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BlackSDA _ 3ABN _ It's Bigger Than 3abn

Posted by: Ralph Oct 20 2006, 12:13 AM

I observed something interesting among the Campa Indians of Peru. If you heard a whoop of laughter, it was not because someone told a good (or naughty) joke; It meant that someone had gotten hurt. Laughter was their way of lessening the tension. And here on BSDA we joke. Some people feel that it is inappropriate, but I wonder if we don't do it for the same reason. We are discussing serious stuff here. And it's bigger than 3abn.

It is said that we can gauge the ethics of a society by how it treats the weakest among them. How do we measure up both individually and collectively? Although much focus has been on Linda and her daughter, they may represent issues that are cancers of not only 3abn, but of our church and maybe our countries.

Our denomination may be caught in the dilemma between competing sorrows. On one hand, I have it hard to believe that our evangelists and church administrators would sit idly by if they were aware that the allegations that have been mentioned on BSDA would stand up in court of law. On the other hand they have to face the fact that 3abn is the face of Adventism to so many people throughout the world. If GC were to intervene and bring 3abn down, it could fracture the church with 3abn supporters throughout the world feeling that GC was being high handed.

Will this crisis have to play itself out until the hearts of all men are revealed? If the leaders and board of 3abn were to step aside now, it could save a lot of problems down the road. There is a time when it is wise for leaders to let others take their place in the front lines.

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Oct 20 2006, 09:06 PM

QUOTE(Ralph @ Oct 20 2006, 01:13 AM)

If the leaders and board of 3abn were to step aside now, it could save a lot of problems down the road. There is a time when it is wise for leaders to let others take their place in the front lines.

Spoken like a person that is NOT in leadership. I agree with you, Ralph, that would be the ideal, but noone at 3ABN is going to step down.

Posted by: Johann Oct 21 2006, 09:41 AM

QUOTE(Ralph @ Oct 20 2006, 08:13 AM)

There is a time when it is wise for leaders to let others take their place in the front lines.

What would the pioneer do? A General Conference President stepped down when his unmarried daughter got pregnant.

Posted by: summertime Oct 23 2006, 10:34 AM

QUOTE(Johann @ Oct 21 2006, 09:41 AM)

What would the pioneer do? A General Conference President stepped down when his unmarried daughter got pregnant.

Johann: That was in the days of honesty, respect for decency and conscience. Will we ever get back to that kind of respect for God and for ourselves? I'm watching and waiting for that day to come--- even in our own church leaders.

Posted by: Clay Oct 23 2006, 11:27 AM

QUOTE(Johann @ Oct 21 2006, 10:41 AM)

What would the pioneer do? A General Conference President stepped down when his unmarried daughter got pregnant.

why would he do that? That was his daughter's decision not his? Its not like he could control her 24/7 and prevent her from doing what she wanted to do..... oh wait, maybe he THOUGHT he should be able to do that..... either way, that was no reason to resign in my opinion.....

Posted by: Lee Oct 23 2006, 02:11 PM

The Bible says in 1 Tim. 3:1-4 what is required of an Elder or leader in our church. Verse four says "One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity." That GC President absolutely did the right thing, though it could not have been easy. What dishonor his daughter brought to the whole family by her actions. This GC President recognized his failure and acted promptly. He is to be commended.

Posted by: Clay Oct 23 2006, 02:39 PM

QUOTE(Lee @ Oct 23 2006, 03:11 PM)

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I think not... if the unmarried daughter was grown it was not the right thing to do... dishonor on the

family? please.... she may have embarrassed herself, but her choice is not a reflection on her parents... according to that logic then Lucifer has brought dishonor to God and God therefore should step down from being the sovereign ruler of the universe.....

Bad choices by the children are NOT a failure of the parents.... were that the case the greatest parent of all, is the greatest failure of all.....

He should have stayed....

Posted by: princessdi Oct 23 2006, 02:49 PM

Go on and preach, Steve! We make bad decisions all the time, but it is no reflection on the character of God. We can teach our children, they still have all their own decisions to make. He should have stayed. Not only did that girl have to live with her own bad choice, but then the whole of the family honor was thrust up on her. So she got to be guilty for her father losing his job, too. We are not saved by families, either.

QUOTE(Clay @ Oct 23 2006, 12:39 PM) □

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Posted by: västergötland Oct 23 2006, 02:54 PM

Dishonour the family? Sounds like muslim family honour, except that the muslim might have kept the job and killed the daughter. Same foundation of "dishonour" though.


Posted by: Clay Oct 23 2006, 02:58 PM

QUOTE(västergötland @ Oct 23 2006, 03:54 PM) □

Dishonour the family? Sounds like muslim family honour, except that the muslim might have kept the job and killed the daughter. Same foundation of "dishonour" though.

true Thomas.... it would have been a "honor" killing, i.e. the daughter has dishonored the family so she must die.....

Posted by: seeshell Oct 23 2006, 03:22 PM

But maybe the father knew in his heart that his daughter's mistake was due to a lack in his parenting. 

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Oct 23 2006, 04:04 PM

My guess is that in that day and age the pregnancy of the daughter would have been a terrible distraction, so much so that position of the presidency would have suffered.

Richard

Posted by: HEIRTOTHEPROMISE Oct 23 2006, 07:26 PM

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QUOTE(Clay @ Oct 23 2006, 02:39 PM)

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Posted by: Tori Oct 23 2006, 07:56 PM

HA!!! What if the daughter was a son? The passage quoted presumes that the children are the property of the elder. It becomes a woman's issue.

Posted by: Truly Blonde Oct 23 2006, 08:04 PM

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Oct 23 2006, 02:04 PM)

My guess is that in that day and age the pregnancy of the daughter would have been a terrible distraction, so much so that position of the presidency would have suffered.

Richard

Having grown up under the rules that govern the hierarchy of the church I believe today the president would not have resigned. Thirty years ago a pregnancy by an unwed daughter could have cost the president his job if he hadn't resigned.

I cannot tell you the pressure that our church exerted on pastors and the leaders of the church. We were to be examples for the rest of the church members. When I was in the academy, on a weekend leave I went to a movie with some of my friends. (A drive-in no less). The first movie I ever attended. I was told that I could be expelled from school for doing this.(I wasn't) but I could have because of

who my father was. It made no sense to me because they would show movies at the academy and that was ok, just not in a theater. My father's job could also have been in jeopardy. This was a heavy burden for a teenager to carry. For you youngins this is very hard to comprehend. Today even the pastors attend movies and think nothing of it. It wasn't always so!!!

I would say the bigger issue here is why was that kind of pressure put on the employees of the church back then? I personally feel that if things had been different back then a lot more of the church employee's children would still be in the church.

Posted by: Clay Oct 23 2006, 08:17 PM

QUOTE(Truly Blonde @ Oct 23 2006, 09:04 PM) □

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I am old enough to remember that craziness..... it was wrong then and it would be wrong now.... double standards and inconsistent disciplinary actions.... same old story.... as I have said, some people have given the church toooo much power over their lives....

Posted by: Denny Oct 24 2006, 05:52 AM

QUOTE(Truly Blonde @ Oct 24 2006, 03:04 AM) □

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The church stressed works more than relationship so it was not who you knew but what you did that counted more.....Sometime we think society was 'more moral' back in the day I prefer to think society including the church was better at covering things up and the stigma of getting caught was greater than it is now. Plus some things should never have been taboo in the first place.

Posted by: Clay Oct 25 2006, 08:19 AM

QUOTE(Denny @ Oct 24 2006, 06:52 AM) □

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along that line remember some could get away with almost anything, others could not..... I suspect that when its all said and done this will be just a bump in the road... a big bump no less, but one that folks get over....



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