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BlackSDA _ 3ABN _ Proofs, Or Lack Thereof

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Feb 5 2007, 06:26 PM

I hope no one thinks I'm in any way defending Danny or Tommy but there is something that has troubled me a bit. Many times there have been people calling on the defenders of DS and TS to offer proof that certain allegations are false. In many cases there can be no proof. It's almost impossible to prove a negative. Someone can prove you did something but it's much harder and many times impossible to prove you did not do something. Thus in the US we have to have proof of guilt for a conviction but the defendant does not have to prove innocence for an acquittal.

If someone accused me of robbing a bank on Jan 18, 1999 (for instance) it would in all likelihood be absolutely impossible for me to prove I did not rob the bank. There would be very little I could do to defend myself without something like maybe a check I wrote in some other state that day. To be acquitted of the robbery I would not have to prove my innocence, but the prosecution would have to prove my guilt for a conviction. (BTW I've never been accused of robbing a bank, at least not yet)

I guess what I'm getting at is that we are in danger of causing false assumptions when the defendants in these issues cannot offer proof that something did not happen. There is plenty of proof for the allegations, but one of those proofs should not be the lack of proof that they did not do something.

Yes I know this is not a court of law, however it is the court of public opinion which could ultimately affect a court decision.

Richard

Posted by: daylily Feb 5 2007, 08:48 PM

Richard, I hadn't thougth about it but I suppose you are correct in saying it is hard to prove what you didn't do unless you have witnesses to say you were doing something else.

daylily

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 5 2007, 09:03 PM

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 5 2007, 07:26 PM)

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but one of those proofs should not be the lack of proof that they did not do something.

Yes I know this is not a court of law, however it is the court of public opinion which could ultimately affect a court decision.

Richard

\u contraire, mon frere... if you were accused of robbing a bank in Dallas on Jan 18, 1999 and you could)rove you were not in Dallas on said date, you just proved you could not have robbed the bank in question; he space-time continuum in which we exist precludes one from being in two places at the same time.

'he reason they are being asked to produce 'proof' is because they have said in myriad occasions that said)roof exists and is in their possession... and the other side, when requested has brought forth evidence of the he things they have suggested.

'he danny apologists are being asked nothing more or less than has been asked of those they oppose; by)oth third parties and the danny apologists; the difference is that the danny apologistshave not been orthcoming yet keep insisting that they should be 'trusted'.

n His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: erik Feb 5 2007, 09:05 PM

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 5 2007, 04:26 PM)

I hope no one thinks I'm in any way defending Danny or Tommy but there is something that has troubled me a bit. Many times there have been people calling on the defenders of DS and TS to offer proof that certain allegations are false. In many cases there can be no proof. It's almost impossible to prove a negative. Someone can prove you did something but it's much harder and many times impossible to prove you did not do something. Thus in the US we have to have proof of guilt for a conviction but the defendant does not have to prove innocence for an acquittal.

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Yes I know this is not a court of law, however it is the court of public opinion which could ultimately affect a court decision.

Richard

ichard,

'ery valid point, but if the there was no truth to any of the charges against danny or tommy, they could at he very least put out affidavits signed under penlety of perjury in front of notory.

hat would go a long way to at least rebutting the charges that sit out there, and in the case of danny he

could provide his grand proof of linda's wickedness.

erik

Posted by: daylily Feb 5 2007, 09:16 PM

.."the space-time continuum in which we exist precludes one from being in two places at the same time." (Mr J)

Unless, of course, you are a bird as suggested by Sir Robert Boyle

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Posted by: Richard Sherwin Feb 5 2007, 09:36 PM

If we knew we were talking directly with Danny then yes we could ask for proof, because he claims he has the proof, (proof of the proof?) however most of the time we have no idea who we are talking to when they are defending Danny, for all we know it's the village idiot down the street. From them we should not expect proof of innocense.. The accusers need to show proof for guilt, the defenders simply have to show that those proofs are in doubt. In all likelihood they cannot provide proof that they are innocent. I personally believe there is plenty of proof that Tommy is guilty.

Mr. J your example is valid for establishing innocence, however in a court of law it's not required. All that is required for acquittal is reasonable doubt of guilt. I once sat on a drunk driving jury where we were quite sure the defendant was guilty, there was no proof that he was innocent but neither was there reasonable proof that he was guilty, therefore against our personal preferences we acquitted him.

Really my only concern is that we don't take their lack of proof of innocence as proof of guilt.

Richard

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Feb 5 2007, 09:40 PM

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 5 2007, 11:36 PM)

...Really my only concern is that we don't take their lack of proof of innocence as proof of guilt.

...but that is how "real life" is.... if you don't have proof of your "innocence" in court - you are found guilty... (normally)

JMO.

sn

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Feb 5 2007, 09:46 PM

Daylily when you said something about a bird that reminded me of Jonathan Livingston Seagull, by Richard Bach. As one who flew airplanes in the 70's (as did Bach) anything to do with flight got my attention, especially a bird that went ourside the norms of society. Now where is that book? Hmmm

QUOTE(daylily @ Feb 5 2007, 10:16 PM)

..."the space-time continuum in which we exist precludes one from being in two places at the same time." (Mr J)
Unless, of course, you are a bird as suggested by Sir Robert Boyle

No no no, you are not guilty until proven innocent, you are innocent until proven guilty. At least that's the way it's supposed to work. It dosn't? Maybe I've just not been in a court room enough. (Thankfully)

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Feb 5 2007, 10:40 PM)

...but that is how "real life" is.... if you don't have proof of your "innocence" in court - you are found guilty... (normally)

JMO.

sna

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 5 2007, 09:55 PM

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 5 2007, 10:36 PM)

Mr. J your example is valid for establishing innocence, however in a court of law it's not required. All that is required for acquittal is reasonable doubt of guilt.

If you definitively can establish innocence, as a matter of fact, then you wont have to worry about burdens of proof or the opinion of 12 of your peers...

QUOTE

Really my only concern is that we don't take their lack of proof of innocence as proof of guilt.

We don't; we take the evidence of guilt as proof of guilt...

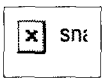
In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: Ralph Feb 5 2007, 09:56 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Feb 5 2007, 08:40 PM)

...but that is how "real life" is.... if you don't have proof of your "innocence" in court - you are found guilty... (normally)

JMO.



Often that depends upon the lawyers. Ah to have a smart (I didn't say good) lawyer.

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 5 2007, 11:08 PM

Remember the legal system uses all kinds of different standards of proof and also that there are different types of burdens (for example the evidentiary burden) that shifts at different times in a trial or other legal proceeding. (And different types of evidence are entitled to different evidentiary weight as well)

Probable cause is a relatively low standard of proof.

Preponderance of the evidence is generally used in most civil actions.

Clear and convincing evidence is used in some civil actions.

And the wikipedia defines beyond a reasonable doubt this way.....

Beyond a reasonable doubt

This is the standard required by the prosecution in most criminal cases within an adversarial system. This means that the proposition must be proven to the extent that there is no "reasonable doubt" in the mind of a reasonable person. There can still be a doubt, but only to the extent that it would be "unreasonable" to assume the falsity of the proposition. The precise meaning of words such as "reasonable" and "doubt" are usually defined within jurisprudence of the applicable country. In the United States, it is usually reversible error to instruct a jury that they should find guilt on a certain percentage of certainty (such as 90% certain). Usually, reasonable doubt is defined as "any doubt which would make a reasonable person hesitate in the most important of his or her affairs."

Posted by: wwjd Feb 5 2007, 11:22 PM

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 5 2007, 06:26 PM)

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Richard

Richard, for once, we agree on something and I must say you have stated it well. Several friends and I have discussed the fact that there are many situations that could arise where you could not prove your innocence. Thanks for making that point

---

Posted by: Johann Feb 6 2007, 01:05 AM

QUOTE(wwjd @ Feb 6 2007, 07:22 AM)

Richard, for once, we agree on something and I must say you have stated it well. Several friends and I have discussed the fact that there are many situations that could arise where you could not prove your innocence.
Thanks for making that point

When this whole mess started Danny insisted that he had proofs that Linda and Dr. Arild Abrahamsen had been vacationing together in Florida together in April 2004. When my wife, Irmgard, and I stepped forward and told him this was impossible because we had been staying with the doctor at that time at hiscplace in Norway while Irmgard was getting daily treatments - this made Danny so angry that he had Dr. Walt Thompson fire me from the employment at 3ABN.

Then it seems like Danny realized he could not use that false proof, so he invented the Spiritual Adultery explanation and used it until it was demonstrated here on BSDA that this did not give him the right to divorce Linda.

Then he abandoned the Spiritual Adultery explanation and started inventing a host of others.

I hope that you have read my correspondance with Dr. Walt Thompson which I posted as post #101 in Was Linda innocent?

I have not seen any comments on it by Bystander nor WWJD.

Posted by: princessdi Feb 6 2007, 10:22 AM

The problem is that Danny keep saying he has evidence of this or that. We are just asking him to produce it. He hasn't, to my knowledge not even in a court of law, where some of it could have been presented.

Once, again, I am going to say that I, personally, am not looking at he lack of evidence to contradict the evidence already presented, but Dannyh's own actions. Spiritual adultery cannot be committed against Danny....he is not God - simple! They had Linda sign a gag order, and cheated her out of right portion as cofounder of 3ABN - we have the document to prove it, and nobody denies it. Danny lied with his first email here to BSDA, we have that, he professed his love for a women and calimed to want to work on his marriage. I would not be surprised if he wasn't on the plane typing that lie on his way to Guam for a quickie divorce[last sentence stricly from the book of Princess]. He allowed his brother who has standing allegations of child molestation work around children at 3ABn, without warning a soul. - We know Tommy was working there, there wwere children there, and we have at least three allegations posted here.

So you see, I don't have to worry about what Danny is not presenting, I am having a whole lot of trouble with what he has presented.

QUOTE(wwjd @ Feb 5 2007, 09:22 PM)

Richard, for once, we agree on something and I must say you have stated it well. Several friends and I have discussed the fact that there are many situations that could arise where you could not prove your innocence.
Thanks for making that point

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 11:28 AM

> **QUOTE(princessdi @ Feb 6 2007, 11:22 AM)**
>
> [color=#993399] They had Linda sign a gag order, and cheated her out of right portion as cofounder of 3ABN - we have the document to prove it, and nobody denies it.

I do not claim to have in depth knowledge of not for profit corporations (and any book I have on the subject is in storage and unreachable), but I do not believe linda was cheated out of anything as a cofounder. She was basically given a severance pay that from what I have read elsewhere at BSDA was inline with what is customary in the industry for the position she held. Remember, she did not have an employment contract or the severance pay would have been covered in it should something go wrong. (Remember, like many SDA christians I have met that work for the denomination or do business with each other, we presume as christians we will treat each other fairly.....and I have a bridge too) I have no doubt that Illinois like most states is an "employment at will" state so she could have been fired like anyone else without a contract. Now she might have sued for wrongful discharge if she had not signed the contract but she gave up the right for the security of the agreement she signed.

When 3ABN chose to be a not for profit under IRS laws and state law, they benefited in many ways that other corporations do not. I also believe this means that Danny and Linda were no longer "owners" in the sense of one having ownership in a corporation. Someone with more knowledge of not for profits should quickly correct me here if I am wrong (which I may be).

The problem that I see (among many) is that Danny still acts like 3ABN is "his" to do with as he wishes. In his position on the board and in the day to day running he has the authority to still do things like an owner but he is not an owner anymore. He gave that up to get the benefits (tax) of having a not for profit. That is why the court in Illinois was concerned that 3ABN does not really function like a not for profit and I see little evidence to the contrary myself.

I am sorry Linda did not seek legal counsel before signing the agreement. I am disgusted that the people who presented her with the contract did not believe it would stand the test of legal scrutiny as to its fairness. The courts are not there to protect us from our merely dumb or uneducated mistakes unless they are illegal. I am sorry she was naive enough to think the ministry she has apparently given so much to would not betray her. I do not know her and have only seen her briefly when asked to watch something by my parents. I know from personal experience with lots of mistakes in my own life that realizing and accepting my role in that I "volunteered" to be part of the whole equation that in the end left me feeling betrayed for whatever reason and taking responsibility for my role is REALLY hard. I have found forgiving myself for participating in my own victimization was and still is the hardest thing I have ever done. Learning and not repeating what is often a life time behavior takes tremendous strength that only can come from understanding and prayer.

But, I am going to be honest here. I am tired of SDAs (or anyone else) thinking it is ok to not pay women equal salaries "for the good of the ministry" or ask people to subvert the law and "donate" their overtime hours rather than get paid for them or as I have read elsewhere, not use "GAP standards in their accounting practices. I am sorry but lack of education is NOT an excuse. As an SDA we are trained from childhood to "sacrifice" for the good of presenting the message to the world but I have seen too many instances of unfairness result and certainly a lack of commensurate sacrifice by those doing the asking (GW for example will never lose his child in Iraq or worry that he might).

It is my understanding that the property settlement is still being litigated. Therefore, what Linda is entitled to as an asset from their marriage is still in the process of resolution. But, unless I am wrong, she is not entitled to any assets of 3ABN just because she was a co-founder. Not on legal grounds.

As for Danny's evidence that he was morally entitled to divorce his wife and remarry, I have yet to see or hear anything I find supported by "evidence" in the legal sense. That is why civil and criminal courts have burdens of proof and rules for what constitutes evidence or even makes a prima facie case. The moral standard that Danny is being held to is on its face pretty clear. There either was adultery or there was not. I

have no idea what kind of evidence the church normally requires in reaching that conclusion. I obviously do not know what evidence those in authority to decide such things were shown and why they found it allowed Danny to morally do what he did. But based on all I have seen and heard here, this is a perfect example why I have not (and would never) trust this church as a trier of facts.

OK. Off my soap box.

nw

Posted by: princessdi Feb 6 2007, 11:43 AM

I do not claim to have in depth knowledge of not for profit corporations (and any book I have on the subject is in storage and unreachable), but I do not believe linda was cheated out of anything as a cofounder. She was basically given a severance pay that from what I have read elsewhere at BSDA was inline with what is customary in the industry for the position she held. Remember, she did not have an employment contract or the severance pay would have been covered in it should something go wrong. (Remember, like many SDA christians I have met that work for the denomination or do business with each other, we presume as christians we will treat each other fairly.....and I have a bridge too ) I have no doubt that Illinois like most states is an "employment at will" state so she could have been fired like anyone else without a contract. Now she might have sued for wrongful discharge if she had not signed the contract but she gave up the right for the security of the agreement she signed.

She was co founder, and you can still go many places on the internet that will tell you that. As co-founder she should have been bought out. Danny is also an employee, if he leaves, I really want to see what happens if they offer him $250,000.00. Not talking about what she had or didnt' have, I am talking aobut doing right when you call yourself a leader in [SDA]Christian Living. Man's law should not have been necessary for them to treat her fairly. Now 3ABN is pure big business then get them some big subiness programming and go for it, but while they are claiming to be agents to lead people to the life changing power of God, they need to do better. You can't claim buisness when it is convenient, your chirstianity should not stopat the door to your board room. She keeds to take the whole mess to Gloria Allred.....

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Exactly! Choosing to acknowledge that little loop hole when it suits him.....

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Right once again, exactly my point. Had they not all checked their christianity at the board room dorr, they would not have even presented such a document to her. We are called to a higher standard in every area of our lives. If Linda was as wrong as she could be, caught int he act, 3ABN should have been the leader in showing God's loving correction, discipline, healing and forgiveness. Not resorting to tatics that rival Donald Trump.

But, I am going to be honest here. I am tired of SDAs (or anyone else) thinking it is ok to not pay women equal salaries "for the good of the ministry" or ask people to subvert the law and "donate" their overtime hours rather than get paid for them or as I have read elsewhere, not use "GAP standards in their accounting practices. I am sorry but lack of education is NOT an excuse. As an SDA we are trained from childhood to "sacrifice" for the good of presenting the message to the world but I have seen too many instances of unfairness result and certainly a lack of commensurate sacrifice by those doing the asking (GW for example will never lose his child in Iraq or worry that he might).

Go ahead!! you preachin' now!!

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She would be had she not signed them away in that document.....

As for Danny's evidence that he was morally entitled to divorce his wife and remarry, I have yet to see or hear anything I find supported by "evidence" in the legal sense. That is why civil and criminal courts have burdens of proof and rules for what constitutes evidence or even makes a prima facie case. The moral standard that Danny is being held to is on its face pretty clear. There either was adultery or there was not. I have no idea what kind of evidence the church normally requires in reaching that conclusion. I obviously do not know what evidence those in authority to decide such things were shown and why they found it allowed Danny to morally do what he did. But based on all I have seen and heard here, this is a perfect example why I have not (and would never) trust this church as a trier of facts.

OK. Off my soap box.

Ain't nothing legal about "spiritual adultery".
nw

Posted by: Bystander Feb 6 2007, 12:48 PM

But, I am going to be honest here. I am tired of SDAs (or anyone else) thinking it is ok to not pay women.....
[/quote]

I agree but in this case, Linda made a larger salary than Danny..You can check it out

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Posted by: Observer Feb 6 2007, 12:56 PM

Re: "I am sorry Linda did not seek legal counsel before signing the agreement.

Linda did have legal advice prior to signing that contract.

However, in spite of that signed contract, and the fact that she had legal advice there is still reason to litigate.

1) Most people do not realize that in complex issues you must obtain the services of an attorney who specializes in those issues. Many do not realize the care that goes into the preparation of legal advice.

I have a friend who until recently was a Senior Partner in a national law firm. He practiced law in a specialized area of law, and became a recognized expert. He would not even consider thinking about giving legal advice outside of his area of expertise.

When he was a Senior Partner in that national law firm, every written opinon that left the office where he worked, had to be reviewed and signed by two Senior Partners. That made it very expensive. His lowest fee was several hundred dollars an hour, and his fees went up from that level. Two of the senior partners, regardless of who wrote the opinon, brief, or whatever, had to review, check, and sign off one before the document left the office.

2) It is not enough for a person to sign away legal rights that they have, even if they retained counsel. The Court will want to know that they signed away their legal rights after fully understanding what they had done, and the consequences of that.

I once needed to retain an attorney to draft an agreement with me on a matter involving another person. I developed a list of ten expert lawyers in that field. I narrowed it down to three, and selected one. During my initial interview with him I told him: I want you to give X everything that they are legally entitled to recieve, without exception, but nothing more. The resposne from the attorney was: That is the way I will operate in representing you. In order to protect you, and the agreement that you want signed you must give them everything that they are entitled to.

The other person decided not to retain an attorney, and to represent themself. In order to protect me, and to prevent litigation to throw out the terms of the agreement, my attorney inserted several paragraphs into the document that clearly stated the issues and consequences of doing so. The other person persested in a refusal to retain an atorney, and the agreement was filed with the Court.

Folks, why are issues still in litigation? Very simply because the agreement signed by Linda and Danny was written is such a way that it has not prevented the presented litigation. That is the bottom line.

Prior to the present litigation, I discussed it with lawyers whom I know, and was told that it contained clauses that could be challenged, and likely would not be enforced by a judge.

Posted by: Chez Feb 6 2007, 12:58 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 6 2007, 12:48 PM)

But, I am going to be honest here. I am tired of SDAs (or anyone else) thinking it is ok to not pay women.....
I agree but in this case, Linda made a larger salary than Danny..You can check it out

I saw someplace where Danny made $50,000 and Linda made $49,000. This was a legal document submitted by Danny.

Posted by: Bystander Feb 6 2007, 01:25 PM

QUOTE(Chez @ Feb 6 2007, 12:58 PM)

I saw someplace where Danny made $50,000 and Linda made $49,000. This was a legal document submitted by Danny.

That must have been an older document. Before she left, she was making several more thousand than Danny because the board offered them a raise and Danny refused his and LInda took hers. Not saying there was anything wrong with that just that, in this case, the woman was making more.

[quote name='Observer' date='Feb 6 2007, 12:56 PM' post='175829']

Re: "I am sorry Linda did not seek legal counsel before signing the agreement.

Linda did have legal advice prior to signing that contract.

Greg, you just refuted the statements that have been made on here over and over that 3abn forced Linda to sign the contract without legal counsel. That has been hashed and rehashed here. You obviously found differently, and you are correct.

My question would be: If that information was false, (and it was), then how many other things told here for fact could be false.
Also I am quite sure, had I not pointed this out, none of the Linda apologists here, would have ever commented on it.

Posted by: inga Feb 6 2007, 01:27 PM

> **QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 6 2007, 01:48 PM)** ☐
>
> I agree but in this case, Linda made a larger salary than Danny..You can check it out

Evidence, please?

I understand that court-filed documents demonstrate that Dan and Linda each received the same salary.

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 01:40 PM

> **QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 6 2007, 01:48 PM)** ☐
>
> But, I am going to be honest here. I am tired of SDAs (or anyone else) thinking it is ok to not pay women.....
> I agree but in this case, Linda made a larger salary than Danny..You can check it out

Actually, I was not referring to Linda here and should have clarified my statement. I have read on BSDA that other positions are not paid the same for equal work and experience and that an EEOC investigation may or may not be pending or possibly brought at some point.

I wrote on another post some time ago that when I brought this possibility up with my mother several weeks ago that if it were true it bothered me. Her first response was it could not be true. Then when I asked how she felt if it were true as I have seen it in denominational employment in the past, she said it did not matter to her if it were true..... ☒

nw

Posted by: Observer Feb 6 2007, 01:45 PM

Bystander:

I stated that Linda had legal advice prior to signing the agreement because that is fact.

However, if that agreement had fully settled all matters, or if it was fully satisfactory, there would be no litigation going on now.

In regard to Linda's salery, vs Danny's: I once obtained some 990s from the IRS. According to my memory, which may be faulty, of the three 990s that I obtained, Danny was listed as being paid slightly more than Linda, or the same (?) in two, and Linda was listed as being paid slightly more than Danny in one.

My memory may be wrong.

However, if you were reading the posts that I made at that time in Club Adventist, I posted a statement that both Danny and Linda had been underpaid, according to the amounts listed in the 990s. I suggested that a fair wage for Danny, at that time, would have been in the $70,000 to $75,000 range, as I remember.

Of course there remain issues that were mentioned by Judge Rowe in her 40 page decision in regard to other compensation that Danny and Linda might have recieved. I certainly cannot, and do not deal with those isseus.

But, Bystander, I call it as I see it. I always have. I am on Linda's side, and I do not attempt to hide that fact. I do not believe that Danny had a Biblical reason to divorce Linda. But, I have not criticized him in regard to the divorce and remarriage. You know that if you have regularly read my posts.

Yes, I have been critical in other areas, as I believe it to be justified.

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 01:51 PM

She was co founder, and you can still go many places on the internet that will tell you that. As co-founder she should have been bought out. Danny is also an employee, if he leaves, I really want to see what happens if they offer him $250,000.00. Not talking about what she had or didn't' have, I am talking about doing right when you call yourself a leader in [SDA]Christian Living. Man's law should not have been necessary for them to treat her fairly. Now 3ABN is pure big business then get them some big subiness programming and go for it, but while they are claiming to be agents to lead people to the life changing power of God, they need to do better. You can't claim buisness when it is convenient, your chirstianity should not stopat the door to your board room. She keeds to take the whole mess to Gloria Allred.....

Right.once again, exactly my point. Had they not all checked their christianity at the board room dorr, they would not have even presented such a document to her. We are called to a higher standard in every area of our lives. If Linda was as wrong as she could be, caught int he act, 3ABN should have been the leader in showing God's loving correction, discipline, healing and forgiveness. Not resorting to tatics that rival Donald Trump.

[/quote]

I could not agree with you more that on the face of it the concept of fairness (and that is not only a christian principle) does not seem to be at play here.

Again, I thought the agreement only had to do with her position on the Board and her employment at 3ABN.

Let's think about this for a minute. Can someone remind me if her removal from the board was before or after the divorce was obtained. If after, then she would still be entitled to her share of the marital property if Danny still would be considered to have something he was entitled to as a co-founder of 3ABN. Can someone help me on that?

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 02:07 PM

QUOTE(Observer @ Feb 6 2007, 01:56 PM) ☐

Linda did have legal advice prior to signing that contract.

1) Most people do not realize that in complex issues you must obtain the services of an attorney who specializes in those issues. Many do not realize the care that goes into the preparation of legal advice.

Prior to the present litigation, I discussed it with lawyers whom I know, and was told that it contained clauses that could be challenged, and likely would not be enforced by a judge.

Thank you for the clarification. I had been under the false impression that she did not seek legal counsel. I have made that statement several times on this board and how unhappy that made me and no one has corrected my impression before.

As to obtaining the services of an attorney who is competent in the area you are seeking legal advise in, you cannot be more correct or accurate. You have given good examples and everyone who reads your post should take it to heart. In a local matter where I live I have seen people rely on totally incompetent legal counsel merely because he/she was an SDA attorney. Obviously, like the selection of any other professional, you have some responsibility to exercise due diligence in making your selection.

You have raised a couple questions that I doubt you can answer but I will ask them any way.

Has the person who gave her legal counsel been accused of malpractice?

Alleging you did not understand your rights when you have legal counsel I would think is going to be a harder sell if you challenge the countract. I am also wondering about the order of litigation if there is or is going to be a challenge to the contract. Observer do you know what the statute of limitations is for challenging the validity of the contract?

nw

PS Observer, I finished reading about an hour ago the latest postings at the Save3ABN site and commend you for your questions and analysis I found therein as you attempted to create a fair forum with ASI.

Posted by: Clay Feb 6 2007, 02:08 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 6 2007, 12:48 PM) ☐

But, I am going to be honest here. I am tired of SDAs (or anyone else) thinking it is ok to not pay women.....
I agree but in this case, Linda made a larger salary than Danny..You can check it out

"Great, and I'll also need some mirrors."

distraction by minutiae..... clearly he had the perks, he didn't need the salary.....

Posted by: Observer Feb 6 2007, 02:11 PM

Re: "My question would be: If that information was false, (and it was), then how many other things told here for fact could be false."

Bystander you have stimulated me to respond to you in a manner that you are probably not expecting. :-)

We here are a group of independent people. We have differing backgrounds, and personalities. We have different life experiences. We have different perspectives in some aspects in regard to this 3-ABN mess. I am certain that some will disagree with some of what I post. But, we are united in a common set of objectives. That is what is bringing us together.

That unity means that we do not challenge and argue with every little comment that someone posts that differs from our personal belief. We are comfortable enough in relating to each other out of our common goals that we can be comfortable with someone posting something with which we disagree in some point. e.g. The example of whether or not Linda had legal advice prior to signing the agreement.

None of us considers ourselves to be perfect and 100 per-cent accurate in everything that we post. I do not have the slightest doubt that you can find some error in posts made here, and even, potentially, in mine. I recently posted, by implication, a clear error, of some significance. I publicly corrected it. My implication (I did state I had made an assumption.) was incorrect, and I corrected it.

My pont is: Some will disagree with some of what I post. But, comming our of our common committment of unified objectives/goals, or whatever you want to call them, we are not going to get involved in taking pot-shots at each other. We are going to live and let live. We are not going to be distracted by secondary (or more) issues from the real core of matter. We are not allowing ourselves to be divided over the areas where we may disagree.

As I posted earlier, in relating to each other in this manner, we are demonstrating the unity that could exist in the SDA Chruch between people who differ in some aspects of doctrine and lilfe style.

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 02:13 PM

> **QUOTE(Observer @ Feb 6 2007, 02:45 PM)**
>
> Bystander:
>
> However, if that agreement had fully settled all matters, or if it was fully satisfactory, there would be no litigation going on now.

That statement does make sense to me legally as I doubt from even the little I know of the facts that all matters were fully settled by the agreement I have seen posted. IT makes more sense to me than challenging the validity of the contract to have it set aside.

Others have speculated here the idea that Linda signed the agreement under duress (and I indicated before it had been my understanding without an attorney) and that duress might be a reason to set the contact aside. Although I doubted that possibility from the facts (not speculation) I had, your statement as I said above makes more sense to me.

nw

Posted by: Observer Feb 6 2007, 02:17 PM

Re: "Has the person who gave her legal counsel been accused of malpractice?

Alleging you did not understand your rights when you have legal counsel I would think is going to be a harder sell if you challenge the countract. I am also wondering about the order of litigation if there is or is going to be a challenge to the contract. Observer do you know what the statute of limitations is for challenging the validity of the contract? "

Question # !: When you are dealing with malpractice and incompetence as they relate to a licensed attorney, you have a hard legal standard to meet.

I would never make such a statement about a licensed attorney.

My focus would be on other issues. But, then that would be for licensed lawyers to review and decide. My assumption is that since there is some litigation there must be some agreement that the agreement that Linda signed did not cover everything in a manner that prevented litigation.

Other questions and comments: You are getting into areas where I really do not know enough to make specific comments. So, I shall refrain from doing so.

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 02:26 PM

> **QUOTE(Observer @ Feb 6 2007, 03:17 PM)**

Re: "Has the person who gave her legal counsel been accused of malpractice?

Question # !: When you are dealing with malpractice and incompetence as they relate to a licensed attorney, you have a hard legal standard to meet.

I would never make such a statement about a licensed attorney.

would not want you to make such a statement and commend you for not doing so. However, as part of inda's support team you would have knowledge if any action with local or state bars has been taken.

agree it is a very high standard but attorney's really do police themselves much better than the medical profession has ever done.

have also known attorneys willing to give a statement that they had not given competent legal advise in the ope of helping the former recipient of that advise that was challenging the "fruit" of that advise.

w

Posted by: Bystander Feb 6 2007, 02:37 PM

QUOTE(Noahswife @ Feb 6 2007, 02:13 PM)

That statement does make sense to me legally as I doubt from even the little I know of the facts that all matters were fully settled by the agreement I have seen posted. IT makes more sense to me than challenging the validity of the contract to have it set aside.

Others have speculated here the idea that Linda signed the agreement under duress (and I indicated before it had been my understanding without an attorney) and that duress might be a reason to set the contact aside. Although I doubted that possibility from the facts (not speculation) I had, your statement as I said above makes more sense to me.

nw

y point has nothing to do with what the law allows or doesn't allow. It is about the fact that many have said n here that she didn't get to have legal counsel. She did. Period. Now where did that falsehood come from? riginally, I mean?

QUOTE(inga @ Feb 6 2007, 01:27 PM)

Evidence, please?

I understand that court-filed documents demonstrate that Dan and Linda each received the same salary.

ot in the last year. Find the evidence on the net. Fran coninually says those kind of records for a not profit re accesible to anyone.

ut, Bystander, I call it as I see it. I always have. I am on Linda's side, and I do not attempt to hide that fact. do not believe that Danny had a Biblical reason to divorce Linda. But, I have not criticized him in regard to he divorce and remarriage. You know that if you have regularly read my posts.

es, I have been critical in other areas, as I believe it to be justified.
/quote]

Yes Greg, I agree that you have been more fair than most here in your opinions. You have been wise not to criticize about the remarriage in my opinion. Why because, so far, evidence has not been released to prove her guilty, but on the otherhand, she cannot "prove" innocence. My point being is that truly, only 3 people and God know what really transpired until if or when, evidence is shown one way or the other. Therefore, because there is too much unknown in this realm, no one needs to be criticizing or judging the biblical aspects.

As far as the litigation goes, I would venture to guess that probably 95% of court documents can be challenged for one thing or another. Doesn't mean the challenge will be succesful.
Just my opinion

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 02:38 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 6 2007, 03:28 PM) ☐

My point has nothing to do with what the law allows or doesn't allow. It is about the fact that many have said on here that she didn't get to have legal counsel. She did. Period. Now where did that falsehood come from? Originally, I mean?
Not in the last year. Find the evidence on the net. Fran coninually says those kind of records for a not profit are accesible to anyone.

At some point I am going to have to personally go back and see where I first was given that impression or if I formed my own opinion that was affirmed by other's speculation. But regardless, I have stated it as one reason I was here in the first place wondering what was happening at 3ABN and not once did anyone correct me. Oh well. That is why every point must be looked at and analyzed for what type of evidence supports it. This one error does not change how I look at the whole picture but it does remind me to keep searching for demonstrable and verifiable facts. I try very hard to look beyond speculation and emotional exchanges but when I ask questions I seldom get answers from either "camp". So I do appreciate Observer correcting my statement.

nw

Posted by: Observer Feb 6 2007, 02:39 PM

Re: "However, as part of Linda's support team you would have knowledge if any action with local or state bars has been taken. "

I am not aware of anyone advising Linda to take such action. The standard is very high. The courts will suggest that an individual needing legal help has some responsibilities as to who is chosen to represent them.

I think that most of us would believe that our emotional energy, and other such resources should better be expended on other issues.

As a military officer: Pick your battles. Don't be distracted by minor squables.

Posted by: Bystander Feb 6 2007, 02:45 PM

Let's think about this for a minute. Can someone remind me if her removal from the board was before or after the divorce was obtained. If after, then she would still be entitled to her share of the marital property if Danny still would be considered to have something he was entitled to as a co-founder of 3ABN. Can someone help me on that?

[/quote]

It is my understanding her removal was before the divorce. As far as marital property, there seems to be a big misunderstanding here as usual. She already got more than her share, in my opinion. Danny bought our her share of the house and contents then, I believe if memory serves me, ended up giving her a good portion of the contents that he had already paid her for. To my knowledge she either took what she wanted or if she didn't, she was paid for that item. Unless something in the last 6 months has changed, that I don't know about, the only thing that was NOT settled was over some horses that they owned. It is my opinion that, that is what most of the lititgation has been about. Again, I say, unless something has changed that I don't know about. But lets get it straight that she was paid well for her share of the marital property and allowed to pick and choose what she took.

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 02:46 PM

QUOTE(Observer @ Feb 6 2007, 03:39 PM)

Re: "However, as part of Linda's support team you would have knowledge if any action with local or state bars has been taken. "

I am not aware of anyone advising Linda to take such action. The standard is very high. The courts will suggest that an individual needing legal help has some responsibilities as to who is chosen to represent them.

I think that most of us would believe that our emotional energy, and other such resources should better be expended on other issues.

As a military officer: Pick your battles. Don't be distracted by minor squables.

I do not think we are in any disagreement on any of these topics of discussion and your statements only help clarify certain matters for me. I had concerns that as posters began reading your comments about the legal counsel she obtained there might be a great deal of speculation.

Thanks for taking the time for your responses.

nw

Posted by: Bystander Feb 6 2007, 02:51 PM

QUOTE(Noahswife @ Feb 6 2007, 02:38 PM)

At some point I am going to have to personally go back and see where I first was given that impression or if I formed my own opinion that was affirmed by other's speculation. But regardless, I have stated it as one reason I was here in the first place wondering what was happening at 3ABN and not once did anyone correct me. Oh well. That is why every point must be looked at and analyzed for what type of evidence supports it. This one error does not change how I look at the whole picture but it does remind me to keep searching for demonstrable and verifiable facts. I try very hard to look beyond speculation and emotional exchanges but when I ask questions I seldom get answers from either "camp". So I do appreciate Observer correcting my statement.

nw

Not only were you "not corrected" but the false information was carried on, taken apart, ate and regurgitated and made to come to one conclusion. That once, again, all those horrible corrupt people had "forced" Linda

to sign their contract with no legal counsel. Your statement about "searching" for "verifiable " facts one of the wisest statements I have read here. Common sense tell me If something like this has been mis represented, how many other things have been?

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 02:57 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 6 2007, 03:45 PM) ☐

It is my understanding her removal was before the divorce. As far as marital property, there seems to be a big misunderstanding here as usual. She already got more than her share, in my opinion. Danny bought our her share of the house and contents then, I believe if memory serves me, ended up giving her a good portion of the contents that he had already paid her for. To my knowledge she either took what she wanted or if she didn't, she was paid for that item. Unless something in the last 6 months has changed, that I don't know about, the only thing that was NOT settled was over some horses that they owned. It is my opinion that, that is what most of the lititgation has been about. Again, I say, unless something has changed that I don't know about. But lets get it straight that she was paid well for her share of the marital property and allowed to pick and choose what she took.

It would be sad if the costs of litigation exceeded the value of any horses. However, there has been speculation that more is going on in this area than horses. How about the profit from the book that was written during the marriage?

Although you may conclude that Linda was fairly compensated with what she has received, the law may provide differently. One issue that I see and may be discussed directly or indirectly elsewhere is if she has been somehow precluded from/prejudiced in pursuing her professional career by things said or done by Danny or others at 3abn. Also, do you think Danny would be entitled to more than severance pay if he was asked to leave 3abn? Would he be entitled to something for having co-founded the organization? or for the non-monetary perks he was used to receiving?

nw

Posted by: Ralph Feb 6 2007, 03:22 PM

QUOTE(Noahswife @ Feb 6 2007, 01:57 PM) ☐

It would be sad if the costs of litigation exceeded the value of any horses. However, there has been speculation that more is going on in this area than horses. How about the profit from the book that was written during the marriage?

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nw

This is a key point. I don't know whether or not you have read all the posts regarding 3ABN, but this was one of the issues that was brought up quite early in the discussion.

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 04:02 PM

QUOTE(Ralph @ Feb 6 2007, 04:22 PM)

This is a key point. I don't know whether or not you have read all the posts regarding 3ABN, but this was one of the issues that was brought up quite early in the discussion.

I have done my best to read hundreds of posts in the various topics regarding 3ABN in my few weeks here but I assure you I have not read them all but hope that has not made me sound foolish in any way.

I know I came to my own conclusion regarding the possible damage to any future ministry Ms. Shelton might start on her own based not only on the direct and indirect activities of 3ABN personnel but what seemed to me questionable decisions by the church she had attended or the one she desired to attend etc. Those were some of the early threads I read so I do not remember all the specifics.

Whether I came to my opinion independently or if it was influenced by someone else's statements.....I suspect the latter. But I am glad you agree it is a valid point/question.

nw

Posted by: princessdi Feb 6 2007, 04:19 PM

Oh yeah now, they weren't making much, as far as the norm was concerned and for me them taking more would not have been a problem. If I remember correctly they still have to divide the marital property, which conveniently does not include 3ABN. I am not sure, but I would guess that the agreement was signed before the divorce, don't think Danny would leave town with Linda being able to talk while he was off in Guam move her out the way.....

QUOTE(Observer @ Feb 6 2007, 11:45 AM)

Bystander:

I stated that Linda had legal advice prior to signing the agreement because that is fact.

However, if that agreement had fully settled all matters, or if it was fully satisfactory, there would be no litigation going on now.

In regard to Linda's salery, vs Danny's: I once obtained some 990s from the IRS. According to my memory, which may be faulty, of the three 990s that I obtained, Danny was listed as being paid slightly more than Linda, or the same (?) in two, and Linda was listed as being paid slightly more than Danny in one.

My memory may be wrong.

However, if you were reading the posts that I made at that time in Club Adventist, I posted a statement that both Danny and Linda had been underpaid, according to the amounts listed in the 990s. I suggested that a fair wage for Danny, at that time, would have been in the $70,000 to $75,000 range, as I remember.

Of course there remain issues that were mentioned by Judge Rowe in her 40 page decision in regard to other compensation that Danny and Linda might have recieved. I certainly cannot, and do not deal with those isseus.

But, Bystander, I call it as I see it. I always have. I am on Linda's side, and I do not attempt to hide that fact. I do not believe that Danny had a Biblical reason to divorce Linda. But, I have not criticized him in

regard to the divorce and remarriage. You know that if you have regularly read my posts.

Yes, I have been critical in other areas, as I believe it to be justified.

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 6 2007, 04:28 PM

QUOTE(princessdi @ Feb 6 2007, 05:19 PM)

Oh yeah now, they weren't making much, as far as the norm was concerned and for me them taking more would not have been a problem. If I remember correctly they still have to divide the marital property, which conveniently does not include 3ABN. I am not sure, but I would guess htat the agreement was signed before the divorce, don't think Danny would leave town with Linda being able to talk while he was off in Guam move her out the way.....

3ystander stated his belief that the agreement was signed prior to the divorce which is what I thought I ecalled but did not want to state as certainty.

3ystander, I thank you and Observer for answering my question regarding Mr. Joy. Can you please now ınswer my other question as to what you think Danny is entitled to if we hypothetically assumed that he left 3ABN. Please do not comment on whether he should or should not leave and for what reason or not. Just ıssume for the purpose of the hypothetical that like Linda, he resigned and signed a contract. Would he get ;everance pay similar to what she was offered with a gag order or should he get something for being co-ounder? What do you think would be fair? (and again, marital assets are not the issue here or what Linda did ır did not get in her contract).

ıw

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Feb 6 2007, 06:12 PM

3abn cannot be included in a marital agreement because as a non-profit the Shelton's do not own it nor could they have sold it. At least that is my understanding of how non-profits operate.

Richard

QUOTE(princessdi @ Feb 6 2007, 05:19 PM)

Oh yeah now, they weren't making much, as far as the norm was concerned and for me them taking more would not have been a problem. If I remember correctly they still have to divide the marital property, which conveniently does not include 3ABN. I am not sure, but I would guess that the agreement was signed before the divorce, don't think Danny would leave town with Linda being able to talk while he was off in Guam move her out the way.....

Posted by: princessdi Feb 6 2007, 06:22 PM

Does this work for All nonprofits? i used to work for a FFA(foster family agnecy) for a while that was also a non profit, but it had an owner. This is interesting, I owuld really like to know how that works.....But like I said and NW is asking, what would they give to Danny as "severance" in the same or similar

situation.....she was still shafted.

> **QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 6 2007, 04:12 PM)**
>
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>
> Richard

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Feb 6 2007, 06:42 PM

Yup I'm a country boy. When you wrote FFA, I thought Future Farmers of America

My question is would there be anyway for Danny to convert the non-profit 3abn into a personal asset? If he could, and did, then it seems like Linda would have a case for 1/2 of the value of the company when she left.

Richard

> **QUOTE(princessdi @ Feb 6 2007, 07:22 PM)**
>
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Posted by: JustTana Feb 6 2007, 06:57 PM

> **QUOTE(Noahswife @ Feb 6 2007, 12:28 PM)**
>
> But, I am going to be honest here. I am tired of SDAs (or anyone else) thinking it is ok to not pay women equal salaries "for the good of the ministry" or ask people to subvert the law and "donate" their overtime hours rather than get paid for them or as I have read elsewhere, not use "GAP standards in their accounting practices. I am sorry but lack of education is NOT an excuse. As an SDA we are trained from childhood to "sacrifice" for the good of presenting the message to the world but I have seen too many instances of unfairness result and certainly a lack of commensurate sacrifice by those doing the asking (GW for example will never lose his child in Iraq or worry that he might).

I am in complete agreement with you NW! The church seems to have only one definition for the word sacrifice. It is well illustrated with the old movie newsreels during the 1940's when we were in WWII. There was a segment in which 6year old Margaret O"Brien was pictured, saying with a very pained look on her face as she urged people to, "Give, give 'til it hurts.' I was reminded of this some years ago when my pastor gave a sermon just before Christmas in which he admonished us very strongly that we must remember to be

careful how much we spent on Christmas presents in comparison to how much we gave to the 'Lord's Work.' His intimation was that we needed to remember that it was better to 'sacrifice' than to give our children 'too much.'

While I agree with this in principle, I resent that we give God so little credit for His desire to be generous with His children. We spend so much time paying attention to the Curses in Deuteronomy 28, that we totally forget the Blessings and that both depend upon our obedience to His instructions, not on our willingness to sacrifice until it hurts! JMO

JT

Posted by: Bystander Feb 6 2007, 07:05 PM

[
Although you may conclude that Linda was fairly compensated with what she has received, the law may provide differently. One issue that I see and may be discussed directly or indirectly elsewhere is if she has been somehow precluded from/prejudiced in pursuing her professional career by things said or done by Danny or others at 3abn. Also, do you think Danny would be entitled to more than severance pay if he was asked to leave 3abn? Would he be entitled to something for having co-founded the organization? or for the non-monetary perks he was used to receiving?

nw
[/quote]
NW Since my earlier post on the horse litigation, I have looked into things a little more. You are correct that, there, now, is more going on. Court records show that Danny bought out Linda for the house/contents as I stated earlier. She agreed to that settlement as did her attorney. At a later time she has tried to open the case again by saying she did not have legal representation when she signed the contract. As the courts looked into it the records were produced that show her signature, DannyS. signature and both of their attorney's signature, proving that shedid have legal counsel which also had agreed to the terms. I believe, because of the false information submitted to the court, she will be responsible for the legal fees resulting from this litigation.
On the subject of the book. You are right when you state that one never knows what the law will decide, but I feel she is not entitled as it is my understand that the book was not written before the divorce.

Posted by: inga Feb 6 2007, 07:07 PM

> **QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 6 2007, 03:37 PM)**
>
> Find the evidence on the net. Fran coninually says those kind of records for a not profit are accesible to anyone.

Bystander, you are being coy or just nasty.

Since **you appear to know what salaries Linda and Dan received,** and you brought up the idea that Linda received more than Dan, you could be just a little decent and give the exact figures rather than merely claiming she receoved "more" (with the possible implication that it was significantly more).

But I'm not holding my breath ...

Posted by: Bystander Feb 6 2007, 07:13 PM

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 6 2007, 05:42 PM)

Yup I'm a country boy. When you wrote FFA, I thought Future Farmers of America

My question is would there be anyway for Danny to convert the non-profit 3abn into a personal asset? If he could, and did, then it seems like Linda would have a case for 1/2 of the value of the company when she left.

Richard

Richard, no he cannot "turn" it in to a personal asset. Danny nor Linda owned 3abn.

QUOTE(inga @ Feb 6 2007, 06:07 PM)

Bystander, you are being coy or just nasty.

Since **you appear to know what salaries Linda and Dan received,** and you brought up the idea that Linda received more than Dan, you could be just a little decent and give the exact figures rather than merely claiming she receoved "more" (with the possible implication that it was significantly more).

But I'm not holding my breath ...

Inga, I am trying to the best of my knowledge to answer some questions here, so the holding your breath comment is undeserved.
The only reason I didn't post the figures was because I was unsure of the exact figures. If you want me to post what my memory tells me, then I will but I cannot say, for sure, that they are exact. My understand for danny was 50,000 and Linda 55,000. Again approx. I could be off a thousand one way or the other.

Posted by: inga Feb 6 2007, 09:08 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 6 2007, 08:13 PM)

The only reason I didn't post the figures was because I was unsure of the exact figures. If you want me to post what my memory tells me, then I will but I cannot say, for sure, that they are exact. My understand for danny was 50,000 and Linda 55,000. Again approx. I could be off a thousand one way or the other.

Okay, that's fair enough. Putting that together with Observer's post, it means that Linda may have received $5,000.00 or so more for the last year or two before being fired, while Dan may have received more in earlier years.

Thank you for your straightforward reply.

If you (or whoever else posted under this ID) had posted in less antagonistic fashion earlier, you would have found this a far friendlier place.

Some of us are well aware that Linda is not Ms Perfection (not that she should be required to be), but the posts of Dan's defenders on here have not helped us form a good opinion of Dan.

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 12:32 AM

QUOTE(inga @ Feb 6 2007, 08:08 PM)

Okay, that's fair enough. Putting that together with Observer's post, it means that Linda may have received $5,000.00 or so more for the last year or two before being fired, while Dan may have received more in earlier years.

Thank you for your straightforward reply.

If you (or whoever else posted under this ID) had posted in less antagonistic fashion earlier, you would have found this a far friendlier place.

Some of us are well aware that Linda is not Ms Perfection (not that she should be required to be), but the posts of Dan's defenders on here have not helped us form a good opinion of Dan.

First let me say this. I and I alone have posted as bystander. No one else has "substituted" for me and you have my word on that.
Now, why would I have posted in a less antagonistic fashion when the largest part of what I was reading here was antagonistic towards Danny, The shelton's in general, 3abn, the board, Asi ect ect.
Friendly would not be the word I would use to describe this forum whether I had shown up, or not.
Saying danny's defenders did not reflect well on him can only make me turn that around and say have the things said and done here reflected well on the Linda supporters. Hardly. It takes two to tango..

Posted by: sister Feb 7 2007, 07:54 AM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 6 2007, 08:13 PM)

The only reason I didn't post the figures was because I was unsure of the exact figures. If you want me to post what my memory tells me, then I will but I cannot say, for sure, that they are exact. My understand for danny was 50,000 and Linda 55,000. Again approx. **I could be off a thousand one way or the other.**

Bystander, these are the figures from 2003 - 2005, not including perks.

2003

Linda Shelton $58,169.00
Danny Shelton $53,695.00

2004 Now that Linda was gone, Dan gave himself a raise.

Danny Shelton $59,294.00

2005 Again Danny gave himself another substantial raise, why still claiming to make the same salary as an SDA pastor.

Danny Shelton $70,944.00

Perhaps you could supply the figures for 2006 and an estimate for 2007, since you appear to receive your information from Danny. Other than Danny or Linda, where else could you be so well informed? Unless you and Eye Witness, who use the same computer, are the husband and wife team of Hal and Mollie Steenson. But I still think your source is much closer to the "3ABN Prophet", himself.

Sister

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 10:11 AM

QUOTE(sister @ Feb 7 2007, 07:54 AM)

Bystander, these are the figures from 2003 - 2005, not including perks.

2003

Linda Shelton $58,169.00
Danny Shelton $53,695.00

2004 Now that Linda was gone, Dan gave himself a raise.

Danny Shelton $59,294.00

2005 Again Danny gave himself another substantial raise, why still claiming to make the same salary as an SDA pastor.

Danny Shelton $70,944.00 Where did the 70,944 come from?

Funny you should say where would the figures come from except for Danny and Linda. How do you have them? I didn't have exact figures, you do. If that could only come from Danny or Linda...well, we know you're not Danny.....

Sister

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 7 2007, 10:44 AM

You keep trying to make sister Linda... and you keep failing. The fact is, 501c3 organizations have to disclose that information... and it's available to any if one knows where to find it.

Give the identity guessing games a rest... you dont want folk to know who you are... and as a purported Christian you are supposed to do unto others as you would have them do unto you... and here, you would have others leave your identity anonymous.

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: inga Feb 7 2007, 11:04 AM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 11:11 AM)

Where did the 70,944 come from?

Funny you should say where would the figures come from except for Danny and Linda. How do you have them? I didn't have exact figures, you do. If that could only come from Danny or Linda...well, we know you're not Danny.....

And you know Sister is not Linda, right? Where would **Linda** get such a figure for 2005, long after she was excluded from 3ABN?

Of course, we don't *know* that you don't have exact figures, only that you *say you don't have exact figures.*

sna

Posted by: princessdi Feb 7 2007, 11:26 AM

For anyone coming in with gun blazing, no it is not a friendly place. You will defintiely find we give as goo as we get. Mainly because you have not shown your self to be friendly. Now, I know most here don't have a problem with me, I believe I have shown myself friendly, in that I keep saying we can all disagree, but there is no need to be enemies.

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 6 2007, 10:32 PM)

First let me say this. I and I alone have posted as bystander. No one else has "substituted" for me and you have my word on that.
Now, why would I have posted in a less antagonistic fashion when the largest part of what I was reading here was antagonistic towards Danny, The shelton's in general, 3abn, the board, Asi ect ect.
Friendly would not be the word I would use to describe this forum whether I had shown up, or not.
Saying danny's defenders did not reflect well on him can only make me turn that around and say have the things said and done here reflected well on the Linda supporters. Hardly. It takes two to tango..

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 11:35 AM

QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Feb 7 2007, 10:44 AM)

You keep trying to make sister Linda... and you keep failing. The fact is, 501c3 organizations have to disclose that information... and it's available to any if one knows where to find it.

Give the identity guessing games a rest... you dont want folk to know who you are... and as a purported Christian you are supposed to do unto others as you would have them do unto you... and here, you would have others leave your identity anonymous.

In His service,
Mr. J

Since you appear to receive your information from Danny. Other than Danny or Linda, where else could you be so well informed? Unless you and Eye Witness, who use the same computer, are the husband and wife team of Hal and Mollie Steenson. But I still think your source is much closer to the "3ABN Prophet", himself.

Sister

And you are telling me to give the identity game a rest? rofl

---

Posted by: inga Feb 7 2007, 11:39 AM

> **QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 12:35 PM)**
>
> sister
>
> And you are telling me to give the identity game a rest? rofl

Nope. You mis-read. That was Mr. Awesome Tenor!

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 11:39 AM

> **QUOTE(inga @ Feb 7 2007, 11:04 AM)**
>
> And you know Sister is not Linda, right? Where would **Linda** get such a figure for 2005, long after she was excluded from 3ABN?
>
> Of course, we don't *know* that you don't have exact figures, only that you *say you don't have exact figures.*
>
> sna

If I had them, I wouldn't have had a problem with posting them. So you think LInda coudn't get her hands on the 05 figures but some anonymous person who sent them to "sister" can?

Posted by: inga Feb 7 2007, 11:51 AM

> **QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 12:39 PM)**
>
> If I had them, I wouldn't have had a problem with posting them.

Fair enough.

> **QUOTE**
>
> So you think LInda coudn't get her hands on the 05 figures but some anonymous person who sent them to "sister" can?

I suppose Linda *could* get them the same way any other motivated person could get them (That's not me!). However, having the figures doesn't "prove" anything, does it?

Posted by: sister Feb 7 2007, 05:56 PM

QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Feb 7 2007, 11:44 AM)

You keep trying to make sister Linda... and you keep failing. **The fact is, 501c3 organizations have to disclose that information... and it's available to any if one knows where to find it.** Give the identity guessing games a rest... you dont want folk to know who you are... and as a purported Christian you are supposed to do unto others as you would have them do unto you... and here, you would have others leave your identity anonymous.

In His service,
Mr. J

Mr. J you are correct! No one sent me the information, I am just one smart cookie who knows how to surf the Net! It really isn't that difficult, Bystander. I bet even you could find it, but you don't need to do that, you drink directly from the source. Right?

Sister

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 7 2007, 06:02 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 01:32 AM)

Friendly would not be the word I would use to describe this forum whether I had shown up, or not.

If you hadn't shown up here and used another word that would make you a talebearer... and if a man will have friends he must first show himself friendly... whole you have shown yourself a great many things in your time here, friendly doesnt make the list...

So you come here in a hostile guise, acting in a hostile manner... and then you are shocked and appalled because people are inclined to treat you with hostility...

aaaaaaaaaaaaall righty then...

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 07:03 PM

QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Feb 7 2007, 06:02 PM)

If you hadn't shown up here and used another word that would make you a talebearer... and if a man will have friends he must first show himself friendly... whole you have shown yourself a great many things in your time here, friendly doesnt make the list...

So you come here in a hostile guise, acting in a hostile manner... and then you are shocked and appalled because people are inclined to treat you with hostility...

aaaaaaaaaaaaaall righty then...

In His service,
Mr. J

'ou must have got your posts mixed up. I was shocked and appalled that this forum existed but once I)ecame a member I realized quickly I had to be hostile, at times, to communicate. Especially with you.

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Feb 7 2007, 07:09 PM

What I find really amusing is that it's the apologist that keep these 3abn threads really going. If they had the smarts to just not reply to any and everything there would be 100's of pages less of condemnation against Danny, Tommy, 3abn etc etc. Danny's loss, everyone elses gain. The truth is getting out as a result of the apologist, not in spite of them.

Richard

Posted by: Clay Feb 7 2007, 07:11 PM

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 7 2007, 07:09 PM) ☐

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Richard

)ood point Richard..... the more they talk, the more that is revealed.... I think they protesteth too much...

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 07:12 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Feb 7 2007, 05:56 PM) ☐

Mr. J you are correct! No one sent me the information, I am just one smart cookie who knows how to surf the Net! It really isn't that difficult, Bystander. I bet even you could find it, but you don't need to do that, you drink directly from the source. Right?

Sister

agree sister, you certainly do know how to surf the net in lots of different ways. Fact is I had already seen he figures quite sometime ago that is why I said might not be exact because I didn't trust my memory. Of :ourse I could have looked them up again but didn't want to go to the trouble. Wrong. You are the biggest ;ource I know and I sure don't drink from you. ☒ than

---

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 7 2007, 07:16 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 08:03 PM)

You must have got your posts mixed up. I was shocked and appalled that this forum existed but once I became a member I realized quickly I had to be hostile, at times, to communicate. Especially with you.

Therein lies the rub... you havent communicated with anyone here, least of all me... you have threatened, cajoled, pontificated, excoriated, castigated, obfuscated... I could go on at length... but you have not communicated...

Nor have you tried to... and you never will as long as you think you can unilaterally set the terms and bounds of discourse... or as long as you wear your contempt on your sleeve. You'd do better to agree to disagree and just walk away... but it's just not your style to quit while you're behind, is it...

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 07:16 PM

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 7 2007, 07:09 PM)

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Richard

We reply so that the readers won't be swallowed whole by rumors and assumption.

Posted by: Clay Feb 7 2007, 07:18 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 07:16 PM)

We reply so that the readers won't be swallowed whole by rumors and assumption.

uh huh.... thou protesteth too much.... thanks for sharing your rationale..... how's that workin for ya?

Posted by: sonshineonme Feb 7 2007, 07:19 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 05:16 PM)

We reply so that the readers won't be swallowed whole by rumors and assumption.

.....and it's working, just not the way you intended.

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 7 2007, 07:19 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 12:39 PM)

If I had them, I wouldn't have had a problem with posting them. So you think LInda coudn't get her hands on the 05 figures but some anonymous person who sent them to "sister" can?

Seeing you have admitted your were barking up the wrong tree in this regard, a retraction and an apology to sister would be in order...

Not that I'd expect you to do either...

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Feb 7 2007, 07:50 PM

Hate to tell you this but it just ain't helping your cause. Those on here searching for the truth are seeing documents, and first hand reports and people with real names, in other words proof for what they read. And what are you and the other apologist showing? Attacks on the messenger instead of the message. Instead of trying to dispute what's shown here you try to discredit the posters, the people BTW who have the guts to say who they are, unlike the apologist. Admittedly not all on here tell their real names, but nearly all the main participants do.

And the more you protest the more determined people are, not to bring down 3abn but to bring out the truth. Ya'll are doing the critics a favor. So carry on.

Richard

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 08:16 PM)

We reply so that the readers won't be swallowed whole by rumors and assumption.

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 08:50 PM

[quote name='awesumtenor' date='Feb 7 2007, 07:16 PM' post='176332']
Therein lies the rub... you havent communicated with anyone here, least of all me... you have **threatened, cajoled, pontificated, excoriated, castigated, obfuscated... I could go on at length... but you have not communicated...**

As I read those words aloud and a nice little beat started to come into my mind. If you don't mind maybe I will make a little rap out of them.....

Nor have you tried to... and you never will as long as you think you can unilaterally set the terms and bounds of discourse... or as long as you wear your contempt on your sleeve. You'd do better to agree to disagree and just walk away... but it's just not your style to **quit while you're behind,** is it...

If I was behind I might, but since I'm not, I won't.
Mr. J You would never consider yourself in the masses of all the "regular" people in the world but the truth is, your strings are being pulled just like most everyone else on this forum. I am sorry to be the barer of bad news, but you are no better than anyone else. The master puppateer has your little legs doing a jig but your to in love with yourself to notice.

> **QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 7 2007, 07:50 PM)**
>
> Hate to tell you this but it just ain't helping your cause. Those on here searching for the truth are seeing documents, and first hand reports and people with real names, in other words proof for what they read. And what are you and the other apologist showing? Attacks on the messenger instead of the message. Instead of trying to dispute what's shown here you try to discredit the posters, the people BTW who have the guts to say who they are, unlike the apologist. Admittedly not all on here tell their real names, but nearly all the main participants do.
>
> And the more you protest the more determined people are, not to bring down 3abn but to bring out the truth. Ya'll are doing the critics a favor. So carry on.
>
> Richard

In the last several days I have posted verified facts. I have also shown many rumors to be false with the facts. Some facts and evidence will have to wait until the proper time to be shown. Either way, it's there.

> **QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Feb 7 2007, 07:19 PM)**
>
> Seeing you have admitted your were barking up the wrong tree in this regard, a retraction and an apology to sister would be in order...
>
> Not that I'd expect you to do either...
>
> In His service,
> Mr. J

Are you reading the wrong posts. Did sister not post the salaries? Did sister not say that I would have to be an insider to get that information? Ridiculous you are

---

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Feb 7 2007, 08:52 PM

You on a roll Clay.....

> **QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 7 2007, 09:11 PM)**
>
> .... I think they protesteth too much...

Shakespear...right?

> **QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 7 2007, 09:18 PM)**
>
> ..... how's that workin for ya?

Dr. Phil

Finally - I agree. I'm quick to tell the *kids* that I work with:

ahem

"You tell the truth one time. That's all you have to do. Eventually the lie will come out in the wash. Someone wants to lie on you and spread rumors. You tell the people that matter one time..... it's not true. You show your proof that it's not true and you drop it. The people that keep the mess going will be found out to be a lie ...eventually...and when it does happen - their shot for life. Trust me...."

It's refreshing to see *kids* actually work this in the day treatment/inpatient wards and it actually works as the rumor mill dies and people find something new to talk about.

Fact of the matter is - with all the "evidence" that exists about Linda - I ain't seen a thang...but yet there is bit after bit coming out about Danny, Tommy, and the "dirty deeds" that have been done in the background. If evidence exists against Linda - by all means Danny should have **been a man from jump** and let it go. To slander his ex-wife's name makes him look stankier and stankier. Normally the hen that cackles the loudest is the one that laid the egg...and in this case Danny is cackling, crowing, pecking, screaming, bellowing, spittin, and yellin'...all of which makes him look stankier and stankier.

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 08:54 PM

> **QUOTE(sonshineonme @ Feb 7 2007, 07:19 PM)**
>
> .....and it's working, just not the way you intended.

Actually, it is, by the outcry that I have heard from other Adventist. C'mon you guys just want to get us off of here so your own little group can continue to spin your tales to each other with no distractions.

Posted by: sonshineonme Feb 7 2007, 09:01 PM

> **QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 06:50 PM)**
>
> In the last several days I have posted verified facts. I have also shown many rumors to be false with the facts. Some facts and evidence will have to wait until the proper time to be shown. Either way, it's there.

you have not done this, in fact, you have only said more things that we have asked you to prove were true. why don't you do that, then you can say you did.

> **QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 06:54 PM)**
>
> Actually, it is, by the outcry that I have heard from other Adventist. C'mon you guys just want to get us off of here so your own little group can continue to spin your tales to each other with no distractions.

Reeeeaaaallyy?? And what SDA's would that be? The ones that don't know any better and have done no research of their own, just listened to the ramblings of their king and his court (lets not forget them) on the

tv and since it sounds so good, it must be true? when will they learn??

If we have only tales to spin, then leave - you have nothing to worry about. And by all means, PLEASE don't go, in fact I have stated to the admin here that I want you to stay. I question your eithics and honesty, but for the most part, it really is good for the cause of truth that you remain, until you sucessfully get yourself booted and that will be that. So, hear you are!! Still here! (no, not necessarily because of my asking, but because I am not the only one that knows it's a good thing you are still here...)

Posted by: Clay Feb 7 2007, 09:17 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 08:54 PM)

Actually, it is, by the outcry that I have heard from other Adventist. C'mon you guys just want to get us off of here so your own little group can continue to spin your tales to each other with no distractions.

even though you said you were leaving, you changed your mind and opted to stay and we are indeed thrilled...your presence and your explanations have said volumes....

reminds me of civil court commitments.... usually the judge is trying to decide if a person should be committed to a psychiatric hospital involuntarily. The petitioner gives evidence, the defense questions it... then comes the time when the person is asked if they want to testified on their own behalf.... the person is usually told it would be better if they didn't because maybe they would get the benefit of the doubt.... however, human nature being what it is, the person 9 times out of 10 opts to testify... in every case when the person testifies, that person is committed against their will for treatment....their own testimony usually seals their fate.....

All you who have come to defend Danny, have provided all the information to remove doubt and make it clear.... yeah he did it... and then some.... sort of like had O.J. testified during his own trial.... so please continue to share....

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Feb 7 2007, 09:23 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 7 2007, 11:17 PM)

....All you who have come to defend Danny, have provided all the information to remove doubt and make it clear.... yeah he did it... and then some.... sort of like had O.J. testified during his own trial.... so please continue to share....

...all I am seeing fa real is that Danny is way, WAY DIRTY.

Pernt blank.

That is all...

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Feb 7 2007, 09:26 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Feb 7 2007, 10:23 PM)

...all I am seeing fa real is that Danny is way, WAY DIRTY.

Pernt blank.

have been told by no less than 10 employees after everything that's been siad, they feel the same way as ‘ou do PDR. I have a feeling the idea is going to spread.

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 09:27 PM

QUOTE(sonshineonme @ Feb 7 2007, 09:01 PM)

you have not done this, in fact, you have only said more things that we have asked you to prove were true. why don't you do that, then you can say you did.
Reeeeaaaallyy?? And what SDA's would that be? The ones that don't know any better and have done no research of their own, just listened to the ramblings of their king and his court (lets not forget them) on the tv and since it sounds so good, it must be true? when will they learn??

\gain, you show everytime how narrow your mind is. Out of what 16 million adventists around the world (and 3abn reaches the biggest portion of it) You think the only people that support 3abn are just a dumb little luped group. What a slam against the adventist people and the church as a whole since so many conference ›eople are supportive also. What an insult to their intelligence. Again, they know nothing but you know all. ‘ou just keep repeating the impossible. That all the world is fooled and/or corrupt.

›rove what. The facts I have posted today are verifiable. If anyone in the other camp had posted just what I lid it would be taken as truth without question. Even you have to see how lopsided you think. You jump on he bandwagon of any junk that is posted here and never question how someone knew or how it can be :hecked out as long as, it is against 3abn.
3ad really that you have so much anger, jealousy and/or hate for 3abn, the administration ect when all of ‘our information has originated from one source even though it was passed through several sources first. The ıarder to trace. you are manipulated to the extreme and don't even know it.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Feb 7 2007, 09:31 PM

One mo gen....jes read my signature line....
"Karma...."

(loosely based on the "digging a ditch, dig two" addage....)

Posted by: Clay Feb 7 2007, 09:33 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 09:27 PM)

Again, you show everytime how narrow your mind is. Out of what 16 million adventists around the world (and 3abn reaches the biggest portion of it) You think the only people that support 3abn are just a dumb little duped group. What a slam against the adventist people and the church as a whole since so many conference people are supportive also. What an insult to their intelligence. Again, they know nothing but you know all. You just keep repeating the impossible. That all the world is fooled and/or corrupt.

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Sad really that you have so much anger, jealousy and/or hate for 3abn, the administration ect when all of your information has originated from one source even though it was passed through several sources first. The harder to trace. you are manipulated to the extreme and don't even know it.

ell us more... interesting... people are manipulated and don't know it.... and you believe you are here to free is from the manipulation? By all means.... if you would could you address Mr. Shelton's first contact with sda, the one in which he indicated that he loved Linda and that they had been counseled for hours.... xcept, they hadn't been counseled for hours and it wasn't long after that statement that we learned of the Guam excursion.....

Posted by: sonshineonme Feb 7 2007, 09:35 PM

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Sad really that you have so much anger, jealousy and/or hate for 3abn, the administration ect when all of your information has originated from one source even though it was passed through several sources first. The harder to trace. you are manipulated to the extreme and don't even know it.

☒ not

vrong you are, so many times...YOU my friend are the one manipulated by the cult you worship, or you are he manipulator of the cult you own and you don't see your true mental condition.
feel very sorry for you, really.

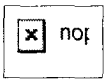
Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 09:39 PM

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Feb 7 2007, 09:26 PM)

I have been told by no less than 10 employees after everything that's been siad, they feel the same way as you do PDR. I have a feeling the idea is going to spread.

loty, why didn't you dispute those ,that told, that Danny said he was "going after" Linda and her supporters. Surely you were there. You know everything that goes on. You knew it was false yet did nothing to correct it. f that doesn't prove that you have your own personal ax to grind, then nothing does. Or, maybe you were ctually not there at all and are just being "fed" I have heard from way more than 10 that they can't believe omeone so 2 faced works among them. It appears to most there, that you are trying to help take down the ministry which in turn takes down their jobs. Good thing, that for now, you are anonymous because if the rest of the employees find out who you are, well, it won't be a pretty picture. People that thought you were a riend will feel betrayed and they will have been.

QUOTE(sonshineonme @ Feb 7 2007, 09:35 PM)



wrong you are, so many times...YOU my friend are the one manipulated by the cult you worship, or you are the manipulator of the cult you own and you don't see your true mental condition.
I feel very sorry for you, really.

Don't waste your emotions feeling sorry for me because If I belong to Danny's cult, then you belong to Linda's so are still, being manipulated,....wait...unless you are her, then you would be doing the manipulating. Either way you are in no better position than you say I am.

Posted by: Clay Feb 7 2007, 09:44 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 09:39 PM)

Hoty, why didn't you dispute those ,that told, that Danny said he was "going after" Linda and her supporters. Surely you were there. You know everything that goes on. You knew it was false yet did nothing to correct it. If that doesn't prove that you have your own personal ax to grind, then nothing does. Or, maybe you were actually not there at all and are just being "fed" I have heard from way more than 10 that they can't believe someone so 2 faced works among them. It appears to most there, that you are trying to help take down the ministry which in turn takes down their jobs. Good thing, that for now, you are anonymous because if the rest of the employees find out who you are, well, it won't be a pretty picture. People that thought you were a friend will feel betrayed and they will have been.
Don't waste your emotions feeling sorry for me because If I belong to Danny's cult, then you belong to Linda's so are still, being manipulated,....wait...unless you are her, then you would be doing the manipulating. Either way you are in no better position than you say I am.

Bystander you sound a bit defensive and paranoid... please share with us more truth, it will set you and us free....and the hostility towards HOTY and Sonshine.... frustrated that they don't seem to believe your version of the truth?

Posted by: Bystander Feb 7 2007, 09:48 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 7 2007, 09:33 PM)

tell us more... interesting... people are manipulated and don't know it.... and you believe you are here to free us from the manipulation? By all means.... if you would could you address Mr. Shelton's first contact with bsda, the one in which he indicated that he loved Linda and that they had been counseled for hours.... except, they hadn't been counseled for hours and it wasn't long after that statement that we learned of the Guam excursion.....

Wrong on several counts, as usual. They can produce signed documents, if need be, from pastors who counseled with them. They can produce receipts from proffessional counselors they went to see out of state.

Let me correct the guam statement once and for all. THERE WAS NO EXCURSION TO GUAM. It was all done by mail with Lindas signature in agreement. That can also be produced, if need be. How many times can I count on previous posts about danny's quickie little trip to guam and again, that is totally false.
How many more things will have to be shown (many of these things you can look at yourself if you know where to go) before you can see that somebody has been very busy telling tales out of school and you have

all been a part of it.

> **QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 7 2007, 09:44 PM)**
>
> Bystander you sound a bit defensive and paranoid... please share with us more truth, it will set you and us free....and the hostility towards HOTY and Sonshine.... frustrated that they don't seem to believe your version of the truth?

Not frustrated, sad for them. Really, nobody is any more defensive than you. The only frustration comes from thinking that it would take a year to straighten out all the false tales that have been told here. Whether purposely or not, I don't know but I know I and others don't have time to put a year into it. That is where the frustration comes in.

Posted by: Clay Feb 7 2007, 09:50 PM

> **QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 09:45 PM)**
>
> Wrong on several counts, as usual. They can produce signed documents, if need be, from pastors who counseled with them. They can produce receipts from proffessional counselors they went to see out of state.
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> Let me correct the guam statement once and for all. THERE WAS NO EXCURSION TO GUAM. It was all done by mail with Lindas signature in agreement. That can also be produced, if need be. How many times can I count on previous posts about danny's quickie little trip to guam and again, that is totally false. How many more things will have to be shown (many of these things you can look at yourself if you know where to go) before you can see that somebody has been very busy telling tales out of school and you have all been a part of it.

they can? anyone can forge a document, you know for a fact that there was counseling? You were bystanding there when these sessions occurred?.... professional is spelled with one f by the way.... of course as you pointed out they cant be produced here because no one here would believe... please continue to share more... this is quite interesting.... why would a christian man seek a divorce in Guam?

> **QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 09:48 PM)**
>
> Not frustrated, sad for them. Really, nobody is any more defensive than you. The only frustration comes from thinking that it would take a year to straighten out all the false tales that have been told here. Whether purposely or not, I don't know but I know I and others don't have time to put a year into it. That is where the frustration comes in.

I am not defensive... see I don't have to worry about my wife getting a quick divorce in Guam and marrying someone 20 yrs younger than she is... the false tales that have been told? You mean you believe that Danny is telling the whole truth? Let's see, was Danny telling the truth about his brother Tommy?

Posted by: Johann Feb 7 2007, 10:09 PM

> **QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 8 2007, 05:48 AM)**
>
> - - - They can produce signed documents, if need be, from pastors who counseled with them. They can produce receipts from proffessional counselors they went to see out of state.

- - -

Bystander, do you realize that the cousellor Mr. Danny Shelton has referred to as his greatest witness as having counselled Linda, called me recently. When I mentioned this fact to him, he told me that he had never had a real counselling session with Linda.

Tell me, Bystander, who is your source? Can you believe he is telling you the truth when the star counsellor denies he ever had any such counselling session? That same counsellor has also stated he is convinced that Linda is innocent of Danny's accusations. Do you doubt this man's integrity?

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 7 2007, 10:23 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 09:50 PM)

As I read those words aloud and a nice little beat started to come into my mind. If you don't mind maybe I will make a little rap out of them.....

f I dont mind? Well, as a matter of fact, I DO mind.

was wondering how much longer before you resorted to racial stereotypes...and let your white sheet show. 'ou gonna put on blackface too since you are looking to be as offensive as possible?

t is shameful on your part that your knowledge and understanding of african-americans is so limited that you vould think yourself amusing by resorting to such ignorant stereotypes. Is this how you think you are communicating'? What's next? Offering me chicken and watermelon?

\nd just so you know... we don't all live in the ghetto, receiving welfare checks, listening to rap music and drinking malt liquor. We don't all have criminal records and we're all not under or unemployed. Many of the people you are dealing with here have better education and income than you have ever thought of having... had higher test scores and higher GPAs and have had more professional accomplishment than you... and you, knowing you cannot compete, this is what you throw out.

'es, I mind. And you should be ashamed of yourself.

n His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: princessdi Feb 7 2007, 11:05 PM

Bystander, now why would we want that? We were here a long time before you got here. In fact Danny came here before you got here. Did I not wish you a Happy Sabbath and invite you to the SS lesson study. That was no empty invitation,you were, indeed welcome. I keep telling you we know how to diagree without becoming enemies. You can stay, long as you follow the rules.....

Now, we do asked, however, that you do watch yourself, this still is BlackSDA. You gots to leave them little comments for somewhere else. Afterall, we(SDAs) ain't supposed to have those racial issues, right?

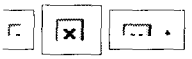
QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 06:54 PM)

Actually, it is, by the outcry that I have heard from other Adventist. C'mon you guys just want to get us off of here so your own little group can continue to spin your tales to each other with no distractions.

Posted by: inga Feb 7 2007, 11:40 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Feb 7 2007, 09:52 PM)

Danny should have **been a man from jump** and let it go. To slander his ex-wife's name makes him look stankier and stankier. Normally the hen that cackles the loudest is the one that laid the egg...and in this case Danny is cackling, crowing, pecking, screaming, bellowing, spittin, and yellin'...all of which makes him look stankier and stankier.



Posted by: inga Feb 7 2007, 11:59 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 10:27 PM)

Out of what 16 million adventists around the world (and 3abn reaches the biggest portion of it)

ust a minor little correction: 3abn's **potential reach** is almost as great as the number of Adventists around he world.

act is that **3ABN does not actually reach that many people.** Just because a satellite beam could otentially reach people doesn't mean that it *does* reach those people.

really don't have the figures, but I know for sure that your statement is *highly exaggerated* -- like most of our statements and those of Dan Shelton.

Posted by: Johann Feb 8 2007, 12:12 AM

QUOTE(inga @ Feb 8 2007, 07:59 AM)

Just a minor little correction: 3abn's **potential reach** is almost as great as the number of Adventists around the world.

Fact is that **3ABN does not actually reach that many people.** Just because a satellite beam could potentially reach people doesn't mean that it *does* reach those people.

I really don't have the figures, but I know for sure that your statement is *highly exaggerated* -- like most of your statements and those of Dan Shelton.

And I know that more and more Adventists are tuning in on HOPE, the official TV channel of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. There was a reason why the Church no longer could depend on 3ABN to bring the message o the World.

Posted by: Clay Feb 8 2007, 09:09 AM

I go back to this first letter:

> **QUOTE**
>
> Hi, my name is Danny Shelton and I work for 3ABN. It's not a credit your Black SDA that it appears to be nothing more than a tabloid gossip page.
> Not one of the people that I could see commenting have even attempted to contact me, that I know of, about all the things they are judging me of.
> You do have some people in the "know" that you could find out some info from if it means that much to you. Pastor John Lomacang has spent many hours counseling with Linda and me and even made some recommendations to the board about our situation which the 3ABN board took very seriously.
> As of late Pastor Mark Finley has counseled with both Linda and Me. He agrees with the decision the board has taken on this issue and so does Pastor John. Several others have also counseled us and all agree with the board's action.
> Paula and Curtis have indeed been back to do more programming without me or Linda. Their program stands on it's own.
> No one has been hurt like Linda and me have been through this whole situation. We still love each other and spend considerable time together..... snip.....

Mr. Shelton indicated that Lomacang and also Mark Finley counseled them... there is no indication that this ever happened... He stated that they loved each other except his actions suggested otherwise... Likewise there is no indication that they spent time together working on their relationship....

Again I will say it, men in love do not attempt to get a divorce as quickly as possible.... not any men that I know of....

Posted by: Johann Feb 8 2007, 09:44 AM

> **QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 8 2007, 05:09 PM)** ☐
>
> - - -
>
> Again I will say it, men in love do not attempt to get a divorce as quickly as possible.... not any men that I know of....

Neither do they spend fortunes on private investigators to have them issue false reports on what the wife is doing so they can get this divorce as quickly as possible. Nor do they threaten to have the police incarcerate witnesses who appear to exonerate the wife.

There are too many questionable dispositions to clear Danny Shelton of strong suspicions that he did not want to save his marriage at all.

Posted by: Denny Feb 8 2007, 10:23 AM

> **QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 8 2007, 03:09 PM)** ☐
>
> I go back to this first letter:

Mr. Shelton indicated that Lomacang and also Mark Finley counseled them... there is no indication that this ever happened... He stated that they loved each other except his actions suggested otherwise... Likewise there is no indication that they spent time together working on their relationship....

Again I will say it, men in love do not attempt to get a divorce as quickly as possible.... not any men that I know of....

)ut men in love with the new Mrs waiting in the wings do.....

Posted by: Johann Feb 8 2007, 10:31 AM

QUOTE(Denny @ Feb 8 2007, 06:23 PM)

but men in love with the new Mrs waiting in the wings do.....

'hank you Denny. During the Second World War we tuned our radio in on London. From there we always)eard the truth of what was going on.

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 8 2007, 05:42 PM

I am presently watching the news on NBC and Brian Williams' conversation with Tim Russert concerning his being on the witness stand today in the Libby trial.

Two wise things were said by Tim following his statements of what he could report from his testimony today.

1. He gave a quote from Lyndon Johnson that we probably have all heard but I will paraphrase here....

It is easier to throw grenades than catch them.....

2. Tim said he learned a lesson in the 7th grade and that is:

if you tell just one story you don't need to worry.....

nw

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Feb 8 2007, 11:08 PM

One mo gen.....

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Feb 7 2007, 10:52 PM)

I'm quick to tell the *kids* that I work with:

ahem

"You tell the truth one time. That's all you have to do. Eventually the lie will come out in the wash. Someone wants to lie on you and spread rumors. You tell the people that matter one time..... it's not true. You show your proof that it's not true and you drop it. The people that keep the mess going will be found out to be a lie ...eventually...and when it does happen - their shot for life. Trust me...."

It's refreshing to see *kids* actually work this in the day treatment/inpatient wards and it actually works as

the rumor mill dies and people find something new to talk about.

Fact of the matter is - with all the "evidence" that exists about Linda - I ain't seen a thang...but yet there is bit after bit coming out about Danny, Tommy, and the "dirty deeds" that have been done in the background. If evidence exists against Linda - by all means Danny should have **been a man from jump** and let it go. To slander his ex-wife's name makes him look **stankier and stankier.** Normally the hen that cackles the loudest is the one that laid the egg...and in this case Danny is cackling, crowing, pecking, screaming, bellowing, spittin, and yellin'...all of which makes him look **stankier and stankier.**

Posted by: wwjd Feb 8 2007, 11:35 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 8 2007, 09:09 AM) ☐

Again I will say it, men in love do not attempt to get a divorce as quickly as possible.... not any men that I know of....

Easy to solve. Ask Mark Finley if he counseled her on the phone 3 different times and what was said. He is willing to make that statement or sign a document saying so. Read my other post in corporate worship. It will fill in the details. THERE ARE RECEIPTS for 8 hours of out of state counseling with 2 christian counselors that are not adventist to the best of my understanding.
John Lomacang will also testify or sign a sworn statement on the counseling he did with them. Why would a man who loved his wife hire PI's to follow her. One that knew what she was doing while they were still married and who would have still, forgiven, and reconciled even after seeing the evidence but she was not willing. That being the case, he was I guess, glad, if you can use that word that he had proof because of the people like you that would never believe she was capable of such a thing.

Posted by: wwjd Feb 8 2007, 11:47 PM

QUOTE(Noahswife @ Feb 8 2007, 05:42 PM) ☐

1. He gave a quote from Lyndon Johnson that we probably have all heard but I will paraphrase here....

It is easier to throw grenades than catch them.....

2. Tim said he learned a lesson in the 7th grade and that is:

if you tell just one story you don't need to worry.....

nw

JW, see my last post here and my post in corporate worship. You see, they have tried to keep quiet. They have tried not to start nameing names and dates. They have tried not to talk about evidence they have. But people here on this forum and a couple of other places on the net, have gossiped, ridiculed and demanded proof of the allegations against Linda. Not only that but several on the net are responsible for calling/mailing out slanderous accusations against 3ABN. They encourage people not to support by "sharing" their rumor and

character slander with absolutely no proof of the things they are accusing of. Some things have had to be posted that they would rather not have discussed but when all of these false allegations are beginning to hurt the cause of Christ, they have no choice but to defend themselves. Whether than means providing the evidence to prove the reasons for the divorce and dismissal, or filing suit for defamation of character with no evidence to back it up, they will do it. How can you blame them? Don't you think they would love to just "tell one story" and then not have to worry? But they can't. You won't let them.

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 9 2007, 12:16 AM

QUOTE(wwjd @ Feb 9 2007, 12:47 AM)

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You are worse than the Bush administration. It's always anybody's fault but yours Danny... and no, I'm not buying these attempts to speak in the 3rd person...as if the people responding to these posts are doing it without being directed... and neither is anyone else. You will see this and tell whichever minion is hiding behind this screen name what to say in response... so I will just cut out the middle man...

If you had

> [A)] not tried to make Linda wear a scarlet letter before 3ABN's donors in an attempt to make sure donations continued after she was pushed out and
>
> [B)] not tried to convince the world of her guilt so your relationship with Brandi would appear to be legit or
>
> [C)] not continued to treat Linda and anyone who appeared sympathetic to her in the most unChristian manner possible or
>
> [D)] not shown up here telling lies to cover the lies you already told when you claimed to be trying to save your marriage even as you were filing for divorce or
>
> [E)] roll your lackeys in here in shifts pretending to be unaffiliated yet concerned viewers and supporters of 3ABN and failing miserably to pull it off... showing up claiming to be seeking truth and only spreading more lies... and the sad part is just as those who the Sanhedrin tried to get to lie about Jesus... the lies dont even match up...

AND had just told the truth from the beginning...

THEN you'd have had nothing to worry about...

so if you need to point fingers... find the nearest mirror.

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: wwjd Feb 9 2007, 12:49 AM

In His service,
Mr. J
[/quote]
I am NOT Danny. But go ahead and make your accusations, you have made many. There have been several posts yesterday and this evening by me with dates, names and papers that can be verified. Put them all together and someone has not been telling the truth. Hence, the origination of your accusations. As arrogant as you are mr. J. even you need to come down off of your throne and look at the facts. I will challenge, dare or even beg you to make phone calls to verify some of this. Even though you always think you are several steps above the rest of us, I don't think even you, would call Mark Finley a liar. Even you couldn't refute receipts and paper trails. Even you can't refute sworn testimonies. You can try, but it won't fly.

On the other hand mr. in love with himself, I nor anyone else has seen one shred of evidence from you to prove any of your allegations. All I have seen from you is a big ugly mouth repeating all the gossip and rumors you have heard here. Where is your proof, evidence, dates, verifiable facts ect ect.
I am sorry but all of your posts wreak with envy. It is beyond your comprehension how someone uneducated like Danny could be president of a world wide tv ministry when someone as knowledgeable and learned as you, is not. The only thing you can do is make allegations that he is there because of wrong doing. Do you think (obviously you do) that you, mr. j know more than asi, the board, the counselors, that did indeed counsel LInda, ASI, the pastors, Mark F, Doug B, David A., Wintley Phipps. and a host of other people that defend and stay with 3abn because they "do know" the "real truth". If you really believe that you know more than they do about the situation, if you really believe that you are smart than them, then you are far worse off than I could have imagined.

Posted by: Spike Feb 9 2007, 12:55 AM

WWJD go to bed!!! It's late where you are.

Posted by: Spike Feb 9 2007, 01:41 AM

QUOTE(wwjd @ Feb 8 2007, 11:49 PM)

In His service,
Mr. J

I am NOT Danny. But go ahead and make your accusations, you have made many. There have been several posts yesterday and this evening by me with dates, names and papers that can be verified. Put them all together and someone has not been telling the truth. Hence, the origination of your accusations. As arrogant as you are mr. J. even you need to come down off of your throne and look at the facts. I will challenge, dare or even beg you to make phone calls to verify some of this. Even though you always think you are several steps above the rest of us, I don't think even you, would call Mark Finley a liar. Even you couldn't refute receipts and paper trails. Even you can't refute sworn testimonies. You can try, but it won't fly.

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really believe that you know more than they do about the situation, if you really believe that you are smart than them, then you are far worse off than I could have imagined.

WWJD, You say you have proof. Then why don't you show Pickle or Greg, they are representing Linda and I would take their word for the truth. That way you can spare Linda as you say you want to.

That would not clear Tommy or DS covering for him.

Posted by: sister Feb 9 2007, 07:53 AM

QUOTE(wwjd @ Feb 9 2007, 12:35 AM)

Easy to solve. **Ask Mark Finley if he counseled her on the phone 3 different times and what was said. He is willing to make that statement or sign a document saying so.** Read my other post in corporate worship. It will fill in the details. THERE ARE RECEIPTS for 8 hours of out of state counseling with 2 christian counselors that are not adventist to the best of my understanding.
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WWJD, ***you*** *are the one making the claim that Mark Finley counseled Linda, by telephone, on 3 separate occasions.* **You** are the one who claims Mark Finley is willing to sign a document attesting to the facts of your claim. **SO, it is upon you, not the readers here, to do the leg work and contact Mark Finley.** Since you now claim you can produce evidence, produce this evidence: a signed, notarized statement from Mark Finley attesting to your claims and mail it to Calvin and then post it here. Until you have done that you have no credibility here and your claims of "evidence" are nothing more than dust in the wind---no substance. We are all waiting, but I am sure no one is holding their breath. Let's make this a test of your credibility, if you can produce this evidence I for one am willing to listen to you, if not, are you willing to be banned from BSDA or all the slander and false accusations you have made against Linda Shelton. Are sure enough of your evidence" to take this challenge? Are you a Christian who stands with your witness or merely a minion of Danny Shelton, sent here to do his bidding?

Sister

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Feb 9 2007, 10:58 AM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 7 2007, 10:39 PM)

Hoty, why didn't you dispute those ,that told, that Danny said he was "going after" Linda and her supporters. Surely you were there. You know everything that goes on. You knew it was false yet did nothing to correct it. If that doesn't prove that you have your own personal ax to grind, then nothing does. Or, maybe you were actually not there at all and are just being "fed" I have heard from way more than 10

that they can't believe someone so 2 faced works among them. It appears to most there, that you are trying to help take down the ministry which in turn takes down their jobs. Good thing, that for now, you are anonymous because if the rest of the employees find out who you are, well, it won't be a pretty picture. People that thought you were a friend will feel betrayed and they will have been.

)id you happen to be at that farce of a worship, because I was. Stood there and prayed the whole time)ecause I knew that Satan was at work, but it was THROUGH and not AGAINST a select few in attendance. :or a man to take his personal agenda, one that many in that circle knew nothing about, and plaster it all)ver company worship was disgusting at best and possibly even sacrilegious!

don't know how many times I have to say that I am not trying to bring down 3ABN. And the assumption hat if DS goes down, 3ABN will go with him is ridiculous. DS is not 3ABN. 3ABN is not DS.

f you are concerned about people talking, I think you should start with administration. THEY are the ones vith the information. DS blabs everything he knows, and it's to the people closest to him, not the lowest in he group.

:xactly how do you think the emloyees will feel about DS when many of the accusations are)roven to be true?

Posted by: glenetta Feb 9 2007, 11:30 AM

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Feb 9 2007, 10:58 AM)

Did you happen to be at that farce of a worship, because I was. Stood there and prayed the whole time because I knew that Satan was at work, but it was THROUGH and not AGAINST a select few in attendance. For a man to take his personal agenda, one that many in that circle knew nothing about, and plaster it all over company worship was disgusting at best and possibly even sacrilegious!

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can guess that if any of the accusations are true, then how could 3ABN exsist? I would say that it would be :estructured from the ground up. **According to this site. There is no one good, nothing good about 3ABN.** So it will effect the little man all the way to the top, wouldn't you think? So there would not be the :mployees there that are there now!
-iring new people, I mean if a person was to check into your back ground would it be clean as a whistle? So herefore who is worthy? I guess it would depend on who is restructuring the ministry to determine when and f God has forgiven. I don't want that job!!!

Posted by: Nuggie Feb 9 2007, 11:36 AM

QUOTE(glenetta @ Feb 9 2007, 12:30 PM)

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Hiring new people, I mean if a person was to check into your back ground would it be clean as a whistle? So therefore who is worthy? I guess it would depend on who is restructuring the ministry to determine when and if God has forgiven. I don't want that job!!!

See, you're doing it again...this statement is a blatant untruth...several people have commented on the fact that they appreciate the message and mission of 3ABN, but have a problem with the self-appointed messenger and his dispicable methods...

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Feb 9 2007, 11:43 AM

QUOTE(glenetta @ Feb 9 2007, 12:30 PM)

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Hiring new people, I mean if a person was to check into your back ground would it be clean as a whistle? So therefore who is worthy? I guess it would depend on who is restructuring the ministry to determine when and if God has forgiven. I don't want that job!!!

First, welcome to BSDA. I know when I happened on this site that I looked at it and then didn't for about 6 months because I just couldn't bring myself to get involved. I guess I didn't really want to know...

Please forgive me if I sound rude, but you cannot honestly believe that organizations that function can not have serious matters going on in the background, right? How many times has it been shown to be the opposite. Think of Jim Jones, Enron, Watergate...there's a whole list out there. The only difference is that someone exposed these organizations to the world, while it hasn't happened for 3ABN on the same scale.

Please read the information presented here. It will take several weeks to get through it all, but I think it's necessary for anyone that begins their search here, that is, if that's what their purpose is.

(BTW, yes, my background is "clean as a whistle.")

HOTY

Posted by: Clay Feb 9 2007, 12:27 PM

QUOTE(glenetta @ Feb 9 2007, 11:30 AM)

I can guess that if any of the accusations are true, then how could 3ABN exsist? I would say that it would be restructured from the ground up. **According to this site. There is no one good, nothing good about 3ABN.** So it will effect the little man all the way to the top, wouldn't you think? So there would not be the employees there that are there now!
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So therefore who is worthy? I guess it would depend on who is restructuring the ministry to determine when and if God has forgiven. I don't want that job!!!

)f course you are here to tell us that there is much good at 3ab.... I think you are intimately involved with)anny, how long has this been going on?

Posted by: Observer Feb 9 2007, 12:44 PM

Re: "I can guess that if any of the accusations are true, then how could 3ABN exsist? I would say that it would be restructured from the ground up. According to this site. There is no one good, nothing good about 3ABN. So it will effect the little man all the way to the top, wouldn't you think? So there would not be the employees there that are there now! "

False. such would not be required.

If 3-ABN were to be restructured, it would require a major change in management. That is all.

When you restructure a secular business, you change management. You do not chnge the so called "little guy."

Sometimes that change only requires a change in CEO. Sometimes it requires changes in the Executive Board. Sometimes it requires further management changes. There is no one set pattern. But, it seldom goes down the ladder any further.

Yes, if 3-ABN were to be restructured, the majority of employees would be able to continue on as employees, if they wished to do so. Some might wish to leave. But, that would be their choice.

Posted by: princessdi Feb 9 2007, 02:36 PM

********wwjd, personal aatacks are not allowed. Now I read Awsumtenors post and then read yours. Awsumtenor is expressing diagreement with the information you put forth, in great detail. You are attacking him as a peson in the bolded statements below. This is your last warning, and that goes for anywhere on this site. You will be suspended permanently without further notice*********

Now, with that out of the way, my response to your post is that it is your proof. youa re the one maintaining Linda had counseling, etc. You need to bring it. Everyone else who made accusations brought proof with them. Examples: 1)It was said they had Linda to sign a gag order and she was cheated, the order was posted for all to see and decide for themselves. It was true. 2) It was said that Tommy Shelton was removed from pastoring because of inappropriate advance toward boys. The letters from the Church of God, and victims, their mothers were posted for all to see for them selves.

You cna't just come up here and claim somthing and then make everybody to looking to verify your claims. Bring it yourself!

One other thing. At anytime, anyone of these individuals you mentioned could have come here and spoken their piece, still can. Theirs will be added anw eighed witht he rest of the evidence. You have the mis understood that everyone here only wants evidence that would exonerate Linda that is not true. Plus, I dont' see why Danny would hold anything back see as he is still taking about it to this day, making snide remarks, etc. Going around atalking about she was seduced by the Dr. is not sparing anything. He got proof, bring it!

QUOTE(wwjd @ Feb 8 2007, 10:49 PM) ☐

In His service,

Mr. J

I am NOT Danny. But go ahead and make your accusations, you have made many. There have been several posts yesterday and this evening by me with dates, names and papers that can be verified. Put them all together and someone has not been telling the truth. Hence, the origination of your accusations. As arrogant as you are mr. J. even you need to come down off of your throne and look at the facts. I will challenge, dare or even beg you to make phone calls to verify some of this. Even though you always think you are several steps above the rest of us, I don't think even you, would call Mark Finley a liar. Even you couldn't refute receipts and paper trails. Even you can't refute sworn testimonies. You can try, but it won't fly.

On the other hand mr. in love with himself, I nor anyone else has seen one shred of evidence from you to prove any of your allegations. All I have seen from you is a big ugly mouth repeating all the gossip and rumors you have heard here. Where is your proof, evidence, dates, verifiable facts ect ect.
I **am sorry but all of your posts wreak with envy. It is beyond your comprehension how someone uneducated like Danny could be president of a world wide tv ministry when someone as knowledgeable and learned as you, is not.** The only thing you can do is make allegations that he is there because of wrong doing. Do you think (obviously you do) that you, mr. j know more than asi, the board, the counselors, that did indeed counsel LInda, ASI, the pastors, Mark F, Doug B, David A., Wintley Phipps. and a host of other people that defend and stay with 3abn because they "do know" the "real truth". **If you really believe that you know more than they do about the situation, if you really believe that you are smart than them, then you are far worse off than I could have imagined.**

Posted by: Nuggie Feb 9 2007, 02:46 PM

QUOTE(wwjd @ Feb 9 2007, 01:49 AM)

In His service,
Mr. J

I am NOT Danny. But go ahead and make your accusations, you have made many. There have been several posts yesterday and this evening by me with dates, names and papers that can be verified. Put them all together and someone has not been telling the truth. Hence, the origination of your accusations. As arrogant as you are mr. J. even you need to come down off of your throne and look at the facts. I will challenge, dare or even beg you to make phone calls to verify some of this. Even though you always think you are several steps above the rest of us, I don't think even you, would call Mark Finley a liar. Even you couldn't refute receipts and paper trails. Even you can't refute sworn testimonies. You can try, but it won't fly.

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know one thing for sure...this is not what Jesus would do...

Posted by: simplysaved Feb 9 2007, 02:51 PM

Good question...is it being indirectly being suggested that Whitley Phipps and Mark Finley are co-conspirators and covering up something?

Posted by: LadyTenor Feb 9 2007, 03:04 PM

I see folks can't hang with the discussions here because failing to proving the veracity of one's statements is frowned upon....so they resort to the easier road, personal attacks!

Posted by: princessdi Feb 9 2007, 03:21 PM

Not a good, question, Sarah. Go back and read. Wwjd is sugesting that these people are ready to make statement tot he fact that Linda was given counseling before the end of her marriage. They are in progress now of trying to get said statement from Mark Finley. No one is suggesting that any of them are co-conspirators to anything, In fact it is quite the opposite. These men are well respected and a word from them might shed some light on this. Wwjd is claiming they are willing to make the statements, and he is being told to bring it! Simple as that! I know you don't post or even keep up in this area. Please read everything in order to get a good understanding before posting here again.

QUOTE(simplysaved @ Feb 9 2007, 12:51 PM)

Good question...is it being indirectly being suggested that Whitley Phipps and Mark Finley are co-conspirators and covering up something?

Posted by: inga Feb 9 2007, 03:24 PM

QUOTE(simplysaved @ Feb 9 2007, 03:51 PM)

Good question...is it being indirectly being suggested that Whitley Phipps and Mark Finley are co-conspirators and covering up something?

No one who has been critical of 3ABN administration has suggested such a thing.

However, **some defending 3ABN have falsely suggested that those criticizing current admnistration are implicating Wintley Phipps and Mark Finley as well!**

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Feb 9 2007, 10:05 PM

sna

Posted by: Green Cochoa Feb 11 2007, 05:40 AM

QUOTE(LadyTenor @ May 7 2006, 11:09 AM)

Exactly why these threads are tired...when Clay started this one, I didn't realize it would become yet another 3ABN thread, but it has...I will not be revisiting this thread...I will leave it where I left all the other 3ABN threads...*in the trash*...

...I'm sure someone will respond to my somewhat harsh response, but I regret that I won't see it, since this is my last time looking at ANY 3ABN thread on this site...*there are more interesting threads to follow up on*...

QUOTE(LadyTenor @ Feb 9 2007, 03:04 PM)

I see folks can't hang with the discussions here because failing to proving the veracity of one's statements is frowned upon....so they resort to the easier road, personal attacks!

:lay? rofl Is this... ...tiresome?

law...it's just gir che right? rofl (You know, every woman has the right to change her nind...)

.adyTenor, please accept my apologies for laughing, it's just....ouch! tom Hey! sofa1.gif

---

Posted by: HUGGINS130 Feb 11 2007, 05:56 AM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Feb 9 2007, 10:05 PM)

sn

m back with you on these threads...back to...um... sn lurkin

Posted by: Grace Feb 11 2007, 07:03 AM

QUOTE(inga @ Feb 9 2007, 10:24 PM)

No one who has been critical of 3ABN administration has suggested such a thing.

However, **some defending 3ABN have falsely suggested that those criticizing current admnistration are implicating Wintley Phipps and Mark Finley as well!**

"Some" defending Danny have all the same technique: falsely suggesting that we have said things agains honest people that we haven't said nor implied. notworkir

"Tiresome they are"...

Posted by: seraph|m Mar 16 2007, 04:34 PM

Tiresome, very much so.

Posted by: Johann Apr 11 2007, 01:05 AM

> **QUOTE(Grace @ Feb 11 2007, 03:03 PM)**
>
> "Some" defending Danny have all the same technique: falsely suggesting that we have said things agains honest people that we haven't said nor implied. notworkir
>
> "Tiresome they are"...

And they do not seem to see it themselves. A very important point, Grace.

Posted by: Treniece May 19 2007, 04:29 PM

So much information. It is mind boggling.

Posted by: howdy May 19 2007, 11:13 PM

I believe you are quite right N W in your assessment. The church is too inbred to ever find an impartial jury. There has been nepotism for decades. The management of 3ABN will not produce their evidence against Linda claiming as their reason to "protect Linda" while all the time trashing her worldwide. The only thing they are trying to protect is themselves. There is obviously no proof of their charges against Linda.

howdy

Posted by: Rosyroi May 19 2007, 11:17 PM

> **QUOTE(howdy @ May 19 2007, 09:13 PM)**
>
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howdy

\MEN howdy
Rosyroi

Posted by: Seraphim7 May 20 2007, 09:52 AM

QUOTE(howdy @ May 20 2007, 02:13 AM)

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howdy

The above can be seen on every level of leadership w/in the church. Sad but true.

Posted by: mozart May 20 2007, 04:03 PM

i agree sera and i think that what i have always understood as ".....a falling away first...." does not pertain to those who i thought it did. i thought the "falling away" would be those leaving the faith, but now i think that the "falling away" IS the organizational church leaving the Faith. it seems so clear to me now that those that will stand to the end are those few who stay faithful to the truth; small groups scorned by the SDA (name copyrighted) church as we know it.
i'm sure some out there will see fit to yell at me and "set me straight" for saying that but so be it.

QUOTE(Seraphim7 @ May 20 2007, 09:52 AM)

The above can be seen on every level of leadership w/in the church. Sad but true.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 20 2007, 04:50 PM

QUOTE(Seraphim7 @ May 20 2007, 08:52 AM)

The above can be seen on every level of leadership w/in the church. Sad but true.

Perhaps it can be seen in every level of leadership within the church *but not every leader*, IMO. I am certain hat there are many in leadership who are pure and true followers of the Lord.

Posted by: Skyhook May 20 2007, 07:49 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 20 2007, 05:50 PM)

Perhaps it can be seen in every level of leadership within the church *but not every leader*, IMO. I am certain that there are many in leadership who are pure and true followers of the Lord.

Amen to that PB!
I recall that EGW stated very plainly that "the church would appear as about to fall, but it would not fall. Instead, the sinners in Zion would be shaken out." (paraphrased)

Posted by: Seraphim7 May 20 2007, 08:39 PM

QUOTE(mozart @ May 20 2007, 07:03 PM)

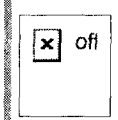
i agree sera and i think that what i have always understood as "....a falling away first...." does not pertain to those who i thought it did. i thought the "falling away" would be those leaving the faith, but now i think that the "falling away" IS the organizational church leaving the Faith. it seems so clear to me now that those that will stand to the end are those few who stay faithful to the truth; small groups scorned by the SDA (name copyrighted) church as we know it.
i'm sure some out there will see fit to yell at me and "set me straight" for saying that but so be it.

Your train of thought, would be better suited as a new topic. You have shared what you "think" but, the question is, what does scripture state regarding the subject of who will "fall away"?

My statement, that there are problems in every level of leadership is an acknowledgment of a simple reality. Where one sees long term nepotism one often (not always) find areas of corruption w/in the organization. That is the area where I agree with howdy.

Posted by: mikemike May 20 2007, 08:58 PM

QUOTE(Seraphim7 @ May 20 2007, 10:39 PM)



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My statement, that there are problems in every level of leadership is an acknowledgment of a simple reality. Where one sees long term nepotism one often (not always) find areas of corruption w/in the organization. That is the area where I agree with howdy.

Your comment seem out of place, you stated your own opinion but when the other person did you said they should start a new topic. How so, please explain.

Posted by: Pickle May 20 2007, 09:46 PM

"The church may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall."

I once told a leader at the Reformed Movement's headquarters about that quote. He said it was new to him.

Later he was telling me that we have to come out of Babylon into the true fold, and it dawned on me that he was saying we need to come out of the SDA church into his group, the true fold. The following hit me, and I told him: "According to that quote, any group that doesn't appear as about to fall cannot be the true fold."

He didn't know what to say.

There is a passage that speaks about those in Ellen White's day who were calling the Adventist Church Babylon. It also predicts that people would do that very same thing at the end of time. I was talking with a lady who was saying that the Adventist Church is Babylon, and I asked her if she thought the passage in question was being fulfilled now, or if she thought it was simply a conditional prophecy.

Posted by: mozart May 20 2007, 11:01 PM

yes, but does that mean the "church - body of true believers" or the "church - organization"?
i wasn't suggesting the SDA church is Babylon. not sure if you thought i was saying that or not. just wanted to make that clear.

sera,
as far as my comment being "off topic", i think it's completely relative to what you were saying, just in a wider scope maybe, but you are certainly entitled to your opinion. selah

> **QUOTE(Pickle @ May 20 2007, 08:46 PM)** ☐
>
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>
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Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 20 2007, 11:19 PM

Okay, the link didn't work so here is the EGW statement in question:

"Maranatha, Chap. 195 - The Church Appears About to Fall
But Zion said, The Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Isa. 49:14, 15.

Satan will work his miracles to deceive; he will set up his power as supreme. The church may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall. It remains, while the sinners in Zion will be sifted out--the chaff separated from the precious wheat. This is a terrible ordeal, but nevertheless it must take place. None but those who have been overcoming by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony will be found with the loyal and true, without spot or stain of sin, without guile in their mouths.... The remnant that purify their souls by obeying the truth gather strength from the trying process, exhibiting the beauty of holiness amid the surrounding apostasy. {Mar 203.1}

I know that the Lord loves His church. It is not to be disorganized or broken up into independent atoms. There is not the least consistency in this; there is not the least evidence that such a thing will be. Those who shall heed this false message and try to leaven others will be deceived and prepared to receive advanced delusions, and they will come to nought. {Mar 203.2}

I am encouraged and blessed as I realize that the God of Israel is still guiding His people, and that He will continue to be with them, even to the end. {Mar 203.3}

We cannot now step off the foundation that God has established. We cannot now enter into any new organization; for this would mean apostasy from the truth. {Mar 203.4}

The church, soon to enter upon her most severe conflict, will be the object most dear to God upon earth. The confederacy of evil will be stirred with power from beneath, and Satan will cast all the reproach possible upon the chosen ones whom he cannot deceive and delude with his satanic inventions and falsehoods. But exalted "to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and remission of sins," will Christ, our representative and head, close His heart, or withdraw His hand, or falsify His promise? No; never, never. {Mar 203.5}"

Posted by: Pickle May 20 2007, 11:23 PM

Hi Mozart.

My comments were more regarding the general topic rather than the specifics you referred to.

Is the church that appears to be about to fall a body of true believers, or is it an organization? I'll break your question into two parts.

First of all, we cannot limit the church to only true believers because then there is no place for church organization. Only God can read the heart, and thus only God can tell who is a true believer and who isn't. Because of our inability to read the heart, there is no guarantee that every member and every officer is a true believer, and thus there can be no church organization if we have to limit membership and offices to only true believers.

Secondly, you appropriately used the word "body," for Paul uses that word too. The human body is extremely organized. Thus the very word "body" in reference to the church mandates that that term refer to an organization of parts that are as closely associated and as intricately connected as the parts of the human body.

Posted by: mozart May 20 2007, 11:28 PM

thanks mr. p. i'll have to digest that for a bit.

QUOTE(Pickle @ May 20 2007, 10:23 PM)

Hi Mozart.

My comments were more regarding the general topic rather than the specifics you referred to.

Is the church that appears to be about to fall a body of true believers, or is it an organization? I'll break your question into two parts.

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Posted by: Voktar of Zargon May 21 2007, 08:02 AM

The natural human response to encountering sin and corruption on a localized level is to globalize it. In our families when one spouse says or does something wrong the injured spouse says something like, "you **always** do that." or "You **never** do this." The fact is that this is not **allways** true. The same is true with the church, which is referred to as the 'household' of God. The main reason that people go out the back door and leave the church is because they globalize sin and try to throw the wheat out with the tares. Some even go so far as to throw Jesus out with the dirty church bath water. They forget that the church is a hospital for sinners. They forget that church administrators are sinners too. Of course their sins are often believed to be unforgiveable (of course they do have greater responsibility).
The temptation with the 3ABN problem (as bad as it is) is to globalize and view the entire church leadership as corrupt. This is really nothing more than a prejudicial/bigoted response. Most church members on the local level don't know any administrators personally. Yet they are willing to lump them all together into one corrupt nepotistic group. Have they personal knowledge of any specific sin? Or, have they just blindly accepted third or fourth hand gossip without having confirmed the facts. Have they lodged a grievance or protest with the proper or specific authorities? Not usually. Instead prejudiced gossip prevails. Even to the extent of taking Biblical texts that have always been applied by Adventists to the Great Roman Apostasy and now applying them to the Adventist church. Can anyone who understands how fully anti-christian that Biblical apostasy is, apply it to Adventism?
We live in a time when all organization is suspect. We often forget that one of the reasons organization is developed is to minimize and prevent corruption! That of course was a major intent with the development of our current system of democratic American government. Does corruption exist? Definitely! Would we want to discard our government? No! As imperfect as it is, its the best we have to work with. Anything else would produce even more corruption, chaos, or anarchy.
Likewise our system of church polity is one of the best in Christendom - helping to minimize and prevent corruption on the corporate level - while also helping to facilitate the spread of the gospel on the wordwide level in an organized way, rather than an independent/haphazard/disorganized fashion.
"Although there are evils existing in the church, and will be until the end of the world, the church in these last days is to be the light of the world that is polluted and demoralized by sin.. The church, enfeebled and defective, needing to be reproved, warned, and counselled, is the only object upon earth upon which Christ bestows His supreme regard. "- RH Sept. 5, 1893
"I know that the Lord loves His church. It is not to be disorganized or broken up into independent atoms. There is not the least consistency in this; there is not the least evidence that such a thing will be. Those who shall heed this false message and try to leaven others will be deceived and prepared to receive advanced delusions, and they will come to nought."{Mar 203.2}

Posted by: LaurenceD May 21 2007, 09:03 AM

Voktar, as always...thanks for your comments. Would you be willing to offer an explanation on why certain groups feel compelled to become "independent ministries" or "self-supporting?"

Posted by: Shepherdswife May 21 2007, 10:21 AM

QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ May 21 2007, 10:02 AM)

The natural human response to encountering sin and corruption on a localized level is to globalize it. The temptation with the 3ABN problem (as bad as it is) is to globalize and view the entire church leadership as corrupt. This is really nothing more than a prejudicial/bigoted response. Most church members on the local level don't know any administrators personally. Yet they are willing to lump them all together into one corrupt nepotistic group.

Thanks so much for that human nature/big-picture view... I had been pondering how to respond to it myself.

I have the privilege of being good friends with all of the leadership in our local conference office and their wives as well and find them to be anything but corrupt.

I understand the frustration with the seeming lack of official response on the part of the church to the allegations. I wonder about it myself. However, in my experience here locally, when legal issues are involved, leadership moves v-e-r-y cautiously and only when all the "i"s are dotted and "t"s are crossed, for obvious reasons. They get the job done, just not hastily. Which in the long run is best, I suppose :-)

shepherdswife

Posted by: mozart May 21 2007, 10:31 AM

Thank you Voktar of Zargon and Shepherdswife for some food I've been seeking. That gives me even more to digest. than

QUOTE(Shepherdswife @ May 21 2007, 10:21 AM)

Thanks so much for that human nature/big-picture view... I had been pondering how to respond to it myself.

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shepherdswife

Posted by: LadyTenor May 21 2007, 11:08 AM

QUOTE(Green Cochoa @ Feb 11 2007, 07:40 AM)

Clay? [x] rofl Is this... [x] ...tiresome? [x]

Naw...it's just [x] gil [x] che right? [x] rofl (You know, every woman has the right to change her mind...)

LadyTenor, please accept my apologies for laughing, it's just....ouch! [x] tom Hey! [x] sofa1.gif

You said it quite perfectly...**I can change my mind as much as you can laugh.** Truthfully, I don't come here often...unless one of my BSDA buddies asks me a legal question and then I have to read a whole bunch of posts to ensure I don't put my foot in my mouth when I respond. Otherwise, this is one of my least read forums....plenty of other more important things on BSDA to get involved in...like the arcade... [x]

Posted by: FineArt May 21 2007, 12:19 PM

Hi,

I am going to add this for whatever it is worth pertaining to the "church"/"falling away"

2Th 2:3
"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;"

The Great Controversy--- A Great Religious Awakening-----PG- 356

"The apostle Paul warned the church not to look for the coming of Christ in his day. "That day shall not come," he says, "except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed." 2 Thessalonians 2:3. Not till after the great apostasy, and the long period of the reign of the "man of sin," can we look for the advent of our Lord. The "man of sin," which is also styled "the mystery of iniquity," "the son of perdition," and "that wicked," represents the papacy, which, as foretold in prophecy, was to maintain its supremacy for 1260 years. This period ended in 1798. The coming of Christ could not take place before that time. Paul covers with his caution the whole of the Christian dispensation down to the year 1798. It is this side of that time that the message of Christ's second coming is to be proclaimed."

This is History.....what we are going to experience is the sifting and shaking.

the church is not Babylon, but there is Babylon in the church. The Church is not in apostacy but there is apostacy in the church. Jesus comes back for a pure people and the above is the refining fire. There will come a time in the near future, where the laws will be in place that will cause God's people to flee for their lives.....there is no organised church in that day, the victorious saints will be dwelling in caves, " etc...etc.

an added thought:

Even in the Adventist Church

"We have far more to fear from within than from without. The hindrances to strength and success are far greater from the church itself than from the world. Unbelievers have a right to expect that those who profess to be keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, will do more than any other class to promote and honor, by their consistent lives, by their godly example and their active influence, the cause which they represent. But how often have the professed advocates of the truth proved the greatest obstacle to its advancement! The unbelief indulged, the doubts expressed, the darkness cherished,

encourage the presence of evil angels, and open the way for the accomplishment of Satan's devices."--1SM 122 (1887).

Praise God from whom all blessings fall

Posted by: Skyhook May 21 2007, 12:59 PM

QUOTE(FineArt @ May 21 2007, 01:19 PM)

Even in the Adventist Church

"We have far more to fear from within than from without. The hindrances to strength and success are far greater from the church itself than from the world. Unbelievers have a right to expect that those who profess to be keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, will do more than any other class to promote and honor, by their consistent lives, by their godly example and their active influence, the cause which they represent. But how often have the professed advocates of the truth proved the greatest obstacle to its advancement! The unbelief indulged, the doubts expressed, the darkness cherished, encourage the presence of evil angels, and open the way for the accomplishment of Satan's devices."--1SM 122 (1887).

Praise God from whom all blessings fall

Thanks for your comments FineArt. It is true that there will come a time when the church will not be able to function as an organization. When access to the financial system is denied to us by law, the church cannot pay salaries, cannot pay bills and will not be able to carry out its mission as an organization. As I understand it that will be just before or after the close of probation when the work of the organized church is finished.

It is clear that in EGW's statements about the church not falling, she is talking about the organized church, not some mystical unorganized body of true believers, some in and some out of the organized church, as some believe.

I have heard it said by one influential minister that in decades past we expected Satan to attack the church like a herd of elephants, but he came in like a herd of termites, and like termites, by the time we became fully aware of it the pillars and foundation of the church were already under attack.

Posted by: SoulEspresso May 21 2007, 02:44 PM

Voktar--congratulations on your note posted to save3abn.com!!

QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ May 21 2007, 07:02 AM)

The temptation with the 3ABN problem (as bad as it is) is to globalize and view the entire church leadership as corrupt. This is really nothing more than a prejudicial/bigoted response. Most church members on the local level don't know any administrators personally. Yet they are willing to lump them all together into one corrupt nepotistic group. Have they personal knowledge of any specific sin? Or, have they just blindly accepted third or fourth hand gossip without having confirmed the facts. Have they lodged a grievance or protest with the proper or specific authorities? Not usually.

A lot of times people believe the organization to be corrupt when in fact the people involved are inept or apathetic, or because they believe the ends justify the means.

450 people in my area witnessed the latter when our union president tried to manipulate the constituency in session to re-elect the conference president. Is the union guy a bad man? No, but like is true of myself most of the time, he visibly was not trusting the Lord enough. He tried to end discussion and deny people the voice they'd gathered for; he manipulated the data; and he tried to make it look like he wasn't offering recommendations to the group when everyone could see that the way he said it was exactly that. In the end our local president was re-elected by just a few votes. The margin was so narrow the word on the street is already that they're looking for a job for him.

I like both guys, but the union chair obviously didn't trust the church members to do what was right for the conference.

> **QUOTE**
>
> Likewise our system of church polity is one of the best in Christendom - helping to minimize and prevent corruption on the corporate level - while also helping to facilitate the spread of the gospel on the wordwide level in an organized way, rather than an independent/haphazard/disorganized fashion.

There are many positives to our church organization in terms of unity and getting "the work" done--not to mention the benefits to employees.

At the same time, it's even more, um, beastly than the RC church. The only religious structure that is more organized is the LDS (Mormon) church. I don't think this is a positive; it disempowers the local church by sending money up and down the ladder (AU profs will tell you that most of the money is spent on the local level--not acknowledging that it comes with excessive control); and the documents that govern the organization are so arcane and difficult that people who aren't familiar with them are able to make very little sense of them.

When it comes to electing the GC, for example, we have a "Committee to Select the President." College of Cardinals, anyone?

The reason that we have to be so organized and insular (the trademark on "Seventh-day Adventist" is an example; the fact that conferences and not congregations usually own the sanctuary buildings is another) is that 90% of the time (rhetorical emphasis, okay?) we make Adventists by appealing to spiritual pride. "Be better than your other Christian neighbors--keep the seventh day! Don't be deceived like everyone else--look here and see that the dead are asleep until the resurrection!" The kind of mindset this creates, turns out to keep going. People want to be the remnant of the remnant of the remnant--and you get Reformed Adventists, etc, who start calling the Adventist church Babylon.

(By the way, other religious groups mentioned in this post are there for illustrative purposes only. The author of this post by no means intends to impugn the spiritual commitment of adherents or such groups. We can disagree theologically without drinking haterade.)

> **QUOTE(Skyhook @ May 21 2007, 11:59 AM)** ☐
>
> It is clear that in EGW's statements about the church not falling, she is talking about the organized church, not some mystical unorganized body of true believers, some in and some out of the organized church, as some believe.

Be that as it may ... here are a couple of questions. 

Are all the people who are going to be saved members of the Adventist church?
Are all the members of the Adventist church going to be saved?
Who, then, makes up the "true church"?

The EGW statements posted on this thread have been wonderful and I have appreciated them.

But EGW was capable of being wrong, you know.

sofa1.gif

Posted by: Noahswife May 21 2007, 03:42 PM

Has anyone else noticed what I believe is a most interesting phenomena that occurs when the Danny scribes/fingers/clones are essentially mute?

We have two things occurring at the same time in my opinion. The first is that discussion on old and new topics regarding 3abn (notice not just LS and associated issues) move forward with fascinating input often from newbies in addition to the old guard. The second is that our conversations often revolve around the SDA church and what it means to not only the membership in good standing but the rest of the world.

My kudos to the newbies who speak with fresh and inspired voices lately.

Also, the next time we have DS supporters in our midst, lets just put every darn one of them on ignore and carry on without their distractions and subversions.....

Posted by: Skyhook May 21 2007, 05:34 PM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 21 2007, 03:44 PM)

Be that as it may ... here are a couple of questions.

Are all the people who are going to be saved members of the Adventist church?

>No.
Are all the members of the Adventist church going to be saved?
>No.
Who, then, makes up the "true church"?
>If you mean who is going to be saved, That is God's department to decide. My statement concerned what EGW was talking about. It seems very clear that she was writing about the visible, concrete existing organized church.

The EGW statements posted on this thread have been wonderful and I have appreciated them.

But EGW was capable of being wrong, you know.

>I don't know about you SE, but that is the kind of statement made by those who apply a "higher critical" approach to her writings. In other words, that attitude is that we must decide for ourselves if this or that statement was really inspired. We become the judge of inspiration. The same approach is often used with the Bible itself. It is very appealing for a person who doesn't like some of the thing she said. I don't personally subscribe to that approach.

I believe that there is a different thread that has been dealing with the inspiration of Ellen White.

sofa1.gif

Posted by: Pickle May 21 2007, 07:21 PM

QUOTE(Skyhook @ May 21 2007, 12:59 PM)

It is true that there will come a time when the church will not be able to function as an organization. When access to the financial system is denied to us by law, the church cannot pay salaries, cannot pay bills and will not be able to carry out its mission as an organization. As I understand it that will be just before or after the close of probation when the work of the organized church is finished.

hesitate to say one way or the other on this one. For example, have there been times in the history of the vorld when there has been church organization even though no one was paying salaries? In the USSR? In :hina? Throughout Europe during the escapades of the Waldensians and kindred groups?

\t what point prior to the second coming will there no need for any sort of leadership to encourage and pray vith the believers?

'erhaps we just need to wait and see.

Posted by: FineArt May 21 2007, 07:24 PM

I have found that when i think i am reading something from the Bible or SOP that might be confusing ....further study [topical study/comparing SOP with the Bible] always reveals MY understanding is flawed, not the Inspired Word.

Posted by: Rosyroi May 21 2007, 07:33 PM

QUOTE(Noahswife @ May 21 2007, 01:42 PM)

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IW... I was thinking the same thing. Thank you very much for voicing my thoughts so elequently.

Rosyroi

Posted by: FineArt May 21 2007, 07:51 PM

Psa 34:7 The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

The saints are sealed, do we need each other for prayer and encouragement....always, but at this time the saintly leaders of the organized church, will all be in the same boat.....clinging to our only life support, Jesus Christ. Comunication will be through the angels. The Holy Spirit has been withdrawn.

- S.D.A. Bible Commentary Vol. 7--- REV14-----PG- 976

"When the Protestant churches shall unite with the secular power to sustain a false religion, for opposing which their ancestors endured the fiercest persecution; when the state shall use its power to enforce the decrees and sustain the institutions of the church--then will Protestant America have formed an image to the papacy, and there will be a national apostasy which will end only in national ruin" (STMarch 22, 1910).

- The Great Controversy----PG- 614

When He leaves the sanctuary, darkness covers the inhabitants of the earth. In that fearful time the righteous mustlive in the sight of a holy God without an intercessor. The restraint which has been upon the wicked is removed, and Satan has entire control of the finally impenitent. God's long-suffering has ended. The world has rejected His mercy, despised His love, and trampled upon His law. The wicked have passed the boundary of their probation; the Spirit of God, persistently resisted, has been at last withdrawn. Unsheltered by divine grace, they have no protection from the wicked one. Satan will then plunge the inhabitants of the earth into one great, final trouble. As the angels of God cease to hold in check the fierce winds of human passion, all the elements of strife will be let loose. The whole world will be involved in ruin more terrible than that which came upon
Jerusalem of old.

Leaning on the Promises.....

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 21 2007, 08:01 PM

QUOTE(FineArt @ May 21 2007, 06:51 PM) ☐

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Wonderful collection of statements!

wonder if satellites will still be beaming signals around the world while we are in hiding and waiting for leliverance.....

Posted by: Voktar of Zargon May 21 2007, 08:04 PM

QUOTE(LaurenceD @ May 21 2007, 11:03 AM)

Voktar, as always...thanks for your comments. Would you be willing to offer an explanation on why certain groups feel compelled to become "independent ministries" or "self-supporting?"

here are different types of self-supporting and independent ministries both positive and negative. I can't egin to give all the reasons that these develop.
he first truely self-supporting missionary in the New Testament sense was the apostle Paul. He decided to emain a tent-maker so that he could not be accused of ministering for gain or being a burden on the church. ome follow this example today.
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n the other hand I believe that some Adventists develop "independent" ministries (in the negative sense) ecause they do not want to answer to any authority - particularly church authority. Those with an egocentric r even sociopathic personality would of course be drawn to this advantage. I seem to remember Danny heltons reason that he gave for wanting to remain "independent" from the church was so that he could naintain a "prophetic" voice in the denomination. The implication was that 3ABN was holier than the church eadership and needed to remain in a sort of watchdog status in relation to church leadership. I think in this ase his independence has instead bred a pathetic voice. If 3ABN was more under the influence of organized hurch authority and audit, perhaps less corruption would have developed.

Posted by: Noahswife May 21 2007, 08:09 PM

Speaking of false assumptions or other statements.....

A couple weeks ago I raised the question if anyone had heard about 3abn's return to sky angel as was announced at my mother's church the sabbath after the merger announcement.

I had dinner tonight with my parents and my mother brought up the fact she called 3abn today to find out what was happening in that regard. After all, it has been 4 weeks and they were told it WOULD BE in 3 weeks. She was transferred from the switchboard to a voicemail. She asked to return to the operator using input commands and never was answered again. Has anyone heard anything? Maybe we should all call tomorrow and compare answers?

I believe this weekend is 3abn campmeeting. Has anyone heard anything about any special announcements? Anyone going to be there?

nw
C"i"

Posted by: Fran May 21 2007, 08:21 PM

QUOTE(Noahswife @ May 21 2007, 09:09 PM)

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C"i"

Could this action be contingent on the Amazing Facts Merger?

It has been longer than 3 weeks, and I have been looking.

Is this merger still on?

Silence on that front too?

Posted by: FineArt May 21 2007, 08:26 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 21 2007, 09:01 PM)

FineArt,
Wonderful collection of statements!

I wonder if satellites will still be beaming signals around the world while we are in hiding and waiting for deliverance.....

Yes i believe so.....why?, because we are told that life will go on as usual...."thief in the night" "they know not the Hour" and "at a time when they think not"....."Satan came as an angel of light and is evangelizing the world and telling the people that Sunday is the day of rest" Via satellites????? what do you think.??

Posted by: Voktar of Zargon May 21 2007, 09:03 PM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 21 2007, 04:44 PM)

At the same time, it's even more, um, beastly than the RC church. The only religious structure that is more organized is the LDS (Mormon) church. I don't think this is a positive; it disempowers the local church by sending money up and down the ladder (AU profs will tell you that most of the money is spent on the local level--not acknowledging that it comes with excessive control); and the documents that govern the organization are so arcane and difficult that people who aren't familiar with them are able to make very little sense of them.

There are many in the church who would like to see our church government more congregational, with more power in the local congregation, with less finances leaving the local congregation. I have spoken with many ministers of other congregationally based denominations and they often envy our system of finance and government. Many have suffered much hardship at the hands of local church leaders who feel entitled to treat their pastor as a 'hired hand' to do their bidding. Of course many of our pastors have suffered at the hands of conference leadership.

When it comes to electing the GC, for example, we have a "Committee to Select the President." College of Cardinals, anyone?

I don't think Catholic Prelates trace their election to any democratic process involving lay constituency. Do these GC selection committee members? Or are they appointed by the Adventist pope?

The reason that we have to be so organized and insular (the trademark on "Seventh-day Adventist" is an example; the fact that conferences and not congregations usually own the sanctuary buildings is another) is that 90% of the time (rhetorical emphasis, okay?) we make Adventists by appealing to spiritual pride.

I have worked long enough in conference work to not trust local church leaders anymore than conference leaders. (at least conference leaders are often well-educated, a process that minimizes pathology)(I know, Judas was a college grad) You are right, spiritual pride is rampant in our church. I am constantly preaching and teaching against it. You would think that men who have been humiliated by incarceration would not be afflicted with it but you ought to see how strong it is in prison too.

Posted by: mozart May 21 2007, 11:35 PM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 21 2007, 02:44 PM)

Are all the people who are going to be saved members of the Adventist church?
Are all the members of the Adventist church going to be saved?
Who, then, makes up the "true church"?

Even tho' I think you mean these as rhetorical questions, IMO, the answer to all three is "Only God Knows".

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee May 21 2007, 11:52 PM

QUOTE(Fran @ May 21 2007, 08:21 PM)

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Silence on that front too?

Yes. I seem to remember Danny proudly stating that the merger would be national or even world news. I haven't seen a thing about it, and now even 3ABN is strangely silent about it. Trouble in paradise?

One must wonder.....

QUOTE(Noahswife @ May 21 2007, 08:09 PM)

I believe this weekend is 3abn campmeeting. Has anyone heard anything about any special announcements? Anyone going to be there?

Actually, I was wondering how some strategically placed "Visit Save3ABN.com" signs would go over this weekend.

A few around town, a few along the highways toward Thompsonville....

Posted by: mozart May 22 2007, 12:09 AM

OUCH !!!

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Posted by: Shepherdswife May 22 2007, 05:34 AM

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)n a somewhat related note...

have a friend who is on staff at Weimar, who told me that the Weimar/AF merger is on hold for the time)eing, that the AF/3ABN merger has "temporarily preempted" the talks. That AF continues to express their nterest in the Weimar merger, but that no one will commit to any specific time frame.

;hepherdswife

Posted by: LaurenceD May 22 2007, 06:14 AM

QUOTE(Noahswife)

I wonder how long they would be allowed to stay before being removed?

ley Nw...if he prepares a little in advance, he should be okay. He should do some research, like go to the city ind/or county and see if there is a form to fill out notifying police of a peaceful demonstration and protest. \nd stay on a public ROW--keep of private property. Also, he might consider sending out a press release and nvite the media...this is always effective. Also, he might hold the signs, rather than post them along the oads, and hand out a brochure with links to his favorite web sites--including the link to *3abn v. Dept of Rev.*. The town people might even enjoy the links.

Posted by: LaurenceD May 22 2007, 06:37 AM

QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ May 21 2007, 09:04 PM) 

There are different types of self-supporting and independent ministries both positive and negative. I can't begin to give all the reasons that these develop.
The first truely self-supporting missionary in the New Testament sense was the apostle Paul. He decided to

remain a tent-maker so that he could not be accused of ministering for gain or being a burden on the church. Some follow this example today.
The organized church obviously cannot do it all. Therefore Adventists must develop "independent/self supporting" (I use these terms here in the positive sense) ministries to help finish the world-wide work. There are unique missonary endeavors that must be done without direct support, or even official approval, of the church.
As a chaplain and a pastor I receive my wages from the State and from the Church. Therefore I am answerable to multiple entities. The taxpayers and tithe-payers, the state authorities and the church authorities. I actually have no less than 5 or 6 bosses in 4 different locations. I appreciate the advantages of owning one's own business. Being your own boss can be difficult too though.
On the other hand I believe that some Adventists develop "independent" ministries (in the negative sense) because they do not want to answer to any authority - particularly church authority. Those with an egocentric or even sociopathic personality would of course be drawn to this advantage. I seem to remember Danny Sheltons reason that he gave for wanting to remain "independent" from the church was so that he could maintain a "prophetic" voice in the denomination. The implication was that 3ABN was holier than the church leadership and needed to remain in a sort of watchdog status in relation to church leadership. I think in this case his independence has instead bred a pathetic voice. If 3ABN was more under the influence of organized church authority and audit, perhaps less corruption would have developed.

wonder if there is a distinction between "independent" and "self-supporting" ministries. If Paul was truely ;elf-supporting, does this imply he would have turned down donations?

1y experience tells me that the self-supporting type folks often have a disagreement with establishment--in ;everal areas including, but not limited to, authority, monitoring, finance, scheduling, and perhaps doctrine. Vith regards to scheduling, this might include the rate and methods of finishing "the work."

he reason I ask is because if, for example, 3abn claims to have NO disagreements, but to be part of the ship rather than a friendship or part of a fleet), why so independent? I assume it's for several of the reasons I isted above...but not sure. True independent ministries operate above reproach in order to diminish the ıppearance of separation, or give cause for the public to be thinking of a possible schism. I'm guessing that inance and authority is the big one here, but not sure. Campmeetings, separate from the church, can often ɔe suspect of fundamental disagreements, but not always.

Posted by: YogusBearus May 22 2007, 06:52 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ May 21 2007, 11:52 PM)

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A few around town, a few along the highways toward Thompsonville....

nteresting thought Duane. Someone asked me the other day to send them a link to what I was seeing on the 3abn mess. I thought long and hard before sending them to the save3abn.com site as quite frankly it's ;mbarrassing. If I didn't think they could stand to wade through the inflammatory garbage there to find the .0% of content that was meaningful, I would not have provided the link.

'm thinking there are many that will never get past the gratuitous inferences on the save3abn site to see the eal issues with 3abn.

Posted by: Rosyroi May 22 2007, 11:25 AM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 21 2007, 07:01 PM)

FineArt,
Wonderful collection of statements!

I wonder if satellites will still be beaming signals around the world while we are in hiding and waiting for deliverance.....

In my youth I had believed that we would be able to 'hide in the mountains' with no problems. Even be able to live in groups to support and help each other. Later with infared and now satellites and other technowlogy we don't even know about, we will not be able to hide anywhere no matter how remote we try to hide. It concerned me for awhile.

Once when I was discussng this concern with another child of God the person pointed out to me that God can put his hand over our bodies to hide us from any infared or satellite or any other modern technology man can devise. 'With men this is impossible, but with God ALL things are possible.(Matt. 19:26, RSV)(emphasis mine)

I felt embarrassed to have forgotten that promise. Daily I need to remind myself to trust God in ALL things.

IMHO

Rosyroi

Posted by: Brick Step May 23 2007, 04:50 AM

'Voktar of Zargon' 'May 21 2007
"The natural human response to encountering sin and corruption on a localized level is to globalize it. In our families when one spouse says or does something wrong the injured spouse says something like, "you **always** do that." or "You **never** do this." The fact is that this is not **allways** true. The same is true with the church, which is referred to as the 'household' of God. The main reason that people go out the back door and leave the church is because they globalize sin and try to throw the wheat out with the tares."

Thank you, Voktar of Zargon, for these very insightful comments. God grant us all the wisdom and grace we need at this time. I am for respect of the organized, worldwide Seventh-day Adventist church. I recognize also that independent, self-supporting ministries have always been part of His plan, and they also are run by fallible mortals, sometimes needing to be rebuked, but also encouraged. I like the way you have cautioned us, as a general rule, not to "globalize" when we see corruption and sin in the family or in the church. Would you agree that under God, it is just as important, as a general rule, not to globalize when we see corruption and sin in an independent ministry? While feeling there are issues in the 3ABN administration that need to be set right, I confess to loving and being greatly blessed by 3ABN in its up front witness. Thousands would say the same. It IS leading souls to Christ and stablishing them in the faith.

Whether church structure or independent ministry, I feel much cautioned also by this counsel.

"I have warned you against a spirit of censure, and I would again caution you in regard to that fault. Christ sometimes reproved with severity, and in some cases it may be necessary for us to do so; but we should consider that while Christ knew the exact condition of the ones He rebuked, and just the amount of reproof they could bear, and what was necessary to correct their course of wrong, He also knew just how to pity the erring, comfort the unfortunate, and encourage the weak. He knew just how to keep souls from despondency and to inspire them with hope, because He was acquainted with the exact motives and peculiar trials of every mind. He could not make a mistake.

"But we may misjudge motives; we may be deceived by appearances; we may think we are doing right to reprove wrong, and go too far, censure too severely, and wound where we wished to heal; or we may exercise sympathy unwisely and counteract, in our ignorance, reproof that is merited and timely. Our judgment may be wrong, but Jesus was too wise to err. He reproved with pity and loved with a divine love those whom He rebuked." *Testimonies*, Vol. 4, p. 66.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 23 2007, 06:41 AM

Welcome Brick Step!

More wise counsel from you and Voktar.

If we see blatant sin within one of our Christian organizations, we must confront it or become culpable for it as well. However, when confronting it we MUST do so as our Example did, with pity and with love.

The "Church Lady" approach to rebuking sin misses the mark in this regard and solves nothing.

Posted by: Brick Step May 23 2007, 07:12 AM

As the 3ABN situation is being placed under the microscope, understandings about God's attitude to church structure and independent ministries are obviously part of the equation, part of the bank of knowledge that will affect attitudes and motivations in the judgment process. Our home is praying most earnestly that God will move to administer the right blend of justice and mercy to every person and entity concerned.

I love the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I just fear that thousands are going to be left clinging to the structure, thinking this was safely *to be equated* with clinging to Jesus.

The Jews of Jesus' day had been taught to look for triumph for their Jewish church organization, and deliverance from the Romans. When Jesus preached, "My kingdom is not of this world," He disappointed the expectations of the majority of church members. Thousands turned away and ceased from following Him. Could similar false expectations lead us off course just before Jesus' second coming?

- If (because the gospel work is done) God's ownership of the SDA church organization ceases at the close of probation;
- if the close of probation for the church occurs during the sealing time and ahead of the general close of probation for the world;
- if the time of the close of probation is near;
- if the time of the close of probation for the church, as for the world, is not to come for us "as a thief in the night";

is it not imperative that Adventist believers are prepared doctrinally, philosophically, psychologically and in every way, for this moment? The security of the final 144,000 is to be found—even before the close of probation—in "following the Lamb wherever He goes", not in following any mere mortal or committee of mere mortals. Church members, of all people, should be careful not to judge other members and friends as being proud, arrogant or egotistical because in their devotion to Jesus and desire to follow the directives of Providence, they feel led to work in a manner different from "the regular lines."

On the subject of the Seventh-day Adventist Church structure—so often the selections and compilations of texts and quotes are made by those in the employ of the church, or otherwise find their security in harmonising with the status quo. For this reason sometimes I feel there is a tendency, as in Jesus' day, to focus upon statements which favour the church structure, to the neglect of statements which speak of the conditional nature of God's ownership of it. These statements, much as we may not like them, are there, too, and they have weight, too. (On the other hand, of course, save us from focussing upon this

side of the picture, and minimizing the importance of the approving statements.)

Ellen White was called of God at the close of the 2300 day prophecy, to give guidance to and help establish the prophesied remnant who would prepare the world for Jesus' second coming. She thought she was living in the time of the last generation before this event. But, not so. I believe in respect for the church structure to the degree possible. While we have been let down and disappointed at times, we yet see many talented and godly persons still in the structure. We are inspired by, greatly appreciate and need their witness. We must be organized for service. The outpouring of the latter rain will make the greatest ever demands upon the church structure. It is wonderful to see already the spirit of cooperation that is taking the gospel to places like Russia and China and other ends of the earth.

But, we have been warned that in the final events we can expect also that portions of the structure—even big ones—may do nothing but get in the way, even betray the flock in their faithles human efforts to "save the church" - or themselves from persecution.

I assuredly do not pretend to know all the answers, but is it not reasonable to conclude that just before the close of probation for the church and world, when the work of the last remnant church structure is nearly done, believers should be being prepared for the future by hearing a "present truth" emphasis upon church structure? Would this not in some important respects have to be different from the emphasis that was needed when the organization and structure of the remnant church was being set up?

Posted by: Johann May 23 2007, 07:23 AM

QUOTE(Brick Step @ May 23 2007, 03:12 PM) ☐

As the 3ABN situation is being placed under the microscope, understandings about God's attitude to church structure and independent ministries are obviously part of the equation, part of the bank of knowledge that will affect attitudes and motivations in the judgment process. Our home is praying most earnestly that God will move to administer the right blend of justice and mercy to every person and entity concerned.

3ABN make is clear that they are not part of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Should we make it appear as if they are?

QUOTE

I love the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I just fear that thousands are going to be left clinging to the structure, thinking this was safely *to be equated* with clinging to Jesus.

Do you mean that Jesus was a stumbling block to many? Should he, then, have remained in heaven to avoid this?

Should 3ABN avoid cleansing because that might be a stumbling block to many?

Posted by: Noahswife May 23 2007, 07:37 AM

QUOTE(Brick Step @ May 23 2007, 08:12 AM) ☐

I love the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I just fear that thousands are going to be left clinging to the structure, thinking this was safely *to be equated* with clinging to Jesus.

The Jews of Jesus' day had been taught to look for triumph for their Jewish church organization, and deliverance from the Romans. When Jesus preached, "My kingdom is not of this world," He disappointed the expectations of the majority of church members. Thousands turned away and ceased from following Him. Could similar false expectations lead us off course just before Jesus' second coming?

}rick Step.....

Welcome to Black SDA.....

Thank you for your post and thoughts. I look forward to some real discussion following your post.

The newbies continue to amaze and encourage me.

Thank you...

)w
:"i"

Posted by: SoulEspresso May 23 2007, 11:58 AM

QUOTE

There are many in the church who would like to see our church government more congregational, with more power in the local congregation, with less finances leaving the local congregation. I have spoken with many ministers of other congregationally based denominations and they often envy our system of finance and government. Many have suffered much hardship at the hands of local church leaders who feel entitled to treat their pastor as a 'hired hand' to do their bidding. Of course many of our pastors have suffered at the hands of conference leadership.

guess we gravitate towards what's happened in our own experience. Our system has definite strengths, but ocal empowerment certainly isn't one of them. It's a very top-down organization, the leaders tend to assume hey know what's best for every church in every situation, and I believe the appearance of a democratically- *un church is an illusion.*

Again, this is my experience, which is limited, and it would be unfair to globalize it. But I do believe the general principles are correct.

QUOTE

I don't think Catholic Prelates trace their election to any democratic process involving lay constituency. Do these GC selection committee members? Or are they appointed by the Adventist pope?

No they're not appointed in the same way, but let's not pretend it's something other than a club. I'm not mpugning their character, btw. I just don't think that the Adventist church constituency could put in a :andidate for president without that committee's approval. They're the deciders. Not us. So, the beat goes on ...

QUOTE

I have worked long enough in conference work to not trust local church leaders anymore than conference

leaders. (at least conference leaders are often well-educated, a process that minimizes pathology)

'our direct experience is probably more extensive than my own, but I would ten times trust the local leaders nore than the conference--and I'm not impugning my local conference this time either! I just don't believe hey know what's right for local contexts.

QUOTE

(I know, Judas was a college grad) You are right, spiritual pride is rampant in our church. I am constantly preaching and teaching against it. You would think that men who have been humiliated by incarceration would not be afflicted with it but you ought to see how strong it is in prison too.

)riginal sin ... ☐

QUOTE

Are all the people who are going to be saved members of the Adventist church?
Are all the members of the Adventist church going to be saved?
Who, then, makes up the "true church"?

QUOTE(mozart @ May 21 2007, 10:35 PM) ☐

Even tho' I think you mean these as rhetorical questions, IMO, the answer to all three is "Only God Knows".

\re you saying we can't know we are saved? ☒ (1 John 5:11-13)

Ay point was this: logic dictates that we should not equate God's end-time people with those who are a part)f any structure, even the Seventh-day Adventist Church which I love.

Based on fruits as per Matthew 7, it's obvious to me that not all Adventists are saved, not all non-Adventists ire lost, and that in fact membership is a good deal less important than faithfulness to Christ. In fact, it fades nto nothingness. IMO.

Now, I believe our message has never been more relevant, but we've promoted it as a part of our own dentity and how everyone should be like us ... instead of as a part of Christ's reality and gifts of grace to us.

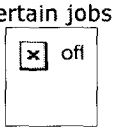
n the context of the 3ABN fiasco ... well ... I got hold of a copy of the latest 3ABN world, and it was clear hat the principals involved were taking it upon themselves to "take the gospel to the entire world." Certainly elevision can be a part of that -- but to say "that's it" was out-and-out wrong.

What I mean is this: as long as we think we're "it"--be that Adventists or 3ABN donors--not only will we be iarboring the sin of pride in our own hearts, we'll be keeping people from knowing Christ. If we want people o see Him, we'd better learn to get out of the way--kneeling, perhaps.

☒

Posted by: princessdi May 23 2007, 12:42 PM

I didn't realize the educational requirements for conferences officers were that different from pastors. In fact, I thought it was about the same, that is why the the pay is about the same(differeing only sightly

between conferences depending on the region, cost of living, etc.). What educational requirements do conference official have that are not required of Pastors. No I do know that certain jobs such as teasurer might take some additional or specialized education.Sorry I know this is a bit 

> **QUOTE**
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Posted by: Voktar of Zargon May 23 2007, 01:56 PM

> **QUOTE(princessdi @ May 23 2007, 02:42 PM)** ☐
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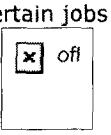
> I didn't realize the educational requirements for conferences officers were that different from pastors. In fact, I thought it was about the same, that is why the the pay is about the same(differeing only sightly between conferences depending on the region, cost of living, etc.). What educational requirements do conference official have that are not required of Pastors. No I do know that certain jobs such as teasurer might take some additional or specialized education.Sorry I know this is a bit 

I'm sorry, when I was talking about local leadership I wasn't referring to pastors. I was talking about the rest of the local (lay)leaders who help to run the church. My experience is mostly in smaller churches where the educational level may be slightly less than in a larger church environment. I'm not an educational eliteist (after all, most of the apostles were illiterate fishermenn), I just know that navigating the waters of a lengthy educational process can help to weed out some psychological and spiritual pathology. When I went to seminary we had to take an MMPI.

Posted by: Artiste May 23 2007, 05:40 PM

> **QUOTE(Brick Step @ May 23 2007, 02:50 AM)** ☐
>
> .
>
> "...we may exercise sympathy unwisely and counteract, in our ignorance, reproof that is merited and timely..." *Testimonies*, Vol. 4, p. 66.

I agree with this!

Posted by: mozart May 23 2007, 07:47 PM

I couldn't agree with you more.

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 23 2007, 11:58 AM)

I guess we gravitate towards what's happened in our own experience. Our system has definite strengths, but local empowerment certainly isn't one of them. It's a very top-down organization, the leaders tend to assume they know what's best for every church in every situation, and I believe the appearance of a democratically-run church is an illusion.

Again, this is my experience, which is limited, and it would be unfair to globalize it. But I do believe the general principles are correct.
No they're not appointed in the same way, but let's not pretend it's something other than a club. I'm not impugning their character, btw. I just don't think that the Adventist church constituency could put in a candidate for president without that committee's approval. They're the deciders. Not us. So, the beat goes on ...
Your direct experience is probably more extensive than my own, but I would ten times trust the local leaders more than the conference--and I'm not impugning my local conference this time either! I just don't believe they know what's right for local contexts.
Original sin ...

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My point was this: logic dictates that we should not equate God's end-time people with those who are a part of any structure, even the Seventh-day Adventist Church which I love.

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What I mean is this: as long as we think we're "it"--be that Adventists or 3ABN donors--not only will we be harboring the sin of pride in our own hearts, we'll be keeping people from knowing Christ. If we want people to see Him, we'd better learn to get out of the way--kneeling, perhaps.

Posted by: Brick Step May 24 2007, 01:50 AM

Brick Step. Thank you for the welcomes.

PB. "When we see blatant sin within one of our Christian organizations, we must confront it or become culpable for it as well."

Johann (quoting Martin Luther King). "He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps to perpetrate it."

Brick Step. Believe me I agree with the above two statements.

Brick Step. "I love the SDA Church. I just feel thousands are going to be left clinging to the structure, thinking this was safely to be equated with clinging to Jesus."

Johann. Do you mean that Jesus was a stumbling block to many? Should he then have stayed in heaven to avoid this? Should 3ABN avoid cleansing because that might be a stumbling block to many?

Brick Step. Johann, I'm trying to understand your reaction. I should have italicized also the word "safely." The text I had in mind was Matthew 12:6, where Jesus Himself told the priests of the church structure that He was "greater than the temple." Obviously, when the church structure is obeying God, teaching the truth and taking up power and authority according to the boundaries prescribed in His Word, then to follow Jesus means to obey and support the church structure. But infallibility belongs to God alone. It is wrong to *blindly* follow Conference directives.

I've just about forgotten it all now, but I thought even the book *ISSUES* was shown to contain many errors of reporting.

In Nazi Germany (as somebody already quoted somewhere on this website) Conference officers directed that all those of Jewish descent should be disfellowshipped, and other church members should cut ties with them. So Seventh-day Adventists of Jewish descent were left defenceless and without friends, and sent to concentration camps where many died. It seems to me that in the judgment Jesus will point the involved to this happening, and will not excuse those whose only plea is, "The Conference made me do it."

Please, I do not feel negative thoughts towards you, Johann, or to the obviously sincere and godly attempts by many others on this website to find and stand by the truth in regard to the divorce of Danny and Linda, and related issues. God bless and guide you all. My problem is that I have never been to 3ABN and have never met anyone who has worked at 3ABN. I feel that while it might be right for many on BSDA to speak strongly to their concerns, I need to move more slowly, for I simply cannot be or am not 100% sure of some facts. Also, we have had providences in our own experience which seem to caution us further to separate between the up front ministry of 3ABN over satellite TV, which is still blessing the souls of so many, and the behind-the-scenes (?) concerns with administration.

God must have good reason to allow this terrible scandal to break out like this. There are big lessons to be learned. I want to learn those lessons.

I am so looking forward to hearing that Linda has found a new nitch in life that is a happy and fulfilling one. God gave her that beautiful singing voice to be used in His service.

Posted by: Johann May 24 2007, 03:20 AM

QUOTE(Brick Step @ May 24 2007, 09:50 AM) ☐

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Dear Brick Step,

I really like your reply. I did not for a moment have negative thoughts about you. I should have given you a warm welcome while I asked you some questions to give you the opportunity to explain further what you

meant.

Linda told me recently that in her past it was only Danny who would do the preaching in churches while she was asked to have the Scripture reading and prayer. Now people are asking her to preach, and this is a new challenge to her. She is looking forward to meeting the people at Camp Meeting and elsewhere where she is presenting a message inspired by the Lord.

Blessings,

Johann

Posted by: inga May 28 2007, 12:01 PM

QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ May 21 2007, 09:04 PM)

Being your own boss can be difficult too though.
On the other hand I believe that some Adventists develop "independent" ministries (in the negative sense) because they do not want to answer to any authority - particularly church authority. Those with an egocentric or even sociopathic personality would of course be drawn to this advantage. I seem to remember Danny Sheltons reason that he gave for wanting to remain "independent" from the church was so that he could maintain a "prophetic" voice in the denomination. The implication was that 3ABN was holier than the church leadership and needed to remain in a sort of watchdog status in relation to church leadership.

What you have described of Danny's attitude seems rather typical of some self-supporting ministries, as they used to call themselves -- rather fittingly, in my view (supporting self rather than serving God, that is). The attitude of being specially called to superior ministry than the whole church is always a fruitful ground for producing Pharasaism and fanaticism.

In the case of 3ABN, it seems that all the worst scenarios came together.

Other independent ministries, are, of course truly supportive of the work of God, and they work closely with the church.

Posted by: inga May 28 2007, 12:14 PM

QUOTE(mozart @ May 20 2007, 05:03 PM)

i think that what i have always understood as ".....a falling away first...." does not pertain to those who i thought it did. i thought the "falling away" would be those leaving the faith, but now i think that the "falling away" IS the organizational church leaving the Faith. it seems so clear to me now that those that will stand to the end are those few who stay faithful to the truth; small groups scorned by the SDA (name copyrighted) church as we know it.

Mozart, that's precisely the kind of thinking that got 3ABN to the place where it is now -- the conviction that they are a special "small group" "who stay faithful to the truth" while the church "falls away." The money that's keeping 3ABN's misdeeds covered comes from folks with the same kind of mindset.

Do you really want to go there?

Posted by: mozart May 28 2007, 01:19 PM

inga,
what got 3ABN to the place where it is now is backsliding, unfaithfulness, pride and following and believing in self above God. also, i don't think 3ABN can be called a "small group".

i'm not sure what mindset you read into what i said, but **i don't think the mindset is the problem. i think it's the person behind the mindset.** would you say Martin Luther was of that mindset? was he a problem to the organizational church? absolutely. was he a problem to God? i don't think so.

if the church organization falls away (which it is gradually doing) then we who want to stay faithful have to follow our conscience as God leads us. maybe the GC will turn around and start to "walk that narrow path". who knows? i pray it will.

i said nothing about thinking that i am special. i am, however, determined to follow God as best i can, not an organization.

the Bible says in the end times we will have to "flee to the mountains". even Mrs. White said that in the end times we will have to shelter ourselves and worship in small groups. does that make us radicals or rebels? absolutely not. it just means we are faithful.
now if some people want to "jump the gun" and go off on a self-righteous tangent (as many have) that's their problem, but that is not what i'm talking about.

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>
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Posted by: inga May 28 2007, 02:35 PM

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The mind set of "I am part of the elect and most of the rest of the church will fall away" is precisely what is creating a lot of trouble through independent ministries. The participants do not realize that their attitude is most like the Pharisees who crucified Jesus. The attitude is also one that leads to extremism because folks with an "elect" attitude will not listen to anyone. (Note that Danny Shelton is an extreme example. He is specifically "chosen" and "anointed" to lead 3ABN in its "prophetic" ministry.)

> **QUOTE**
>
> would you say Martin Luther was of that mindset?

I don't recall Luther as being on record for believing that he was especially chosen of God to root out the evil

in his church. What caused Luther to rise as a leader was his integrity that caused him to stand for the right, though the heavens fall. We need that kind of spirit. Let God take care of the consequences.

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As I indicated, I believe this line of thinking is dangerous to your/our personal relationship with God. It is *so* easy to become another "Danny" in our own sphere.

Ellen White made clear that the church would *appear* as though it were about to fall, **but it would not fall.** This cannot be the invisible church (true believers) because it cannot *appear* to be about to fall, by definition. (It is invisible.) Ellen's reference, therefore, is to the organized church.

> **QUOTE**
>
> i said nothing about thinking that i am special. i am, however, determined to follow God as best i can, not an organization.

I was not addressing *you* personally, but the line of thinking you proposed. I am still doing that.

There is a difference between being determined to follow God at all costs and keeping in mind that the church will likely fall. The latter has a subtle and not-so-subtle influence to make us deaf to counsel that may very well be needed to keep us on the narrow path. I've seen it, and I see it in my own local congregation. I've been quite astonished to see it in individuals that always appeared (to me, at least) to be conscientious Christians. It's stunning to witness the un-Christlike behavior of those who perceive themselves to be among the "elect" while most of the rest of the church will likely "fall away."

Ellen White actually had something to say on this very subject. She indicate that, at the end of time, the conservative element would hinder the work of Christ.

For an interesting exercise, look up every mention of "conservative" and "conservatism" in the writings of Ellen White. You may be in for a surprise ..

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 28 2007, 02:56 PM

> **QUOTE**
>
> (mozart @ May 20 2007, 05:03 PM)
>
> i think that what i have always understood as "....a falling away first...." does not pertain to those who i thought it did. i thought the "falling away" would be those leaving the faith, but now i think that the "falling away" IS the organizational church leaving the Faith. it seems so clear to me now that those that will stand to the end are those few who stay faithful to the truth; small groups scorned by the SDA (name copyrighted) church as we know it.

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Do you really want to go there?

\s flawed as our organizational structure may be, I believe that many of our leaders are dedicated to ollowing God's guidance and will for our church. Of course there are obviously some leaders who don't have hat connection with God that keeps their faith as strong as it needs to be to stay strong to principle. This is a :ourse that any of us are in danger of following anytime we look to self or man rather than to God for ;trength.

Ve can't know for certain whether or not the church structure will stay in place until we are told to run for the ıills, but I think there are three things we *can* be certain of:

.. If we lose faith that God is in control of our church, we will be in danger of losing faith in the message as vell. That will lead to second-guessing what that message actually is and then we will be vulnerable to ;atan's "winds of doctrine".

:. Man is not in a position to determine if the church structure as a whole should be cast off, but should seek o help solve problems as they are revealed.

3. There will be church leaders hiding in the hills joyously waiting for the first glimpse of that small cloud that ıeralds our deliverance.

Posted by: inga May 28 2007, 04:27 PM

Amen to all you wrote above, PB!

Of course, not all leaders are dedicated. There are various means and various motivations that lead to leadership positions.

However, it's well to not the example of Christ. As apostate as most of the church leaders of the time were, Christ did not preach against the church of the time. He did call leaders to repentance, and He told the people to do as the leaders said, not as they did. I think we should be very careful about even thinking that the church will "fall away." We need the checks and balances we find by being in church fellowship. Otherwise we all have the tendency to become our own gods. The history of off-shoots and many independent ministries should be a warning to us.

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 28 2007, 03:56 PM)

As flawed as our organizational structure may be, I believe that many of our leaders are dedicated to following God's guidance and will for our church. Of course there are obviously some leaders who don't have that connection with God that keeps their faith as strong as it needs to be to stay strong to principle. This is a course that any of us are in danger of following anytime we look to self or man rather than to God for strength.

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3. There will be church leaders hiding in the hills joyously waiting for the first glimpse of that small cloud that heralds our deliverance.

Posted by: Clay May 28 2007, 04:54 PM

A warning that we should not trust men... a warning that we need to keep our focus on Christ... Paul said follow me AS I follow Christ, the directive being clear, if he (Paul) wasn't following Christ he was not to be followed...

God's true church is invisible, we have no idea who comprises that church, though we often act like the denomination we see, comprises God's true church...

Lastly, where in the bible does it say that in the last days will followers of Christ will have to flee to the mountains? Scripture please....

Posted by: YogusBearus May 28 2007, 05:12 PM

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Lastly, where in the bible does it say that in the last days will followers of Christ will have to flee to the mountains? Scripture please....

Absolutely agreed on both points!

I would also love to see the scripture basis for hiding in the mountains/hills scenario.

-bear

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 28 2007, 05:45 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ May 28 2007, 03:54 PM)

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God's true church is invisible, we have no idea who comprises that church, though we often act like the denomination we see, comprises God's true church...

God's true church is that body of believers, The Body of Christ, who truly follow HIM. Our denomination can certainly be included in that Body. It is only when we claim to be the ***only*** true church that we are in error. I love the description of the "true church" in Ephesians 4:11 - 16:

11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and

**some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.
14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.**

> ***QUOTE***
>
> Lastly, where in the bible does it say that in the last days will followers of Christ will have to flee to the mountains? Scripture please....

Clay,

Since it is your 47th birthday I will gladly show you where in the bible it says that in the last days the followers of Christ will have to flee to the mountains. Matthew 24:15 - 25:

15 "So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand— 16 **then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.** 17 Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. 18 Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak. 19How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! 20 Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. 21 For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. 22 If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. 23 At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. 24 For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect—if that were possible. 25 See, I have told you ahead of time."

Posted by: Voktar of Zargon May 28 2007, 05:47 PM

In Matthew 24:15,16 etc. it says: "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains..."
The events surrounding the destruction of Jerusalem were a type of the events which will transpire at the end of the world. In Matthew 24 Christ answers His disciples question about both the destruction of the temple and the end of the world in one "Olivet Discourse." The abomination of desolation in 70A.D was the sight of the Pagan Roman power and the idolotrous emblem of its authority. The abomination of the last days will be the idolotrous emblem of Papal Rome and its blasphemous authority. When this standard is raised before the world, its time to head for the hills. Then "Pray that your flight is not on the Sabbath' - and, that your faith is grounded in the Word of God.

Posted by: Clay May 28 2007, 05:50 PM

Ummmm time out... we do not live in Judea.... V of Z you have taken scriptural license given that what Jesus was talking about was the siege of Jerusalem... and that has happened..... so given that what Jesus was talking about happened within the 1st century, are there any more texts you care to provide to support this position of fleeing to the mountains?

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 28 2007, 05:55 PM

Clay,
If you click on the link below, it will take you to Matthew 24 on the Bible Gateway site. If you look at the

headings and read the whole chapter, you will find that Jesus is talking about the end of the age and also the signs of the coming of the son of man. Yes, He was warning of the coming destruction of Jerusalem, but also about the end times just before He was to come back.

http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?book_id=47&chapter=24&version=31

Posted by: Clay May 28 2007, 06:01 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 28 2007, 06:55 PM)

Clay,
If you click on the link below, it will take you to Matthew 24 on the Bible Gateway site. If you look at the headings and read the whole chapter, you will find that Jesus is talking about the end of the age and also the signs of the coming of the son of man. Yes, He was warning of the coming destruction of Jerusalem, but also about the end times just before He was to come back.

http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?book_id=47&chapter=24&version=31

I am aware of the interpretations, Jesus was speaking to the people who were listening to him at the time. His words had meaning for them at that time, not 2000 yrs in the future, it is safe to say that He expected to return long before now... having said that however consider the fact that the "end times" started after Jesus returned to heaven... Paul in fact states in Hebrews, "in these last days" so I will give you the siege of Jerusalem, and even the persecution by the Catholic Church during the dark ages..... but are you extrapolating the meaning to here and now?

Posted by: Voktar of Zargon May 28 2007, 06:11 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ May 28 2007, 07:50 PM)

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Don't tell me. We are not Israel either? If I am taking Scriptural license then so are a host of Historicist expositors. You, however are sounding like a Preterist. Are you of the Preterist persuasion?

"3rd. What should be the signs that the end of the world was near. To these questions he replies in this and the following chapters. This he does, not by noticing them distinctly, but by intermingling the descriptions of the destruction of Jerusalem, and of the end of the world; so that it is sometimes difficult to tell to what particular subject his remarks apply. The principle on which this combined description of two events was spoken appears to be, that **they could be described in the same words,** and, therefore, the accounts are intermingled. A similar use of language is found in some parts of Isaiah, where the same language will describe the return from the Babylonish captivity, and deliverance by the Messiah, and therefore was used by the prophet. See Barnes "Isaiah 1:1", paragraph 7. " - Albert Barnes Commentary on NT

It is your perfect right to stay put when the abomination comes down. As for me and my house, we're headin' for the hills!

Posted by: Clay May 28 2007, 06:25 PM

QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ May 28 2007, 07:11 PM)

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It is your perfect right to stay put when the abomination comes down. As for me and my house, we're headin' for the hills!

thank you for the clarification..... no we are not Israel.... no matter how many times we tell ourselves that we are...

As for my persuasion.... It is my belief that what was told or written had specific meaning for those listening or receiving the word at that time... it may or may not have meaning for us here and now...

If something should occur here and now, it is my belief that God will take care of his own as he always has throughout earth's history....

For your consideration and why I think you are wrong.....emphasis mine....

Mar 13:19-27

QUOTE

For those days will be a time of suffering, a kind that has not happened from the beginning of the creation that God made until now and certainly will never happen again. (20) If the Lord did not limit those days, no one would be saved. But for the sake of the elect whom he has chosen, he has limited those days. (21) "At that time, if anyone says to you, 'Look! Here is the Christ!', or, 'Look! There he is!', don't believe it. (22) For false christs and false prophets will appear and produce signs and omens to deceive, if possible, the elect. (23) So be on your guard! I've told you everything before it happens." **(24) "But after the suffering of those days, 'The sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, (25) the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of heaven will be shaken loose.' (26) Then people will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory.** (27) He will send out his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven."

Jesus said after the suffering the stars would fall and the sun darkened... as adventists we said that happened in 1700s and early 1800s.... that being the case, according to the text, the next thing on the agenda is the 2nd coming... so what's your take?

Posted by: Voktar of Zargon May 28 2007, 06:37 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ May 28 2007, 08:25 PM) ☐

thank you for the clarification..... **no we are not Israel**.... no matter how many times we tell ourselves that we are...

Do you mean that you are not a Jew or Abraham's seed either?

Posted by: Jnana15 May 28 2007, 06:46 PM

QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ May 28 2007, 07:11 PM)

It is your perfect right to stay put when the abomination comes down. As for me and my house, we're headin' for the hills!

Amen!! I headed for the hills before Y2K and it has been a learning experience for me being of color living in the mountains. There is no way that our family could have survived without the help of other christians that were willing to show us how to get through the rough winters and I mean rough. Now we can help others.

My husband and I are pleading with family to prepare to leave the city before it's too late. They think that we are crazy. They remind me of Lot's wife.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 28 2007, 06:57 PM

Well, wherever those who have remained connected to God, have grown to really know Him and have, through His power, remained faithful, that's where I want to be standing and watching for Jesus. If that is the hills, we will know without a doubt. If that is in Union Square, we will know it without a doubt.

I happen to believe it will be the hills and that those waiting will be of one accord. Once we all flee the structure of society, we will probably not call ourselves Seventh-day Adventists. Many will have separated themselves from other denominations to flee the persecution of those trying to force on them the worship of an earthly power instead of God. We will not be tithing to the storehouse, supporting the church budget, censuring errant members, holding outreach programs or any of the other trappings of the corporate church because there won't be a need for any of that, including any corporate name. All will simply know that they are The Redeemed of the Lord.

Posted by: LaurenceD May 28 2007, 07:07 PM

QUOTE(Clay)

Jesus said after the suffering the stars would fall and the sun darkened... as adventists we said that happened in 1700s and early 1800s....

Stars? Or, cosmic Tempel-Tuttle debris?

The Great Leonid Meteor Storm of 1833
http://science.nasa.gov/NEWHOME/headlines/ast22jun99_2.htm

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 28 2007, 07:07 PM

QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ May 28 2007, 05:37 PM)

Do you mean that you are not a Jew or Abraham's seed either?

VoZ,

Galations 3:15, 16 is very clear who Abraham's seed is and it is not us:

15 Brothers, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. 16 The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, who is Christ.

I know it came as a shock to me to read it the other day. However, we are his descendants that God told would be "as the sand" (or was it the dust).

Galations 3:6, 7 says:

6 Consider Abraham: "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." 7 Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham.

Posted by: Clay May 28 2007, 07:16 PM

QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ May 28 2007, 07:37 PM)

Do you mean that you are not a Jew or Abraham's seed either?

and neither are you.... for your consideration.....you and I are gentiles... unless you know something I don't....

Rom 11:1-36

QUOTE

So I ask, "Has God rejected his people Israel?" That's unthinkable! Consider this. I'm an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham from the tribe of Benjamin. (2) God has not rejected his people whom he knew long ago. Don't you know what Elijah says in the Scripture passage when he complains to God about Israel? He says, (3) "Lord, they've killed your prophets and torn down your altars. I'm the only one left, and they're trying to take my life." (4) But what was God's reply? God said, "I've kept 7,000 people for myself who have not knelt to worship Baal." (5) So, as there were then, there are now a few left that God has chosen by his kindness. (6) If they were chosen by God's kindness, they weren't chosen because of anything they did. Otherwise, God's kindness wouldn't be kindness. (7) So what does all this mean? It means that Israel has never achieved what it has been striving for. However, those whom God has chosen have achieved it. The minds of the rest of Israel were closed, (8) as Scripture says, "To this day God has given them a spirit of deep sleep. Their eyes don't see, and their ears don't hear!" (9) And David says, "Let the table set for them become a trap and a net, a snare and a punishment for them. (10) Let their vision become clouded so that they cannot see. Let them carry back-breaking burdens forever." (11) So I ask, "Has Israel stumbled so badly that it can't get up again?" That's unthinkable! By Israel's failure, salvation has come to people who are not Jewish to make the Jewish people jealous. (12) The fall of the Jewish people made the world spiritually rich. Their failure made people who are not Jewish spiritually rich. So the inclusion of Jewish people will make the world even richer. **(13) Now, I speak to you who are not Jewish. As long as I am an apostle sent to people who are not Jewish, I bring honor to my ministry.** (14) Perhaps I can make my people jealous and save some of them. (15) If Israel's rejection means that the world has been brought back to God, what does Israel's acceptance mean? It means that Israel has come back to life. (16) If the first handful of dough is holy, the whole batch of dough is holy. If the root is holy, the branches are holy. **(17) But some of the olive branches have been broken off, and you, a wild olive branch, have been grafted in their place. You get your nourishment from the roots of the olive tree. (18) So don't brag about being better than the other branches. If you brag, remember that you don't support the root, the root supports you. (19) "Well," you say, "Branches were cut off so that I could be grafted onto the tree." (20) That's right! They were broken off because they didn't believe, but you remain on the tree because you do believe. Don't feel arrogant, but be afraid. (21) If God didn't spare the natural branches, he won't spare you, either.** (22) Look at how kind and how severe God can be. He is severe to those who fell, but kind to you if you continue to hold on to his kindness. Otherwise, you, too,

will be cut off from the tree. (23) If Jewish people do not continue in their unbelief, they will be grafted onto the tree again, because God is able to do that. (24) In spite of the fact that you have been cut from a wild olive tree, you have been grafted onto a cultivated one. So wouldn't it be easier for these natural branches to be grafted onto the olive tree they belong to? (25) Brothers and sisters, I want you to understand this mystery so that you won't become arrogant. The minds of some Israelites have become closed until all of God's non-Jewish people are included. (26) In this way Israel as a whole will be saved, as Scripture says, "The Savior will come from Zion. He will remove godlessness from Jacob. (27) My promise to them will be fulfilled when I take away their sins." (28) The Good News made the Jewish people enemies because of you. But by God's choice they are loved because of their ancestors. (29) God never changes his mind when he gives gifts or when he calls someone. (30) In the past, you disobeyed God. But now God has been merciful to you because of the disobedience of the Jewish people. (31) In the same way, the Jewish people have also disobeyed so that God may be merciful to them as he was to you. (32) God has placed all people into the prison of their own disobedience so that he could be merciful to all people. (33) God's riches, wisdom, and knowledge are so deep that it is impossible to explain his decisions or to understand his ways. (34) "Who knows how the Lord thinks? Who can become his adviser?" (35) Who gave the Lord something which the Lord must pay back? (36) Everything is from him and by him and for him. Glory belongs to him forever! Amen!

Posted by: Voktar of Zargon May 28 2007, 07:25 PM

QUOTE(Jnana15 @ May 28 2007, 08:46 PM)

Amen!! I headed for the hills before Y2K and it has been a learning experience for me being of color living in the mountains. There is no way that our family could have survived without the help of other christians that were willing to show us how to get through the rough winters and I mean rough. Now we can help others.

My husband and I are pleading with family to prepare to leave the city before it's too late. They think that we are crazy. They remind me of Lot's wife.

can't help but think that the most important thing is not our geographical location but our spiritual locale. Ve need to be in the "Cleft of the Rock." The flight spoken of in Matthew 24 is a much more dramatic exodus ust before the close of probation. Then our geographical locale may be important, just as it was for the Christians who fled to Pella when the legions retreated from their siege of Jerusalem. Unless our lives are hid n Christ though, it doesn't matter if you're holed up in Antarctica - the Devil will get you there.

)n the other hand there are very good reasons that we have been counseled to migrate (in a less hasty way) o rural areas at this time. The exposure to sin and its consequences is greatly lessened. The spiritual benefits)f a life lived more in harmony with nature is after God's created order. A life lived in an urban environment is nore like ancient Babel.

Ay experience is that many people have difficulty breaking with a life lived in the city for a variety of reasons. am convinced that many of the men I have worked with in the prisons I have been employed at would not iave suffered incarceration if they grew up in the country. Many of them would not have returned for multiple tays in prison if they had found the motivation and support to migrate elsewhere. It is not easy to break free)f one's environment of origin, for multiple reasons.

Aore power to you for the courage to be different. Let us not forget that there are still millions of souls in hose cities who need to hear the gospel - perhaps you can still reach some of them from your outpost.

Posted by: Clay May 28 2007, 07:26 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 28 2007, 07:57 PM)