangelist Part 4: The Church

Arriving home, the televangelist starts thinking about his upcoming board meeting. The church that supports his ministry is made up of a World Conference, and various other levels of conferences, each falling under the other. The President of the Local Conference where his ministry is based is on his board of directors. This Conference president's parents both work for the televangelist. His personal assistant, his financial director, his chief legal advisor, and his facilities manager are all board members. Two of the board members, including the chairman, have programs that air on the television network. He has a new board member to whom he has just donated one million dollars, and appointed to head a new ethnic television network. He is comfortable that he owns the board.

Over twenty years ago the president of the World Conference asked the president of an association of lay workers for a recommendation on whether the church should support the televangelist. The recommendation came back that they should not, based on his very shady background. The church decided that they would give him their tenuous blessing in spite of the warnings.

The televangelist's TV network went up on satellite and became a regional service covering North America. His programs appealed primarily to the older, retired members of the church. These were the people who had money and were the most likely to make larger donations. They were also the people whose wills and trusts would soon come to fruition. His director of wills and trusts is very effective and takes in more money than the majority of the Church's organizations combined.

The Church started using the network to air its own events, and the televangelist's power in the Church grew. He interviewed various church leaders, highlighting their programs and projects and they grew to rely on him for promotion. He acquired key figures in the Church and gave them regular programs on the network. The Church was happy. As the televangelist's network grew to cover the entire world, so grew the Church's ability to reach the entire world through television.

Then a new president was elected to the World Conference. He believed that since the televangelist's network was essentially the face of the Church to the world, the Church should have some input into what was aired. He asked that a joint programming committee be formed, and that a certain Church Conference president be added to the board of directors. The televangelist was enraged. He immediately started calling various people saying that this World Conference president had put out a hit on his life. He said that unmarked black helicopters were hovering over his house performing surveillance. Stories were concocted and quickly spread regarding anyone who agreed with the Church's new position. Donations to the televangelist spiked. How dare anyone persecute the beloved leader? The World Conference president and many of his administration were politically ruined.

When the time came to vote for a new church administration, the televangelist called in favors, made

threats, and laid out bribes. The results were pleasing. The new World Conference president and many of his administration made numerous "love fest" appearances on TV with the televangelist. They told him how much they appreciated him and his enormous contribution to the Church.

Everyone was terrified of the televangelist. They knew that with his global television platform he could, and would, destroy anyone who dared disagree with him in any way. The Church decided to launch its own television networks. As they came within one year of launch, the televangelist worked tirelessly to block them from their own churches. He fabricated ugly stories about them, and said that they were nothing but a mimic trying to reinvent the wheel. He was genuinely concerned about them.

When some of the televangelist's employees left and applied for employment with the Church's network, he contacted his attorney (who also did some work with the Church), the people he owned in the World Conference, and other influential personalities, and spread terrible stories about these employees trying to keep them from working for the Church. He called one of these employees who disagreed with him on a fundamental matter and said, "I know that you are trying to get work with the Church, and I won't let that happen because it will make you look right, and me look wrong."

One of the Church's most prominent evangelists said of the televangelist, "His network is the face of the Church to millions of people, and he is the face of his network."

The Televangelist Part 5: The Compound

The televangelist has a difficult time going to sleep. He is considering how best to utilize a recently acquired piece of property. His ministry now owns two-hundred acres of land. Many years ago he found that more power over his employees could be achieved through consolidating the various aspects of their personal lives and placing them under company control and observation.

At one time, the televangelist and most of his employees attended a local church about ten miles from his ministry headquarters. A problem developed. The pastor knew him too well, and many of the members were local people and family members who also knew too much about him. It occurred to him that if he had his own church, he could control all facets of it. He purchased an empty church building and asked his employees to attend there. Of course it wasn't mandatory, however...

The televangelist appointed the head of his pastoral department as pastor. He carefully handpicked the church board, the elders, and the various other positions, making sure that he was head elder and had a seat on the board. His presence at the meetings was all that was needed to keep control of the church's operation. After all, the entire leadership consisted of his employees.

Now his church needed the legitimacy of affiliation with the denomination. Pressure was applied in the right places and the televangelist's church was made an official church under the denomination's Local Conference. As the years went by, the televangelist had a new church building constructed on his ministry's property. A new pastor was acquired. One who as a singer, had music CDs to sell and appreciated the platform that a worldwide television network gave him. The ministry paid half of his salary, and the Church's Local Conference paid the other half. An associate pastor was hired, and the ministry paid all of his salary.

Now it was time to expand. Many of the televangelist's employees had children and he had grandchildren. A school building was constructed on ministry property. Staff and board members were once again hand selected. The school was placed under the denomination's church school curriculum to give it legitimacy. If a family was a member of the compound church, their children's tuition was free.

Staff housing was built on the ministry compound, and retirees was encouraged to have their own houses constructed on ministry property where they could stay until their death, one requirement being that they provide room and board for ministry guests.

The televangelist now owned the personal lives of his employees: church, school and housing. When church members went to their pastor regarding personal problems, the televangelist was informed. In school, the children were strongly indoctrinated in the idea that the televangelist was the supreme

leader of Christianity under God among humanity. When marriages broke up, the televangelist decided who was right, and who was wrong based on how supportive each party was to himself and how useful his decision might be to future support. As personnel resigned and moved on, he decided what would go on their membership record as it was transferred to another church. He learned that knowledge is power. Everyone, from the lowliest employee to the World Conference president can be blackmailed or destroyed. If there are no skeletons in the closet, skeletons can be fabricated. The concept of "divide and conquer" was paramount to his power. Discredit those who might be a threat, and the threat goes away. Make people believe that the only person they can really trust is him, and all threats disappear.

Everyone wants to be a star and many of the performer types would like to produce a CD, but the cost is beyond the average person's budget. The televangelist has built a music production facility. From time to time he offers the incentive of having a free CD produced. For most, he dangles the prospect of a CD, like the proverbial carrot, and retains their loyalty. Close family members and friends are given "love gifts" of money, automobiles, and other things.

The televangelist smiles at the thought of how gullible people can be. Many new employees arrive with stars in their eyes. They are awed to be standing on holy ground. They look around and see the people who they see on TV. They are led into the studios where they see the sets for the various programs. Invariably they walk slowly up to the chair that the televangelist sits in during his talk show, and reverently touch it. It is almost like a dream that they are actually here, and this is where they will be working for God. A secretary comes out and says, "The boss would like to see you in his office." Their knees weaken. They are about to meet the televangelist face-to-face.

Walking down a blue-carpeted hallway, a new employee is led to a large oak door. The secretary lightly knocks and opens the door on an airy oak-paneled office. From behind a pile of paperwork, the televangelist glances over his reading glasses toward the door. His face lights up in a warm, welcoming smile. He nods a brief dismissal to the secretary and his new employee is now alone with God's messenger for the last days. He graciously asks the new employee to have seat on an overstuffed couch, and starts asking about this person's life. He invites the employee to eat lunch with him at a local restaurant. Over the meal, and for another thirty minutes, the televangelist asks brief questions and listens to the new employee.

Back in his office, the televangelist goes in for what will become his insurance on this employee's fidelity. He has asked the right questions, and listened carefully to everything that was said. He has deduced certain things about the employee's life from the conversation. Now he says, "God has just shown me some things about you." He gives a few generalities regarding some personal weaknesses. "The Holy Spirit is telling me that there are some problems... some secrets that you need to tell me about. You know that I already know what they are, but God is telling me that you need to confess them." Leaning forward, he takes the employee's hands in his own and continues, "What we talk about will stay between us and God." Tears slide down his cheeks as he prays that God's Spirit will fill this new employee with repentance, forgiveness and peace. Dark personal secrets are spilled. Dusty old skeletons rattle as they fall out of their closets. Painful memories are relived. A prayer of thanksgiving is intoned, tears are shed, and the meeting is adjourned.

Information gleaned from friends, relatives, co-workers, former employers, enemies, emails that are being monitored, church, and other sources is added to the file for future use.

This story has played out time and again, its conclusion being that when employees leave, they are told that if they say anything that would be detrimental to the televangelist or his ministry, their testimony will be discredited with the personal knowledge that the televangelist holds over them. The televangelist tells them, "I will be forced to protect God's ministry by revealing to the world your history and what kind of a character you are."

The employee leaves and starts contacting potential employers only to find that the televangelist has already been there warning them not to consider this person. Over the next few weekends the former employee continues going to church, but finds a cold shoulder. When approached, people who were close friends look nervously around and hurry away. The televangelist or his assistant informs these friends, associates, even family members outside the ministry that the former employee is a

disgruntled pathological liar. He tells them that it would be best for them if they cut off all communication with this person.

Divide and conquer. The televangelist contacts the former employee and says, "Your friends have been coming to me and telling me everything that you say to them. They tell me that they are disappointed in you and the only reason any of them still speak with you is that they hope to bring you back to the Lord, and they want to keep me informed about what you are doing and saying. I also spoke with your family and they sympathized with me, and said that they are also very disappointed in you." Now the former employee doesn't know whom to trust.

Another method of dealing with an employee who needs to leave is demotion followed by tightened observation and heavy restrictions. Potential employers are contacted and told that this employee has performed badly, exhibited a poor attitude, and has personal problems that have resulted in demotion and possible termination. Following demotion, the employee starts contacting potential employers and finds that the doors are all closed.

The Televangelist Part 6: The Victims

The televangelist gets up and goes to his computer. The monitor casts a bluish glow on the face of the man who just switched on its power. The reflection in the monitor reveals a middle aged face peering intently over a pair of reading glasses. Opening up his email, the televangelist reads an email accusing him of wrong-doing. Baffled, he goes over it again. He leans back, his brow furrowed in concentration. What makes people think they have any moral standing to say that he has done any wrong? God called him to start this worldwide ministry, not them. Millions of people around the globe are blessed by him, not them. Many people have come into the Church through him, not them. Look how successful he is, as opposed to them. To thousands of people, he is God's vicar on earth, not them.

He writes back to his accuser explaining all of these things to her. He tells her that his conscience is pure; he does no wrong. He tells her that when he stands before God in judgment, it will be clear that everything he has done has a higher purpose. If others have suffered, they deserved it. If they were foolish enough to cross him, they were crossing God and it was inevitable that they should pay a steep price. If their suffering serves to advance or please him, they should be grateful for the privilege. Sometimes people must be sacrificed for the greater good of the greater person chosen by God for the greater cause.

The First Wife

In his late teens, the future televangelist married an older woman with several daughters from a previous marriage. Possessed with the idea that gospel music was his ticket to fame and power, he heard her sing in a church and was entranced with the possibilities that this beautiful voice presented. They were married and soon had a daughter. Within a few years, it became clear to the wife that her function was singer, cook, and housekeeper. Her husband frequented prostitutes and strip clubs. He also engaged in affairs with a variety of married women.

Her husband was a master of emotional abuse. If he hit her, she could show bruises, but how could she demonstrate to anyone the abuse that she suffered from this man? It was time to try getting out of this mess. She started planning her departure. She and her daughters would find a place to live and move out. It would be very difficult as her husband did not allow her access to money, but she could not stay. Then tragedy struck.

One day the wife and her youngest daughter were out for a drive when their vehicle was broadsided by another car. The wife was killed, and the young girl was thrown out of the vehicle and suffered a broken arm. Within a couple of weeks, the televangelist had his daughter on church stages singing. He told about the recent accident, pointing out her cast, and the money rolled in like never before.

The Bosses

Following a string of business failures that resulted in bankruptcy, the televangelist took his first wife and children to another state. He went to work for a building supply company owned by two men who had been in partnership for many years. Immediately he began planting the seeds of dissent in them.

He hinted to each that the other was swindling money. As they grew to distrust each other he fostered this division with continued lies, misleading comments, and doctoring of documentation.

As his plan to split up the partnership progressed, he started an affair with the wife of one of the partners. Finally, with the partnership being dissolved, a marriage on the rocks and the business in disarray, the future televangelist left the state and moved back to his hometown. Upon his departure, the partners found that the televangelist had absconded with the supplies from their company to build a speculation house, sold it, and never paid them.

The Family

In starting the ministry, the televangelist brought several family members into the business. These included his mother, his sister, and a brother. His brother was appointed to the position of Vice President. Once the ministry was on its feet and going, the televangelist's brother and sister launched a television program that they co-hosted. This program's popularity quickly grew. Seeing that his own popularity was dropping, the televangelist took drastic measures to resolve the situation. He fired his brother, and in anger, his sister and mother resigned.

Now came the isolation part. The televangelist wasted no time in spreading rumors and calling his brother, mother, and sister pathological liars. The employees were forbidden from having any contact with them. Everyone was closely watched and people who showed any sympathy for the departed family members, or expressed concern for how they had been treated was dealt with in the harshest manner.

About this time, the televangelist contacted a cousin with whom he had been quite close over the years. This cousin and his wife were operating two very successful businesses that they had built from scratch. He told the cousin some miracle stories, explained how God was using this ministry to reach the world, and told him that he was needed to be second in command. The cousin and his wife discussed it and decided that God's work was the most important thing. They divested themselves of their businesses, moved to the location of the ministry, bought a house, and started work. Within a short time, the cousin discovered that he had been duped. He saw financial mismanagement on a gross level, illegal activities, abuse of the employees, and much more. He confronted the televangelist with this wrongdoing and was told, "God called me, not you. That is why I am sitting here, and you are on that side of the desk." He was told to repent and submit.

Several days a week, the cousin was attending an afternoon class at a local college. The televangelist had him taking this course for work. Now the televangelist called the cousin's wife and told her that her husband was disappearing from work for hours at a time and no one knew where he was. He suggested that the cousin might be having an affair and asked her not to say anything. He would find out what was going on and protect her. As soon as her husband got home from work, she told him what the televangelist had said. They called and confronted him with his lies. He said that he simply didn't remember that the cousin was taking classes.

Finally, given the ultimatum, quit or be fired, he resigned. Meanwhile, the televangelist began a vicious smear campaign against him. The family was further split by what was said. The televangelist said, "If you want proof that I am right and he is wrong, just look at the fact that I am still here and he is gone. God is blessing me, not him."

The Lady and the Sanctuary

The years went by, and countless lives were broken and destroyed; sacrificed on the alter of the televangelist's ministry. One day an elderly lady contacted the ministry. She had worked diligently to get the televangelist's TV network carried on the local cable companies, and now she had another idea. She wanted the ministry to have a small model of the Old Testament sanctuary.

After several months of trying, she was allowed to speak with the televangelist himself. She was awed to be conversing with this representative of God. She told him her idea and said that she would provide the finances to make it happen. Prior to taking her call, the televangelist asked a few questions and found that her husband was a very wealthy retired physician. Now he told her that God was impressing him that instead of a miniature model, they were to build a full scale replica of the sanctuary that would be used as a museum, and include a theatre. He assured her that God had

spoken to her.

Now the televangelist showed her a piece of property that was across the street from his ministry headquarters and told her that this was the place where God wanted his sanctuary. This was an eighty-acre tract of land that was already for sale. She wrote him a check for the amount of the property and what he estimated it would cost to construct the museum.

Construction of the facility began and then was halted. Funds were diverted to build a school with a large gymnasium adjacent to the museum. A large pond was excavated, a road was built, and apartments were constructed. The museum building sat there, an empty shell. Several years later, the televangelist decided to redirect plans for the sanctuary building and turn it into a large auditorium and church. The local school district had successfully sued for the ministry to pay property taxes. The court decided that as they were not a church, taxes must be paid.

The elderly lady called repeatedly, but the televangelist would not take, or return her calls. She finally spoke with someone else in the ministry and told her story. She had planned on spending several thousand dollars for a sanctuary model until the televangelist convinced her that God wanted her to fund the much larger project. The check that she wrote to the televangelist was their life savings. Now she was destitute. Her husband got a divorce, and her children scorned her. From time to time they called and told her that all of this was for nothing. A master con artist had swindled her. Where was the sanctuary museum he had promised? Hadn't God told the televangelist to build it? Hadn't God told him that she was to fund it?

Sometimes people must be sacrificed for the greater good of the greater person, and they should feel privileged to suffer thus.

The Wife

After his first wife died, the televangelist married a recently divorced young lady with two children: a girl and a boy. His new wife served as executive vice president of the ministry, and was in charge of production, programming, publishing, and radio. As her children grew into their teens, her son developed problems with violence and drugs. The televangelist told her that this was her son, not his. He said that he did not want the boy in his house, and that this situation would have to be dealt with by her alone. He would have nothing to do with the boy.

The child's situation worsened until a foreign doctor visited the ministry and said that he would be willing to take the boy back to his country and put him in rehab. The televangelist's wife took a friend of hers and went to visit her son in this overseas rehab for three days. While there, she was also with a very good friend who was retired from a lifetime of work in the Church. The gentleman had served as a pastor and conference official in many parts of the world for fifty years and was now working with the televangelist's ministry. His wife was suffering from cancer, and was undergoing treatment from the same physician who was treating the boy.

Upon returning home, the televangelist's wife walked into a nasty surprise. Her husband greeted her with an accusation of adultery with the doctor. He demanded that she cease all communication with him. Outraged, she at first ignored him. The situation escalated.

Her best friend, who was temporarily staying in one of the ministry's apartments, called the compound church's head pastor one night and told him that her room was infested with demons. She said that these demons had removed her garment bag from the closet and thrown it to the floor, creating a tear in the fabric. The televangelist was summoned and they performed an exorcism. In the process, the televangelist told her that this case of demonic activity was the result of his wife's philandering ways.

Early the next morning, unaware of the night's activities, the televangelist's wife was awakened and ordered down to the living room. There she found her best friend and the pastor. Her friend burst into tears and cried "Please, for your own salvation you have to confess!" They pressed her for several hours. The televangelist told her that if she did not submit and confess, her marriage was over, and her days in ministry were at an end. She protested that there were witnesses, including the friend who was present, that she could not have had an affair with this doctor. She had never been alone

with him.

The televangelist suspended his wife, and she was forbidden from going to her office without supervision. Her computer was confiscated and searched for incriminating evidence. Monitoring and tracking devices were placed in her car and in the house. She was placed under constant surveillance. Her friends and closest followers at the ministry turned their backs on her, refusing to even speak with her. The employees were forbidden from speaking about this subject on pain of immediate termination. Day after day the televangelist came home and told his wife of the many church leaders, pastors, and other people he had called and told that she was in an adulterous affair. Night after night he was in her face for hours at a time, interrogating; demanding that she submit and confess. Night after night he was at her former best friend's apartment for hours at a time. Day after day he was on the telephone with this woman for hours at a time.

On the phone and by email the televangelist was telling everyone that he had ironclad proof of his wife's adultery. In fact he had none. All he had was evidence that she had spoken with him on the telephone. As the demands for evidence became stronger, he was forced to change his accusation from adultery to spiritual adultery. One person asked, "Spiritual adultery? What is that? Does this mean that she is having sexual relations with spirits?" The ministry was deluged with telephone calls, emails, and letters offering the televangelist their sympathies as he continued spreading the word. Several employees asked why the televangelist was pushing so hard to publicize the problem. They were placed under surveillance.

Finally, after several months of this, the televangelist's wife moved into a mobile home in a local trailer park. There she lived with her daughter. Night and day her home was watched. Vehicles parked outside and kept open surveillance over her. Early one morning, the phone rang, and it was her husband asking if he could come in and use her restroom. He was very tired from a long night of watching.

The televangelist's board of directors met on the weekend that his ministry held a large campmeeting event in his auditorium. On the first night of this campmeeting, the foreign doctor and the retired pastor who had been with the televangelist's wife when she visited her son in rehab were there. They planned on being available to answer questions of the board when they met. When these two men walked into the auditorium, a security team immediately surrounded them. The televangelist stood at the podium and said to the world, "There are devils right here in this room." He pointed to the two men. "They are the reason my wife is not here tonight." Tears ran down his cheeks. "They have cost her this ministry."

The televangelist choreographs singing and tears. He tells the audience that despite this terrible loss, his heart is entirely devoted to ministry. He is devastated, yet focused on the vision that God gave him. This campmeeting will bring in more money than any other in the ministry's history. The financial success of this event will prompt the televangelist to hold another campmeeting a few months later, attempting to ride the wave of emotional giving before it dries up.

After the meeting was over, the security team proceeded to escort the two visitors off the premises. A ministry attorney told them that if they set foot on the televangelist's property again, they would be arrested. The televangelist was a close friend and neighbor of the local sheriff, and phone calls had been made. The men said that they had traveled over six thousand miles to speak with the board and defend the televangelist's wife. They were told that this would not be possible, as they would not be allowed on the property.

The Church's foremost evangelist, who was speaking at this campmeeting, asked the doctor if they could speak. The pastor of the compound church grabbed the evangelist's arm and said, "That would not be a good idea. You should not speak with this doctor alone."

Next day, the board met. The televangelist's wife and anyone who might defend her were not allowed to be present. She was summarily fired.

Several days later, she contacted a ministry employee, and asked him to help her move some furniture from her husband's home to the mobile where she now lived. Without hesitation, he

volunteered. Two days later he was fired. After forwarding an email to about fifteen people from the televangelist's wife that simply stated that there were some untrue rumors going around about her, he received a letter from the televangelist's attorney threatening civil litigation.

The Chairman of the televangelist's board, and the Church's foremost evangelist both said that the wife's guilt or innocence was no longer relevant. The network was the face of the Church to much of the world, and the televangelist was the face of the network. For the greater good of the Church, she needed to submit to the televangelist and sacrifice herself. Her reputation and her life had to be secondary to the televangelist's desires. Why couldn't she see this?

The wife moved to another town several hours away. She found a house and settled in with her daughter. Within a short time, her husband had established surveillance on her new home.

The televangelist filed for a "No Fault" divorce from a foreign country, and as soon as it was finalized, he put out the news that his wife had divorced him and that she had most likely married the foreign doctor in secret. Meanwhile, he was dating a young lady whom he had known since she was a child. He moved her in from another state and gave her a job. True, she was several years younger than his daughter, but he was now single and needed some young female company. Soon she was spending a lot of time at his house.

The months went by, and the televangelist tenaciously kept up surveillance and harassment on his ex-wife and those who supported her. He spread stories about the foreign doctor, insinuating that he had murdered his wife who died following a lung transplant not long before the current fiasco began. He spread stories about the foreign pastor who had stood up for his wife. He claimed that this pastor's wife had engaged in many extramarital affairs, and that the pastor was a pathological liar. He called him a "spiritual idiot." He threatened his ex-wife, the pastor, and many others with litigation if they tried to say anything that would expose him. He had vast financial and legal resources that could withstand years of legal battle, whereas they did not. Guilt and innocence aside, in the end he could ruin them financially.

Her reputation in tatters, viewed by the world as a whore, emotionally crushed, the televangelist's ex-wife tries to reestablish some semblance of a life. She knows that she will probably never have privacy again in her life. Every email and phone call is most likely monitored. Friends are afraid to speak openly with her knowing that they will have to face the wrath of the televangelist. Many of them have. They know that the contents of their conversations and emails tend to come back and haunt them. It happens over and over.

The ex-wife goes to church, where she is active in ministry. She is involved in abused women's issues, and is turning the devastation of the previous years into the foundation for a new life.

The Televangelist

Before shutting down his computer for the night, the televangelist sends out one last email: this one to his ex-wife. He tells her how much he loves and misses her. He tells her that he is sorry she had to go through this nightmare... it hasn't been easy for him either. He tells her that it had to be done. She had to be sacrificed for the greater good of the ministry. Her removal has resulted in an outpouring of sympathy for him that has brought in more money than at any other time in the ministry's history. He tells her that the departments she once managed are flourishing under their new director as they never did under her. "This is not meant to offend you." He tells her, "I am just helping you to understand why you had to go." He goes on to let her know that he has moved on with his personal life. He is happy with the new girlfriend, and he is now working out and building up his physique. "I wish this never had to happen, but I will always love you. Your X"

He shuts off the computer and walks back to bed. Gently raising the covers, he slides in, careful not to wake his new partner.

The Televangelist Part 7: The Conclusion

How does this story end? When does it end? That is largely up to you. The story of the televangelist

has repeated itself over and over since the dawn of time. The names are different, the faces change, and the victims fade into the fog of memory. People cannot always choose whether or not they fall victim to the televangelist, but many choose to be bought. Many choose to ignore the crimes against humanity by justifying these problems away. They say, "It is for the greater good." When confronted by the world over his extermination camps, this was Adolph Hitler's response. Others say, "It is none of my business." Over the course of history, the most heinous atrocities have occurred largely because good people refused to act.

How many people have to be sacrificed on the alters of megalomania? How many lives must yet be destroyed? Will the "televangelists" in your life, in your church, in your community, on your television be allowed to continue their wave of human destruction in the name of good? Only individuals willing to take a stand for human rights and dignity can put a stop to this new inquisition. Only Church and civil leaders who are not willing to be bought or sold, who will stand firmly on principle can clean this stain out of the framework of the community.

Where do you stand?

* * * * *

Posted by: watchbird Jul 7 2006, 07:39 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Jul 7 2006, 03:44 PM)

Since I have alluded to "The Televangelist" in a number of my threads, quoted portions of it in some of my posts and it has also been referred to by others; I am now posting it in it's entirety and without comment. It is an interesting read...

Sister

That's heavy, Sister. Really heavy.

Thank you for posting it, but....

I'm not sure if we were really ready for the whole thing at once. Maybe we needed more portions of it enclosed in some of your delightful packaging first. But.....

Maybe no matter how many more "small portions" of it we saw, maybe it would still be heavy whenever we saw it all at once.

It takes a lot of processing before we are even ready to ask questions.

But.....

Thank you again for posting it. Once again I am stunned with the impact of the whole. And to think, this narrative closed more than a year ago. We have had 14 more months of the saga enacted since the final words of this document. And the end is not yet.

Posted by: beartrap Jul 8 2006, 10:32 AM

Yes indeed, Watchbird,

Perhaps the time has come for a rewrite. Perhaps this time the author should seek to collaborate with Sister.

By the way, Sister, thanks for posting it. As you say, an interesting read.

Posted by: sister Jul 8 2006, 11:06 AM

QUOTE(beartrap @ Jul 8 2006, 11:32 AM)

Yes indeed, Watchbird,

Perhaps the time has come for a rewrite. **Perhaps this time the author should seek to collaborate with Sister.**

By the way, Sister, thanks for posting it. As you say, an interesting read.

Bear, good to have you back, everybody missed you!



Sounds like an interesting project to me... especially since both of us have reason to continue flying

under Danny's radar.



sofa1.gif

If the author suggests the project to me I am open to a

collaboration.



For I truly believe that the pen is mightier than the sword. And in a serious war of words, Danny is out of his league.

box.gi

It is time that Danny's victims are vindicated

and he permanently retires from the scene.

notworkir

In the end revealing the Bullyboy's own

actions will cause him to dig his own grave publically.



Posted by: watchbird Jul 8 2006, 12:41 PM

First off, Bear, another great big

welc



Pull up a chair, sit a spell, and tell us what has happened in your world since we saw you last.

tableta

QUOTE(beartrap @ Jul 8 2006, 10:32 AM)


Yes indeed, Watchbird,


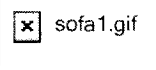
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
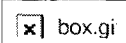
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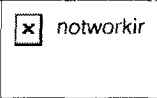
I wouldn't say a "rewrite". It is an historical document and as such deserves to stand on its own. But it surely would be nice to have a sequel. That was essentially "prologue" plus "year 1". The past is past and doesn't need much rewriting except maybe for places where we have learned more about the past. But some of those chapters now are only preface to what has happened in "year 2". It would be good, I think, for those who know how things developed in those chapters to share them with us here.


QUOTE(sister @ Jul 8 2006, 11:06 AM)

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Sounds like an interesting project to me... especially since both of us have reason to continue flying under Danny's radar.   sofa1.gif If the author suggests the project to me I am open to

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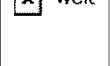

vindicated and he permanently retires from the scene.  notworkir In the end revealing the

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I agree in principle. And surely there will come a day when someone, or some team, should take all of the various strands of informtion and weave them into a publishable book. In the meantime, though, I hope we can get more daily expansions on the saga that began with The Televangelist, continued on through The Unauthorized History, and now can be both fleshed out and brought up to date as we look at more recent developments in areas that have been introduced before. There are also areas that could use some closer examination, expansion, and even analysis.

Posted by: sister Jul 8 2006, 04:00 PM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jul 8 2006, 01:41 PM)

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Pull up a chair, sit a spell, and tell us what has happened in your world since we saw you last.

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I can not speak for Bear or the author of "The Televangelist", but I do not think what was suggested was writing a book at this time. I think that you have jumped the gun a bit, watchbird.

Posted by: watchbird Jul 8 2006, 04:15 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Jul 8 2006, 04:00 PM)

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Don't think so. I don't think I was saying anything about a book now. I was just making the point that I'd like chapter-like installments of whatever "revision" is done, rather than waiting for a whole revised document.

Posted by: Johann Jul 9 2006, 05:12 AM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jul 8 2006, 03:39 AM)

That's heavy, Sister. Really heavy.

Thank you again for posting it. Once again I am stunned with the impact of the whole. And to think, this narrative closed more than a year ago. We have had 14 more months of the saga enacted since the final words of this document. And the end is not yet.

Danny made the "mistake" shortly after this story was written, of admitting on a TV show that this was his story, and not the story of anyone else of the thousands of televangelists in the world. . . He claimed some of it was false!

Posted by: Clay Jul 9 2006, 05:14 AM

QUOTE(Johann @ Jul 9 2006, 06:12 AM)

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why would he admit to this being his story?

Posted by: Johann Jul 9 2006, 05:23 AM

QUOTE(Clay @ Jul 9 2006, 01:14 PM)

why would he admit to this being his story?

I don't always comprehend how his mind works. I watched the 3ABN show when he made the complaint that someone had written his story with some mistakes in it. I suppose if someone had done this to me I'd ignored it, especially since no names were given.

Posted by: watchbird Jul 9 2006, 08:16 AM

QUOTE(Johann @ Jul 9 2006, 05:23 AM)

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There you go again, Johann, exhibiting your skills as a "master of understatement". "his story with some mistakes in it" indeed. I think the actual words he used were pungent variants of "lies" and "liar", with his rant against it extending for a considerable length of time. He was **so sure** that he knew exactly who wrote it, and who had "dictated" it to the "author"

What I'd like to see you post here is one of the letters that Danny sent to you, and even one that he sent to Linda that she passed on to you (or was it sent to her with a carbon to you?--I forget that detail). It's true that a short excerpt from those have been posted to another thread, but since those were such short excerpts and the recipients were not identified, I don't think it would be considered double posting for you to put the whole letter(s) here.

Posted by: Daryl Fawcett Jul 9 2006, 11:15 AM

Why is this stated at the beginning?

QUOTE

The characters and events portray in the following story are fictional. Any resemblance to any real event or person, living or dead, is coincidental.

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jul 9 2006, 11:50 AM

QUOTE(Daryl Fawcett @ Jul 9 2006, 11:15 AM)

Why is this stated at the beginning?

SOP

Standard Operating Practice, Daryl

This is an example:

<http://books.guardian.co.uk/review/story/0,,1596971,00.html>

Quote:

"In 1982, theatre director Michael Bogdanov is tried for pimping. In the same year, Anthony Thomas makes a drama-documentary about an incident in Saudi Arabia in which the central character is a thinly fictionalised version of himself. More recently, when Ken Loach makes a film about abuses in the care system, **he concludes it with the caption** : "This film is based on a true story but the characters and the names have been changed for legal reasons. **Any resemblance to any person alive or dead is purely coincidental ."**

Posted by: watchbird Jul 9 2006, 12:04 PM

QUOTE(Daryl Fawcett @ Jul 9 2006, 11:15 AM)

Why is this stated at the beginning?

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The characters and events portray in the following story are fictional. Any resemblance to any real event or person, living or dead, is coincidental.

While Pete mentions that this is SOP--and it is. In this case, the author was given "legal counsel" to include that line.

Actually, this is the only purely fictional line there is in it. Events are dramatized and even written in a fictionalized manner, but as you have seen (or will see) from Sister's comments on some of the

things given in The Televangelist, what is said in The Televangelist gives a little "tip of the iceberg" look at very real experiences and attitudes.

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jul 9 2006, 12:24 PM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jul 9 2006, 12:04 PM)

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Actually, this is the only purely fictional line there is in it. Events are dramatized and even written in a fictionalized manner, but as you have seen (or will see) from Sister's comments on some of the things given in The Televangelist, what is said in The Televangelist gives a little "tip of the iceberg" look at very real experiences and attitudes.

Watchbird, look again. I've got a diamond buried in that gravel.

<http://books.guardian.co.uk/review/story/0,,1596971,00.html>

"Prevented by **legal agreement [gag order]** from writing about her famous husband, Ivana Trump commissions a ghost-writer to write **a novel** about the **break-up of her marriage** ."

I hope to see SOP used again in the future by someone we know..

Posted by: watchbird Jul 9 2006, 12:37 PM

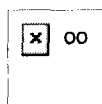
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I hope to see SOP used again in the future by someone we know..



oo



And so you do. Thanks. I sure missed that one!

Posted by: summertime Jul 9 2006, 01:37 PM

[quote name='watchbird' date='Jul 9 2006, 09:16 AM' post='138317']

There you go again, Johann, exhibiting your skills as a "master of understatement". "his story with some mistakes in it" indeed. I think the actual words he used were pungent variants of "lies" and "liar", with his rant against it extending for a considerable length of time. He was **so sure** that he knew exactly who wrote it, and who had "dictated" it to the "author"

Might Danny be surprised if he only knew---the weakest of the weak (and then some)

Posted by: sister Jul 9 2006, 02:09 PM

QUOTE(Johann @ Jul 9 2006, 06:12 AM)

Danny made the "mistake" shortly after this story was written, of admitting on a TV show that this was his story, and not the story of anyone else of the thousands of televangelists in the world. . . He claimed some of it was false!

Interesting how Danny keeps putting his foot in his mouth. So, based upon the **first person witness** of "The 3ABN Televangelist" it is his story and only **some** of it is false? Extrapolating upon that statement it means, by Danny's own admission, the majority of it is true. Any comments concerning the content of the document?

Johann, didn't Danny accuse you of being the author? I am sure there is more you can add to the story... Including email or letter documentation written by Danny himself?

Posted by: beartrap Jul 9 2006, 05:50 PM

rofl Johann said, "Who could be more foolish than the man who finds a critical anonymous book, and says to the whole world, 'Hey, this book is about me!'"

Posted by: Hersheys99 Jul 9 2006, 07:06 PM

QUOTE

rofl Johann said, "Who could be more foolish than the man who finds a critical anonymous book, and says to the whole world, 'Hey, this book is about me!'"

Yea that speaks volumes to me. Maybe Danny needs Clay's Sign!!

Posted by: watchbird Jul 9 2006, 08:13 PM

QUOTE(beartrap @ Jul 9 2006, 05:50 PM)

rofl Johann said, "Who could be more foolish than the man who finds a critical anonymous book, and says to the whole world, 'Hey, this book is about me!'"

Ho there, you still aren't quoting him accurately--or at least not completely. We need a more complete picture--along with a little sound effects and drama. Try it this way... (not a transcription, of course).

"Boo hoo sob (broken voice here), Someone has written this book full of lies and made it look as though it was all about me. But it's NOT (raise volume), it's NOT, I say! It's all just a pack of lies--and you know who is the father of lies. It's the devil hard at work to discredit this ministry. Ah, but I shall rise above it all. angel.gi Surely the Lord is blessing this ministry and nothing shall be allowed to stand in its way. This persecution will result in additional glory to His name (and additional offerings from your pocketbooks). I know you will continue to support me through this hour of trial and the indignities that the demon inspired writer of this document has inflicted upon me.

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart. than Thank you.

QUOTE(Hersheys99 @ Jul 9 2006, 07:06 PM)

Yea that speaks volumes to me. Maybe Danny needs Clay's Sign!!

You mean the one that says "I'm stupid"?

Not on your life. At least not unless you add another line--"like a fox with a large bag standing guard at the hen house."

Hey...look back at the closing lines of part 6 of The Televangelist. Picture it if you will. Here is a man whose wife has just died--giving a concert with his daughter whose mother has just been killed in the same accident which left her a broken arm. It's been only two weeks. (How long does it take to grieve for your mom when you are 12 years old?) But "the show must go on". And the bravery of the little girl who holds up her cast for all to see when her father describes the wreck opens the pocketbooks wider than when there were three of them doing the "show".

And we expect to figure out what goes on in this man's head?

I don' t think so.

Posted by: beartrap Jul 9 2006, 08:55 PM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jul 9 2006, 09:13 PM)

Ho there, you still aren't quoting him accurately--or at least not completely. We need a more complete picture--along with a little sound effects and drama. Try it this way... (not a transcription, of course).

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rofl rofl

Posted by: Johann Jul 9 2006, 11:09 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Jul 9 2006, 10:09 PM)

Interesting how Danny keeps putting his foot in his mouth. So, based upon the **first person witness** of "The 3ABN Televangelist" it is his story and only **some** of it is false? Extrapolating upon that statement it means, by Danny's own admission, the majority of it is true. Any comments concerning the content of the document?

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


I have a number of e-mails from Danny where he accuses me of being the author of the Televangelist. Also where he threatens to take me to court. His "proof" that I wrote it is that the fictionalized author's name begins with J like in Johann

Posted by: Hersheys99 Jul 10 2006, 12:03 AM

QUOTE

Ho there, you still aren't quoting him accurately--or at least not completely. We need a more complete picture--along with a little sound effects and drama. Try it this way... (not a transcription, of course).

"Boo hoo sob (broken voice here), Someone has written this book full of lies and made it look as though it was all about me. But it's NOT (raise volume), it's NOT, I say! It's all just a pack of lies--and you know who is the father of lies. It's the devil hard at work to discredit this ministry. Ah, but I shall rise above it all. angel.gi Surely the Lord is blessing this ministry and nothing shall be allowed to stand in its way. This persecution will result in additional glory to His name (and additional offerings from your pocketbooks). I know you will continue to support me through this hour of trial and the indignities that the demon inspired writer of this document has inflicted upon me. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart. than Thank you.

 rofl   rofl You are cracking me up here but that is pretty close to what he said or the parts I caught anyways!

Posted by: Clay Jul 10 2006, 12:48 AM

even if I thought it were about me, I would probably not say a word....

reminds me of this song:

QUOTE

You walked into the party like you were walking onto a yacht
Your hat strategically dipped below one eye
Your scarf it was apricot
You had one eye in the mirror as you watched yourself gavotte
And all the girls dreamed that they'd be your partner
They'd be your partner, and...

You're so vain, you probably think this song is about you
You're so vain, I'll bet you think this song is about you
Don't you? Don't You?

You had me several years ago when I was still quite naive
Well you said that we made such a pretty pair
And that you would never leave
But you gave away the things you loved and one of them was me
I had some dreams, they were clouds in my coffee
Clouds in my coffee, and...

You're so vain, you probably think this song is about you
You're so vain, I'll bet you think this song is about you
Don't you? Don't You? Don't You?

I had some dreams they were clouds in my coffee
Clouds in my coffee, and...

You're so vain, you probably think this song is about you
You're so vain, I'll bet you think this song is about you
Don't you? Don't You?

Well I hear you went up to Saratoga and your horse naturally won
Then you flew your lear jet up to Nova Scotia
To see the total eclipse of the sun
Well you're where you should be all the time
And when you're not you're with
Some underworld spy or the wife of a close friend
Wife from a close friend, and...

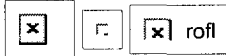
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Don't you? Don't You? Don't you?

You're so vain, you probably think this song is about you
You're so vain, I'll bet you think this song is about you

Posted by: PaperTigers Jul 10 2006, 12:49 AM

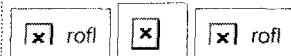


Watchbird, maybe you should be his writer!!! That sounded so much like him...



Posted by: Johann Jul 10 2006, 05:22 AM

QUOTE(PaperTigers @ Jul 10 2006, 08:49 AM) □



Watchbird, maybe you should be his writer!!! That sounded so much like him...



I second that motion.

Posted by: seraph|m Jul 10 2006, 08:29 AM

If the author was available for comment it would be nice to have him/her here for an interview. The "Adventist Events and Announcements" is just the place for it. I am sure Calvin would be glad to hear from the writer and could work something out. It's just a thought. □

Posted by: watchbird Jul 10 2006, 08:46 AM

QUOTE(seraph|m @ Jul 10 2006, 08:29 AM) □

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Surely you do not think "the author" is unaware of what use is being made of his document on BSDA. For over a year now, "the author" has preferred to stay anonymous, always speaking of himself in the third person and keeping alive the mistique of anonymity. If or when he decides to reveal himself, I suspect that BSDA might be one of the first places he does so. But until then I think we would do best to allow a number of persons to comment on the document without playing any guessing games, even in the hidden recesses of our minds, as to who the author might be. If you bring your questions about it here where Sister posted it, I am sure that he will see them and will be making sure that someone gives the answers he would want given if he were answering in person.

Posted by: Daryl Fawcett Jul 10 2006, 09:51 AM

Why can't he/she come and post here under an alias as sister and others are doing? I ask as I would rather hear from this person directly, rather than through somebody else.

Posted by: Clay Jul 10 2006, 10:06 AM

QUOTE(Daryl Fawcett @ Jul 10 2006, 10:51 AM)

Why can't he/she come and post here under an alias as sister and others are doing? I ask as I would rather hear from this person directly, rather than through somebody else.

there is no indication that he or she isn't already.... they very well be posting under an alias....

Posted by: seraph|m Jul 10 2006, 10:08 AM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jul 10 2006, 10:46 AM)

Surely you do not think "the author" is unaware of what use is being made of his document on BSDA. For over a year now, "the author" has preferred to stay anonymous, always speaking of himself in the third person and keeping alive the mistique of anonymity. If or when he decides to reveal himself, I suspect that BSDA might be one of the first places he does so. But until then I think we would do best to allow a number of persons to comment on the document without playing any guessing games, even in the hidden recesses of our minds, as to who the author might be. If you bring your questions about it here where Sister posted it, I am sure that he will see them and will be making sure that someone gives the answers he would want given if he were answering in person.

Actually, I am not suggesting that "the author" reveal himself. Calvin and the person in question can work out the details regarding how he might answer questions here, if he were inclined to do so. As I said, it's just a thought.

Posted by: watchbird Jul 10 2006, 10:13 AM

QUOTE(seraph|m @ Jul 10 2006, 10:08 AM)

Actually, I am not suggesting that "the author" reveal himself. Calvin and the person in question can work out the details regarding how he might answer questions here, if he were inclined to do so. As I said, it's just a thought.

Perhaps he might not want to reveal himself to Calvin either. If he were inclined to do so, he could sign on as "the author" and answer questions so long as they kept coming. I fail to see any reason for having a "formal interview" with him.

Posted by: sister Jul 10 2006, 10:16 AM

QUOTE(Daryl Fawcett @ Jul 10 2006, 10:51 AM)

Why can't he/she come and post here under an alias as sister and others are doing? I ask as I would rather hear from this person directly, rather than through somebody else.

Daryl, perhaps because the author is already a member here and has been posting on these threads and elsewhere and to admit to being the author of "The Televangelist" could cause the author difficulty at this time. It is safer for this person to continue to fly under the radar for the present. As it is for me. Ask your questions on this thread and you will receive answers, there are others who can give answers, who have the same information as the author. Or individuals that can varify specific sections of the documents. For example there are sections of "The Televangelist" that Johann can personally varify, for he is one of the characters included in the story. There are sections that Beartrap can varify from his position at 3ABN and as a former member of the Shelton family. There are sections that I can varify. Or perhaps Brother Sam, Papertigers, Hersheys99 or others. If any or none of us is the author of "The Televangelist" is not important at this time; only that we can varify the truth of the story...

Posted by: seraph|m Jul 10 2006, 10:26 AM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jul 10 2006, 12:13 PM)

Perhaps he might not want to reveal himself to Calvin either. If he were inclined to do so, he could sign on as "the author" and answer questions so long as they kept coming. I fail to see any reason for having a "formal interview" with him.

I do not recall stating what the author may want to do as it relates to revealing himself to Calvin or a "need" for an interview at all... But, see it as you wish

Posted by: Daryl Fawcett Jul 10 2006, 04:29 PM

Was permission needed to post this here?

QUOTE

"The Televangelist"
By: Jorgen VanBraun
Copyright 2005

I ask on account of "Copyright 2005" below the name.

Posted by: Clay Jul 10 2006, 04:48 PM

QUOTE(Daryl Fawcett @ Jul 10 2006, 05:29 PM)

Was permission needed to post this here?
I ask on account of "Copyright 2005" below the name.

we have not received correspondence asking us to remove it.... my hunch is that the author of this story is among us and doesn't have a problem with it being posted..... if they do, they will contact the owner personally I am sure....

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jul 10 2006, 06:23 PM

QUOTE(Daryl Fawcett @ Jul 10 2006, 04:29 PM)

Was permission needed to post this here?
I ask on account of "Copyright 2005" below the name.

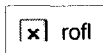
Regarding:

Jorgen Van Braun

When you rearrange the letters in Jorgen Van Braun, they spell:

Ran Vegan Job, Run!

Could this be a clue?



Posted by: PaperTigers Jul 10 2006, 07:23 PM

QUOTE(Panama_Pete @ Jul 10 2006, 08:23 PM)

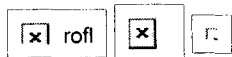
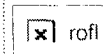
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too much!! i LOVE it!!

Posted by: beartrap Jul 10 2006, 07:38 PM

QUOTE(Panama_Pete @ Jul 10 2006, 07:23 PM) □

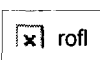
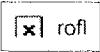
Regarding:

Jorgen Van Braun

When you rearrange the letters in Jorgen Van Braun, they spell:

Ran Vegan Job, Run!

Could this be a clue?



I'm sure Mr. Van Braun is sitting behind a computer right now, somewhere in this vast BSDA world, splitting his sides over that one!

Posted by: statrei Jul 10 2006, 07:56 PM

QUOTE(Daryl Fawcett @ Jul 10 2006, 06:29 PM) □

Was permission needed to post this here?
I ask on account of "Copyright 2005" below the name.

Fair use, Daryl. In many cases the Copyright law only requires that the copyright be displayed. It would be illegal to post it without the copyright.

Posted by: watchbird Jul 11 2006, 09:32 AM


This thread begins with:

QUOTE(sister @ Jul 7 2006, 03:44 PM) □

Since I have alluded to "The Televangelist" in a number of my threads, quoted portions of it in some of my posts and it has also been referred to by others; I am now posting it in it's entirety and without comment. It is an interesting read...

Sister

"The Televangelist"
By: Jorgen VanBraun
Copyright 2005

I'm wondering if we are ready yet to entertain serious questions on specific portions of the document. (Notice that I said "entertain serious questions" rather than "seriously entertain questions". I "pay attention"--I know "this ain't Sabbath School".) 

If so, then I would like to refer us to a paragraph about Danny's plane and the use he makes of them which you can find as the fourth paragraph under "Part 3:The Money).

QUOTE

The air pressure in the jet changes and the wall monitor shows that it is beginning its descent. Several years ago it was a relief that he was no longer forced to endure the inconvenience of commercial air travel, with the acquisition of a private jet. No longer does the televangelist have to go through security, and travel on a commercial schedule. **He knows that the contributors, and the church that support his ministry, would not appreciate that this convenience is leased at a cost of \$40,000.00 per month, so he has this expense placed in an anonymous account. In addition to the lease, the pilots cost \$700.00 per day, and there are operational costs including gas and maintenance. Well, what the people don't know won't hurt him, and he truly deserves the extra conveniences. Vacations, personal visits, trips to ball games, and medical appointments no longer require a long drive. He now uses the jet for trips that would have required as little as two hours of driving.**

I think that Sister may have referred to this elsewhere so that there were a few comments on the planes in the history series, but I think it would be well to have this brought to our attention and discussed again here where it can be seen in the context of the document as a whole.

And I would also like to hear more of the details behind those that were generalized in this paragraph, as well as examples of how the plane has been used since this was written. If anyone has current information, it would be interesting to know how the prices that were given in this paragraph have been affected by recent fuel prices. And also, has this affected the use that Danny makes of the plane since these increases? And if so, how?

Another question that I'm wondering about is whether or not there is any calculation done as to the amount of funds that can be expected to be taken in from a specific location before deciding whether or not to use the plane to meet that appointment.

Posted by: Clay Jul 11 2006, 10:01 AM

good questions... the operating expenses have to be more because fuel costs more...

Posted by: seraph|m Jul 11 2006, 10:34 AM



Posted by: Observer Jul 11 2006, 05:30 PM

QUOTE(Daryl Fawcett @ Jul 10 2006, 03:29 PM)

Was permission needed to post this here?
I ask on account of "Copyright 2005" below the name.

In order to have a copyright enforced, it must be registered with the copyright office, at least as copyright applies to the United States. If the copyright originated in another country, there are different aspects of this question.

If the copyright has been registered, it is a simple matter to determine who registered it. If it has not been registered, it cannot be enforced in a U. S. court.

This document has been so freely distributed, with the implied permission of the claimed copyright owner, that it may be assumed that it has entered the public domain. If so, there cannot be any copyright enforcement.

Posted by: Clay Jul 11 2006, 05:55 PM

QUOTE(Observer @ Jul 11 2006, 05:30 PM)

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thank you for the clarification....

Posted by: Daryl Fawcett Jul 11 2006, 06:39 PM

Therefore, that means anybody can post it anywhere without first obtaining permission?

Posted by: Clay Jul 11 2006, 06:44 PM

QUOTE(Daryl Fawcett @ Jul 11 2006, 06:39 PM)

Therefore, that means anybody can post it anywhere without first obtaining permission?

probably Daryl.... go ahead and post it in your forum... we won't mind.... oh and we won't tell either....

Posted by: statrei Jul 11 2006, 07:20 PM

QUOTE(Daryl Fawcett @ Jul 11 2006, 08:39 PM)

Therefore, that means anybody can post it anywhere without first obtaining permission?

The worst that could happen is that somebody would ask you to remove it.

Posted by: sister Jul 14 2006, 01:15 PM

It is interesting to see sections of "The Televangelist" varified in the letter of Dr. Arild Abrahamsen. It also makes it possible to fill in the names that have been left out in this document.

Posted by: watchbird Jul 14 2006, 04:48 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Jul 14 2006, 01:15 PM)

It is interesting to see sections of "The Televangelist" varified in the letter of Dr. Arild Abrahamsen. It also makes it possible to fill in the names that have been left out in this document.

Will we soon start seeing some of these things woven together in your own delightful narrative style?

Posted by: Daryl Fawcett Jul 14 2006, 07:39 PM

Amen to that watchbird!

Posted by: watchbird Jul 18 2006, 06:31 AM

QUOTE(sister @ Jul 14 2006, 01:15 PM)

It is interesting to see sections of "The Televangelist" varified in the letter of Dr. Arild Abrahamsen. It also makes it possible to fill in the names that have been left out in this document.

As Sister notes above, there is a synergistic relationship between the AA letter and The Televangelist, as the document provides context for the letter, and the letter supplies names and details for some sections of the document. So seeing that the pinned section has been changed to include only those items that are being recommended for distribution, I'm wondering if The Televangelist document ought to be included there as well, where it will not only be available for those who wish to make a full packet of information, but also will be easy access for those coming to BSDA who want a condensed introduction before wading through all the dialogues.

Posted by: no_cults Jul 19 2006, 07:55 AM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jul 18 2006, 06:31 AM)

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If anyone would have that "packet" of information then I would like to have it.
Is there a way to send this information via private e-mails?

Thanks

Posted by: watchbird Jul 19 2006, 08:29 AM

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QUOTE(no_cults @ Jul 19 2006, 07:55 AM)

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
Thanks

Notice the line I have put in bold. There is no ready-made "packet" of information. Each who wishes to send something out will have to assemble their own "packet".

The easiest way to send information from here by email is to simply use the regular "block and copy" functions of your computer, and copy each item you wish to use over into a file on your computer, or directly into your email document.

You will also find much narrative material in the series of threads called "An Unauthorized History of 3ABN" that will give you background and context for things said in the three documents already mentioned. This was originally one long thread, but was cut into ten chapters for ease of access to the various parts. They are not in order. But you would be well advised to look through the menu

pages for them and read them in chapter order. Then you can copy out the most cogent posts so you can access them later on your own computer.

Enjoy. 


Posted by: no_cults Jul 19 2006, 09:49 AM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jul 19 2006, 09:29 AM) 

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Enjoy. 

I understand that there is no "packet" now. I guess I was just being lazy and was wondering when and if someone put together this information if it might be available for lazy people like me.

This information needs to get out. Without a lot of people speaking out on Folkenberg - no doubt he would still be in charge. Remember the David Dennis affair?

"The pen is mightier than the sword"

Thanks

Posted by: Daryl Fawcett Jul 19 2006, 08:38 PM

Perhaps a suggested contents of a packet could be posted here or in a new topic created for such a purpose?

Posted by: inga Jul 19 2006, 09:02 PM

I'm glad to see the chapters of "An Unauthorized History" pinned. 

What I'd now like to see is the whole "Unauthorized History" as a document that can be distributed, just like the "Televangelist" and Dr. Abrahamsen's letter. Even if it's just pinned in this forum, it makes it easier for busy people to get the big picture.

I'd also like to see "The Televangelist" document "pinned."

That would most of the solid information in an easily found spot.

Posted by: watchbird Aug 4 2006, 02:18 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Jul 14 2006, 01:15 PM) □

It is interesting to see sections of "The Televangelist" varified in the letter of Dr. Arild Abrahamsen. It also makes it possible to fill in the names that have been left out in this document.

It is also an important document in that it widens our focus from the laser beam that we often turn on Linda to the wide floodlight that illuminates the whole spectrum of problem areas both past and recent past. There have been significant developments since May of 2005 when it was written and first distributed. But since understanding history is critical to understanding the present and *projecting into the future, this is indeed a very unique and valuable document that serves as an outline into which one can fit the bits and pieces scattered throughout the threads of BSDA 3ABN forum.*

It claims to be a work of fiction. As we have pointed out before, that is the only strictly untrue statement in it. So if you are new to these topics, do begin at the beginning of this one, it will put a lot of things in their proper perspective and relationship.

Posted by: Clay Aug 10 2006, 08:35 AM

found this on Maritime posted by watchbird.... interesting disclosures....

QUOTE

I have copied over the following from BSDA:

NEWS FLASH

I have just received the following document from the author of "The Televangelist", Jorgen VanBraun.

I will make the following comments before you read this post: This situation is currently taking place at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The truth of the statements within the narrative has been verified by a reliable independent source who chooses to remain anonymous at this time. Send a copy of this document to your entire email list. Get the message out to the church at large. It is time for this "shadow man", who uses his vast wealth to sway the decisions of the church, to be revealed. Why does he continue to back Danny Shelton?

Not only this "shadow man" needs to be revealed, but the names of all church leaders who are taking part in the decision of what is to be done about both this man and everyone connected with the 3ABN cesspool should be revealed to the church. I hear a lot against anonymity on this board. Why don't we hear the same hue and cry raised over the cloak of anonymity behind which our leaders are put into office and the cloak of anonymity which hangs tight over the doors of their actions and non-actions regarding the abominadable things which are going on in our church at the present time ... and I am NOT speaking merely of those things connected with the "Shelton Gang" ... which contains a lot more people than those who have the last name of "Shelton". I am speaking of other sex offenders, EEOC violations, and abuse of position and power right within the

denominational structure...where appeals for justice are ignored, victims are "paid off" under the counter, and violators remain unrevealed and still in power. This needs to come to a screeching halt before church members get to the end of their patience and turn everything they know over to public "watchdog" organizations who will spare the SDA church no more than what they have "spared" the Catholic church from the bright and withering seachlight of both print and web research and analysis.

Quote:

Okay People, time to name names. 100 pts a name, except the victim, this brave girl has suffered enough. Let us all pray for her protection, Danny knows who she is and there is no way to predict what he would be willing to do to try and stop her testimony.

The Contributor
Jorgen VanBraun

Along the hallowed halls of the headquarters of the World Conference of the Church, the atmosphere is hushed, yet alive with activity.

Lest there be any doubt in anyone's mind, let's start the identification process right here. This is the World Headquarters of the SDA church located in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.

Quote:

Pastors, administrators, visitors, people from every part of the globe are here conducting the business of the Church. Also here today is a robust, energetic man from the central west. Today the Contributor, the Church's wealthiest donor, will be meeting with a number of top leaders.

Garwin McNeilus. Though I wonder about the validity of him being the "wealthiest donor", since there are others of the McNeilus clan who are also involved in the same projects that he supports, and taking it in another direction, I have also heard others referred to as the "wealthiest"... though without the stigma of overt attempts to control the business of our church such as has been attributed to Garwin... by many more than one source, some in an accusatory way and some in a bragging way, depending on their relationship to the man.

Quote:

Over the years the Contributor's donations to the Church have totaled more millions of dollars than we can imagine, and everyone here is anxious to take a larger piece of the pie. The World Missions department has always come out on top.

Particularly what is called "Global Mission" projects. Which, btw, has become somewhat of a "playground" for the McNeilus clan.... "something to do" to occupy their time since they have "sold" their business and can live luxuriously without having the daily toil that most of us have. Denzil, for example, not only leads out in Global Mission trips, but also is allowed to baptize the converts, even though he is not a minister and never has been one.

Quote:

Today the Contributor has something weighing on his mind. His close friend and associate, the Televangelist, has a dark cloud hanging over his head.

The Televangelist, of course, is Danny Shelton.

Quote:

He has been exposed through various mediums for the charlatan that he is. His many years of lies and manipulation are catching up with him. Now, a young woman has produced documented proof that she was repeatedly sexually assaulted by the Televangelist during his second marriage. This documentation has been sent to many of the leaders in the Church, and the time has come that

they can no longer turn a blind eye.

A copy of this signed document has been sent to Daryl, along with the formal request that it not be placed on any internet forum, whether completely public or restricted to authorized subscribers such as this one... and also that her name not be posted any such place. The copy sent to GC headquarters has a notarized signature on it. The restrictions as to who may receive a copy by private email are described as "pastors and church leaders". These are then free to discuss it privately with those whom they judge will handle the information both kindly and judiciously. Readers here who think they fall into one of these categories, yet have not received a copy, may communicate with Daryl privately.

Quote:

The man who was once their poster child, and was considered the face of the Church by the Church's foremost evangelist, is now becoming a liability. If they continue to support him, and allow that he is the face of the church, this newest scandal of his will bring them down with him. The Contributor knows this, and has determined that he will force the Church into compliance with the Televangelist.

Sitting in the spacious office of the President of the World Conference, the Contributor bluntly tells the President that if the Church takes any action against the Televangelist, or does anything that would damage, or undermine him, the Church will not receive another penny of his money for World Missions.

Again, the Contributor is Garwin McNeilus, and the President is Jan Paulson, himself.

Quote:

Considering that the World Missions budget comes primarily from the Contributor, the President knows that the Church will be rocked to its foundations by the loss of this man's money.

Question: HOW does he "know" this. Has he no faith that God will supply all our needs? Has he not heard how God thinks about those who attempt to "buy the Holy Spirit... and the power they think they have by doing so?

Quote:

What will he do? What will the Church do?

Reports are that his first reaction was to say that the church's hands were tied so they could do nothing to cut the ties that bind the church to 3ABN and Danny Shelton. Other reports seem to indicate that this is not the bottom line but that others are pushing for action. At any rate... here is something the church at large can do.... raise up in a mighty tsunami that insists not only on cutting the ties and bringing the Shelton gang to justice (including recovering as many of the assets as possible that Danny has stolen from the donation box) but also will clean out those persons in GC headquarters who do not move to clean out other messes on all levels of conference management.

Quote:

Back at the compound, the Televangelist leans back in a large couch. His eyes drift over to where a new step-daughter is playing and his lips curl in a slight smile. He reaches over and pats his new wife on the thigh, as he watches the little girl play. Memory takes him back over the years to another step-daughter.

What will the Church do? This question remains unanswered. The decision has yet to be made.

Posted by: Nuggie Aug 10 2006, 09:27 AM

QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 10 2006, 08:35 AM) □

found this on Maritime posted by watchbird.... interesting disclosures.....

Good gracious...just when I thought things couldn't get worse... □

Posted by: JustTana Aug 10 2006, 02:19 PM

Hello Johann,

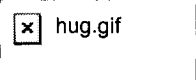
I'm new to this forum but I am glad to see that you are also on at the moment. Is what I am reading true to your knowledge? If so, what part is Don Schneider playing in this drama? Is he involved to the extent that Paulsen is? My sister knows him personally and will be glad to get in touch with him to ask him what, if anything, he intends to do about this sorry affair. Also, what is your take on what Danny will do? Will he just shut down 3ABN out of hand or will he allow the changes to be made which we are calling for. And if he tries to shut it down, do you believe, as I do, that God will take over and do what we all want to see?

Thanks for hearing me.

Posted by: watchbird Aug 10 2006, 02:52 PM

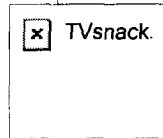
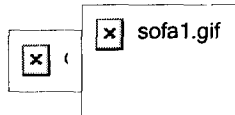
QUOTE(Nuggie @ Aug 10 2006, 09:27 AM) □

Good gracious...just when I thought things couldn't get worse... □



There, there, Nuggie, don't despair..... Things can always get worse.

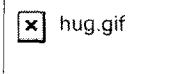
Bring your blanky..... join me behind the sofa

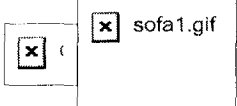


..... Let's "stay tuned" to HOPETV

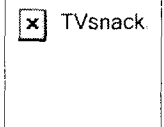
Posted by: PaperTigers Aug 10 2006, 03:00 PM


QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 10 2006, 03:52 PM) □

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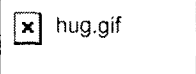


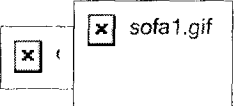
can i join you guys behind the sofa??  (

i'm not sure i can handle much more drama this week!

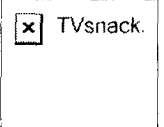
Posted by: Nuggie Aug 10 2006, 03:07 PM



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

Thanks, watchbird...  ...this soap opera is making me 

Posted by: princessdi Aug 10 2006, 03:56 PM

Man!!! I have been saying all along, GC needs to distane themselves before it is too late. Just the association with Danny will do much damaged, but that they wre "paid" to overlook many trangressions will be devastating. Nobody will care if we are a cult or not. What little positive reputation we have will be gone. The Remnant? Please!!!

Posted by: watchbird Aug 10 2006, 04:00 PM

QUOTE(Nuggie @ Aug 10 2006, 03:07 PM)


Thanks, watchbird...  sig ...this soap opera is making me 

Ah ha! Strike up the band ... a few lines from "The rain in Spain" should do it


 band.gif

All together now ... "She's got it she's got it I really think she's got it"

Yup, no doubt about it when you get those symptoms, you have definitely "got it"
What's "it"? Why that it isn't really a soap opera at all..... for if it was you could turn off the TV, put it out of mind and feel no pressure to **do** anything about it.

But when you know it's real, then the more you know the greater obligation you feel to do something..... and that, coupled with the seeming impossibility of accomplishing anything, can indeed make one feel .


Posted by: summertime Aug 10 2006, 04:57 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ Jul 10 2006, 12:48 AM) 

even if I thought it were about me, I would probably not say a word....

I really think that the author of "the Televangelist" is a real lady--who may hae been hurt to the breaking point and still maintains her wish to be a lady. Who knows for sure?

Posted by: sister Aug 10 2006, 06:17 PM

QUOTE(summertime @ Aug 10 2006, 05:57 PM) 

I really think that the author of "the Televangelist" is a real lady--who may hae been hurt to the breaking point and still maintains her wish to be a lady. Who knows for sure?

I know for sure, sorry summertime, "she" is not the author. Neither am I "she". Lets just say the author is safely flying under the radar. And I am sure that this is not the last that we will hear from Jorgen VanBraun. In a way he is similar to Charlie from Charlie's Angels: no one evers sees Charlie, they only hear his voice and no one ever sees Jorgen, they only read his testimony...

Posted by: PaperTigers Aug 10 2006, 06:26 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Aug 10 2006, 07:17 PM) 

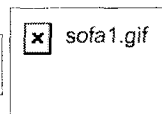
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Amen sister,
and I for one am very thankful for all that Jorgen has been able to say, and hope that the writings keep coming...
very enlightening

Posted by: watchbird Aug 10 2006, 06:48 PM

QUOTE(PaperTigers @ Aug 10 2006, 03:00 PM)

can i join you guys behind the sofa??

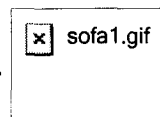


i'm not sure i can handle much more drama this week!

Of course..... any time, PT.....



..... It's real cozy back here.....



Posted by: tall73 Aug 12 2006, 07:36 PM

I have no idea if this is true, but might pursue the letter option. That along with the Illinois document on the tax issue would be the strongest pieces of evidence to me yet, simply because they are official, and could be seen as such by most outsiders (especially one sitting on a state website).

Incidentally, is the person pursuing legal options? I would hope so. In which case this would definitely get into the realm of public documents.

If it is true it just pushed the whole thing to first class scandal status with a strong case for child molestation.

A man who gets a quickie divorce in guam and is scandalized by questions of "biblical grounds" isn't going to make a blip on NBC, etc. But someone who continually marries women with children and now is accused of molestation, along with the financial info, is bound to be a hit.

On another note however, people could have far worse playgrounds than mission work.

Posted by: inga Aug 14 2006, 04:57 PM



Seems to me that this topic ought to be "pinned" because too many folks coming on here miss it, and the story line is confirmed by independent posters in the rest of the threads.

Posted by: princessdi Aug 14 2006, 07:19 PM

A *televangelist* who gets a quickie divorce, etc. will get a bullet on NBC, CBS, ABC, FOX, CNN. We forget the media love to bring down a televangelist. It was years before they left Benny Hinn alone. Now add the rest and you just made the news at 5, 6 and 11.

QUOTE(tall73 @ Aug 12 2006, 05:36 PM) □

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On another note however, people could have far worse playgrounds than mission work.

Posted by: Clay Aug 14 2006, 07:32 PM

QUOTE(inga @ Aug 14 2006, 04:57 PM) □



Seems to me that this topic ought to be "pinned" because too many folks coming on here miss it, and the story line is confirmed by independent posters in the rest of the threads.

just bump it up when you see it drifting towards the bottom....

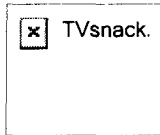


Posted by: watchbird Aug 14 2006, 07:51 PM

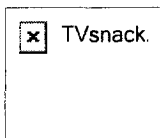
QUOTE(princessdi @ Aug 14 2006, 07:19 PM)

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And don't forget "60 minutes" and the various Evangelical Watchdog organizations. This is one mess that the church is NOT going to "sweep under the rug". And even the carpet is going out on the line for a good beating. If we won't clean our own house OK there are commercial cleaners that would simply love the job.



Posted by: inga Aug 20 2006, 04:31 PM



Posted by: watchbird Aug 25 2006, 03:49 PM

For the benefit of those just joining us, here is the document which is being discussed in another thread. So if you came to this end point first, I'd recommend going back to the menu, and first of all reading the document in its entirety. It was, as I've said elsewhere, the most successful of the various efforts to get leaders to take a serious look and ask questions about what was written. It is also interesting to note that it was Danny himself who gave it world-wide publicity and called attention to it by applying it to himself and calling it all "lies".

Yet elsewhere on this site, there is evidence that what is contained in the "fictionalized" account are bundles of truths.

Posted by: justme Aug 31 2006, 07:41 PM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 25 2006, 05:49 PM)

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Yet elsewhere on this site, there is evidence that what is contained in the "fictionalized" account are bundles of truths.

If he call it a lie, I'm evenmore inclined to believe it.

It is too important to ignore, especially in the light of developments soon to be made known. Until then, let's all pray for those being "held captive" under it's power, who's hearts are in the right place, awaitng a time to be delivered.

Until then, here it is again:

"The Televangelist"
By: Jorgen VanBraun
Copyright 2005

Don't need to repeat this again in its entirety. Go to the first page/first post of this thread to read it.

Posted by: watchbird Jan 31 2007, 12:34 PM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 25 2006, 04:49 PM)

For the benefit of those just joining us, here is the document which is being discussed in another thread. So if you came to this end point first, I'd recommend going back to the menu, and first of all reading the document in its entirety. It was, as I've said elsewhere, the most successful of the various efforts to get leaders to take a serious look and ask questions about what was written. It is also interesting to note that it was Danny himself who gave it world-wide publicity and called attention to it by applying it to himself and calling it all "lies".

Yet elsewhere on this site, there is evidence that what is contained in the "fictionalized" account are bundles of truths.



Time to bring this forward again, I think. The document in its entirety is posted as post #1 in this thread. <http://www.blacksda.com/forums/index.php?s=&showtopic=9823&view=findpost&p=138128> to go directly to it.

Keep in mind that the only line of fiction is found on the title page where it claims that what is written is fiction. Parts of the rest may be told in a "fictionalized" manner... but the facts are all ... sadly to say.... true. Keep in mind also that it was written at a specific point in time.... May 2005, just before General Conference Session July of 2005. So obviously the story has moved on from that point, but this is especially valuable for background information.

And as you read elsewhere in this site, you will be able to recognize the stories as they are retold by other participants or eyewitnesses... very often with names included. So by comparing what is said in this document with those other posts, the pieces fit together a little better.

Posted by: franklyamazed Jan 31 2007, 10:47 PM

Power corrupts. Absolute power corrupts absolutely. But if you add a certain paranoid mental conditon, you get corruption gone crazy.

It leaves me... frankly amazed

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Feb 1 2007, 07:03 PM

QUOTE(franklyamazed @ Jan 31 2007, 11:47 PM) □

Power corrupts. Absolute power corrupts absolutely. But if you add a certain paranoid mental conditon, you get corruption gone crazy.

It leaves me... frankly amazed

Haven't heard this version before...but I like it!



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