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BlackSDA _ 3ABN _ The 3abn Massachusetts Lawsuit Poll

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jun 24 2007, 09:14 PM

The current 3ABN lawsuit filed in Massachusetts by Plaintiff Danny Shelton has the following statement:

"Although many of 3ABN's employees and volunteers, including Plaintiff Shelton, are members of the Seventh-Day Adventist faith, 3ABN is a non-denominational Christian ministry which is not owned by, affiliated with, or financed by any specific church, denomination, or organization."

This poll asks if you think 3ABN donors give money and other gifts to 3ABN with the stated knowledge and understanding as stated in the lawsuit.

Posted by: beartrap Jun 25 2007, 12:04 AM

QUOTE(Panama_Pete @ Jun 24 2007, 08:14 PM)

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"Not affiliated with?" How about "Atlantic Union and 3ABN productions?" How about the production truck co-operated by them that was advertised on 3ABN? How about the ASI conventions? How about the GC Sessions? How about David Asscherik, Doug Bachelor, Kenneth Cox, Sean Boonstra, and the many other People on 3ABN telling everyone that the path to salvation is the doctrines of the SDA church? How about the many Seventh-day Adventist churches who have made 3ABN the recipient of their offerings?

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jun 25 2007, 12:16 AM

QUOTE(beartrap @ Jun 25 2007, 01:04 AM)

"Not affiliated with?" How about "Atlantic Union and 3ABN productions?" How about the production truck co-operated by them that was advertised on 3ABN? How about the ASI conventions? How about the GC Sessions? How about David Asscherik, Doug Bachelor, Kenneth Cox, Sean Boonstra, and the many other People on 3ABN telling everyone that the path to salvation is the doctrines of the SDA church? How about the many Seventh-day Adventist churches who have made 3ABN the recipient of their offerings?

Good Points, Beartrap!

Posted by: Artiste Jun 25 2007, 12:50 AM

I see Pastor Doug Batchelor and Mollie Steenson this evening having a warm and friendly discussion about his evangelism school--do you think that we will learn that AFCOE is non-denominational also?

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jun 25 2007, 12:57 AM

QUOTE(Artiste @ Jun 25 2007, 12:50 AM)

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That would certainly be something to write home about, wouldn't it?

Posted by: Snoopy Jun 25 2007, 01:02 AM

QUOTE(Artiste @ Jun 25 2007, 12:50 AM)

I see Pastor Doug Batchelor and Mollie Steenson this evening having a warm and friendly discussion about his evangelism school--do you think that we will learn that AFCOE is non-denominational also?

Great point, Artiste! I wonder if Pastor Doug knew that he is planning a merger of his clearly affiliated Seventh-day Adventist evangelism/ministry with a non-denominational, independent, accountable-to-no-one organization...

Didn't I just read a post here where someone tried to contact AF about this fiasco but received a chilly response because AF thought the caller was connected with BSDA? Wonder how AF would respond now??? Having no connection with AF and a waning connection with the SDA church I am probably not the one to check that out. This is all really sad. I had just started to get interested in the church again but this is all a real turn-off. BTJM

Posted by: Fran Jun 25 2007, 03:02 AM

Thanks Panama;

This needed/begged to be asked. It shows that people are listening here!

If this same poll were taken in the churches, I believe there would be much confusion to begin with, but once the statement was read and heard, they would understand they have been down Primrose lane.

That sentence is like a slap in the face! It says to me, "I'll take all your money, but you & your church stink! We don't like them and don't even want to be associated with the likes of them, but hey folks, just keep on sending me what you have in your hand! Bring the tithes into the 3ABN storehouse and we will KEEP it, but you need to leave and go back from whence you came!

I am now going to have to get the dentist to replace all my teeth that fell out a few years ago when I realized this truth. I am just waiting for the real shocker to hit the fan in case I lose the rest of my teeth! rofl

There is a song that says, "I've been redeemed." However, the song has been in my heart all day. but it sings;

"We've been deceived
by the wolf in sheep clothes!
By the thief in the night!
We've been deceived,

by the very elect. we've been deceived
Into his image we have become received.
We've been deceived
By the big bad wolf,

But into his heart
we have finally looked!
We've been deceived,
by the big bad wolf I've been deceived...!"

There is also a scripture that warns us that all we have done in secret will be brought to light. I have seen the intent to deceive for several years now. Now it is being made public. I pray that NOTHING will ever be impounded again!

Posted by: watchbird Jun 25 2007, 05:19 AM

What I'm waiting to see is a list of all of those "non-denominational" churches that have been supporting 3abn through the years.... and I want the list to include the names, dates, and places of his fund raising rallies that have been held in "non-denominational" venues!

Posted by: Observer Jun 25 2007, 05:46 AM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jun 25 2007, 04:19 AM)

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Excellent point!

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jun 25 2007, 06:10 AM

QUOTE(Fran @ Jun 25 2007, 04:02 AM)

I pray that NOTHING will ever be impounded again!

Me too!

Posted by: Noahswife Jun 25 2007, 08:30 AM

Well, holding true to form, my mother has once again proven to me she can rationalize anything involving 3abn. When I asked her how she felt about this position in the court documents, she told me it did not bother her at all. In fact she was glad that 3abn was not affiliated with the SDA church as it would limit the programs they would be able to air. When I asked about receiving ASI money, I was told they could receive money from anyone that supported them. When I asked about holding 3abn events in SDA churches, I was merely ignored.

So can I vote twice as I want to vote again for someone else.....

nw
C"i"

Posted by: watchbird Jun 25 2007, 09:33 AM

QUOTE(Noahswife @ Jun 25 2007, 10:30 AM)

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I'm really ingriqued about the part I've bolded above.

No.. you can't vote twice... but I'm not real sure there is any selection there that would be accurate in her case anyhow. Maybe there should have been a choice that said... I support 3abn because I want to... I don't care what they put on the air or who they are or are not "affiliated with".

Posted by: lurker Jun 25 2007, 10:07 AM

Unless the Lord intervenes, 3ABN is definately on the way out of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Posted by: LadyTenor Jun 25 2007, 10:27 AM

3ABN= THREE ANGELS' Broadcasting Network.

Does anyone know of any non-denominational churches that preach the Three Angel's Message? For that matter, does anyone know of any other denomination that preaches that message?

Anyone else see the irony here??

Posted by: Shepherdswife Jun 25 2007, 10:29 AM

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Some people just really like Danny... !!

He has become like family to them. It is easy to think someone is wonderful when you never have any real face to face time with them. We had members in one district who never attended the local church--they just watched 3ABN. They couldn't get along with the local members, so this was "church" for them. Danny was their pastor, they would call the help line and the counseling line and complain about the local church, and send their money to Danny. It is easy for a phone "pastor" to placate someone, tell them what they want to hear, then hang up. You don't have to deal with the fallout or hold anyone accountable or face them the next week in church.

I'll never forget when our son, who was a teenager by then, learned of a family in another state who had begun attending church because of 3ABN. He said "Oh, I didn't know 3ABN brought people to church. I thought they watched it so they didn't have to go!" I had not thought of it that way, but that was the only thing he had been exposed to up to that point.

Posted by: Clay Jun 25 2007, 10:48 AM

QUOTE(Shepherdswife @ Jun 25 2007, 11:29 AM)

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therein lies the problem, people are under the mistaken impression that 3abn has "brought people into the church." They have done no such thing. People are brought into the church by God. The bible makes that plain.

1Cor 3:1-7

QUOTE

My friends, you are acting like the people of this world. That's why I could not speak to you as spiritual people. You are like babies as far as your faith in Christ is concerned. (2) So I had to treat you like babies and feed you milk. You could not take solid food, and you still cannot, (3) because you are not yet spiritual. You are jealous and argue with each other. This proves that you are not spiritual and that you are acting like the people of this world. (4) Some of you say that you follow me, and others claim to follow Apollos. Isn't that how ordinary people behave? **(5) Apollos and I are merely servants who helped you to have faith. It was the Lord who made it all happen. (6) I planted the seeds, Apollos watered them, but God made them sprout and grow. (7) What matters isn't those who planted or watered, but God who made the plants grow.**

So we probably need to re-educate ourselves and reject the hype by those who point to 3abn as bringing people into the church, they did not bring anyone, God did....

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jun 25 2007, 11:09 AM

QUOTE(Clay @ Jun 25 2007, 09:48 AM)

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So we probably need to re-educate ourselves and reject the hype by those who point to 3abn as bringing people into the church, they did not bring anyone, God did....

Great points, Clay and I almost totally agree with you. My only exception is that the type of seed is also vitally important. If you plant bad seed, you tend to grow a weed, IMO.

Posted by: FineArt Jun 25 2007, 11:29 AM

I am thinking about the commission that God gave the apostles. "Go into all the world teaching and baptizing....." .[paraphrase] and realize he wants to use people to save souls. The parables teach this. Yes, the Holy Spirit convicts and converts and no heart can fall in love with Jesus without the Holy Spirit...

God needs EMPTY VESSELS to use...that is what is hard to find. We are so full of ourselves. I am so full of myself where is there room for Jesus,


Some are used in spite of themselves.....even Judas worked miracles.

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
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A better rendering would be "go make disciples." I would submit that it has been the "teaching and baptizing" that has led to the mess we find ourselves in. Making disciples encompasses more than just teaching and baptizing, as we are finding out given the attrition rate of the church.

Posted by: FineArt Jun 25 2007, 11:50 AM

finart said:

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Some are used in spite of themselves.....even Judas worked miracles. 

Clay, I agree and the problem is what I have stated above.....where are the empty vessels? Disciples are willing to follow Him where ever He leads. Following Jesus is not following man but man can point to Jesus. and a wise man follows Jesus in His strength not mans.

I guess I said man enough times. I guess I am putting this in the context of DS .

Posted by: Clay Jun 25 2007, 12:04 PM

fair enough.... perhaps what you are suggesting is that if we introduce people to Jesus fully and completely, and get out of the way He would work miracles in their lives, but we seem to get in the way?

Posted by: sdaguy Jun 25 2007, 12:28 PM

I did vote, of course for the, "Donors give thinking 3ABN is somehow part of the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, a specific denomination." But, I really believe that 3ABN is part of the mission of the SDA Church!

I have a question; "I heard to something like this, "That the GC back in the early 90's tried to have 3ABN part of the GC, which Danny said, 'NO!' So, then the GC back down and Danny had a "Joint Declaration of Commitment" drawn up between the two. Therefore, Danny is using that "Declaration" to fleece the SDA flock for money." Does anyone here really believes that lie?

For that is NOT TRUE! "The Joint Declaration of Commitment" between 3ABN and the GC shows that 3ABN is one in mission with the GC! Therefore, all the "Donors give thinking 3ABN is somehow part of the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church," are very right to believe this and thus are right to give their money to 3ABN! For sure, the, "Joint Declaration of Commitment" is the very heart of 3ABN!!!

Posted by: erik Jun 25 2007, 01:31 PM

Forum friends of Danny,

The sentence in the lawsuit that got this whole poll going is the first of what I am sure will be tons of sentences that will hurt Danny case and the support of 3abn much more then the will web sites of Blacksda and Save3abn.com

The lawyers were going to try to win the case in court, and Danny might very well win and even win big in court. But he will most likely find that winning in court and winning the hearts and souls of the Sda church back are two very different creatures.

I hope for his sake that he finds the path of forgiveness and drops the lawsuit, because the only ones winning right are the lawyers that are collecting checks.

erik

Posted by: FineArt Jun 25 2007, 02:17 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ Jun 25 2007, 02:04 PM)

fair enough.... perhaps what you are suggesting is that if we introduce people to Jesus fully and completely, and get out of the way He would work miracles in their lives, but we seem to get in the way?

You surely say that better than I did....that is exactly what I mean.

Posted by: watchbird Jun 25 2007, 02:44 PM

QUOTE(FineArt @ Jun 25 2007, 01:50 PM)

finart said:

God needs EMPTY VESSELS to use...that is what is hard to find. We are so full of ourselves. I am so full of myself where is there room for Jesus,

What I'm wondering is where the "empty vessels" concept came from.....

Posted by: FineArt Jun 25 2007, 03:27 PM

Well WB,

Matt. 25: 1-13 could be of help.

There is a strong principle throughout the Bible that man can be possessed by the devil or by the Holy Spirit. Man is the vessel as you know. Man is the one who fills self with self....or allows God to fill him with His Spirit. You either walk in the flesh or walk in the spirit.

You know the answer, you just want to play.

Act 9:15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

2Ti 2:21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jun 25 2007, 03:52 PM

QUOTE(sdaguy @ Jun 25 2007, 01:28 PM) □

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You make some very good points, Sdaguy. However, let me put this case into some context. Danny Shelton, Plaintiff, has asked for a jury trial. The document says this:

JURY DEMAND
Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury for all issues so triable.

So, we have to consider what a group of typical Massachusetts jurors will believe. Will a group of people, taken randomly off the streets, believe what Sdaguy believes?

I think that Danny Shelton fully intends to present the theory published in his lawsuit and submitted into court.

That theory seems to be that 3ABN is not affiliated with any specific denomination, and therefore, the Save3ABN.com Web site is off base and has absolutely no business holding 3ABN up to the specific denominational standards of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, or any other church or organization, since 3ABN - the corporation -- does not necessarily subscribe to those doctrines, being an independent, non-denominational ministry.

Furthermore, Danny's lawyers may instruct the jurors that they should agree with Danny Shelton and be equally puzzled as to why a group from one particular denomination would be holding 3ABN up to the standards of their own, peculiar, but irrelevant denomination.

I think they wanted the lawsuit sealed -- in part -- because they plan to deny their connections and involvement with the SDA Church -- to win at any cost -- and they didn't want their donors to see them do that.

Then, after 3ABN wins their suit (supposedly) it's back to the Adventist Churches to shake down the membership for donations to help "counteract the counterfeit" and present their "undiluted Three Angels' messages," no worse for wear.

That's my take.

Posted by: mozart Jun 25 2007, 05:02 PM

God's Truth and our Christian friends and family is our church Snoop. that's where the blessing is. IMO- the "organization" is more like a thorn in our side. something we have to persevere with until we see there is no more **hope** for it to ever walk that straight and narrow path. some say that the organization

won't ever fall. personally, i think that it's awful close and has been on the tippy-toe edge for a long time.
JMHO

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well, i think that the "defendents" just need to gather documented evidence that shows 3ABN stating it is SDA. is it possible that we all have just "assumed" that all these years? as someone stated above, why would they have a "cease fire" agreement with the GC of a church that they are "not affiliated with"? (i remember when that happened and DS had the GC president on "Live 3ABN" to announce their truce and agreed cooperation)

to me, this "non-affiliation" statement is **huge** and extremely sad. it is in the Biblical sense, "spiritual betrayal & adultery" on the highest level. DS is blatantly stating no affiliation with the church he has supposedly represented all these years just for the purpose of manipulating a jury to win a lawsuit. sounds much like judas to me.

just when i think i can't be shocked anymore. □

Posted by: mikell Jun 25 2007, 06:45 PM

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[/quote]

Ha, if your thesis is correct, Danny will SOON get rid of "Joint Declaration of Commitment" off his 3ABN site!

BTW, Do you know if the GC tried to make 3ABN apart of them? Did Danny then say no, but had that "Joint Declaration of Commitment" made for the GC to sign, thus to use it to raise money from gullible Adventists?

PS, I personally beleive your thesis is right,

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jun 25 2007, 07:08 PM

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Hello Mikell,

Thanks for the vote of confidence.

These issues have been discussed or mentioned on BSDA in the past in various places. For instance, here is some information concerning 3ABN that Clay posted when he came across it. It appears to be from *Adventist Today* . It might be of some interest to you.:

<http://www.blackstda.com/forums/lofiversion/index.php/t1780.html>

QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 23 2004, 07:53 AM)

Found this while browsing for those who might be interested.... I found it interesting because it speaks to not the ministry per se of 3ABN but how those in power at 3ABN begin to influence the church at large..... with humans, power corrupts.....

"Nomination Process of NAD President Appears "Less Than Clean"
What was whispered

It appears that some individuals may have tried to exercise influence behind the scenes at the General Conference Session in Toronto.

Seven different sources (all nominating committee members) told AT's one anonymous source that Jan Paulsen told the NAD nominating committee members when they were in caucus that if they nominated Chuck Sandefur for NAD president, a prominent member of the Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) would oppose that nomination on the floor and present incriminating information regarding the partnership of the Adventist hospitals in Denver with Catholic hospitals.

According to AT's source, three nominating committee members indicated that Paulsen also implied "problems" of a similar nature with Tom Mostert. This made the NAD nominating committee members feel that Paulsen left them no choice but to go with the name Paulsen seemed to recommend, Don Schneider. In fairness, it appears that the votes were there to give Schneider a majority in any case.

Four individuals confirmed with AT's source that Phil Follett, the general Vice President of the GC who provided administrative oversight for communications and broadcasting, was not re-elected because ASI and 3ABN leaders pressured Paulsen to make a change.

Paulsen met with each of the VPs months prior to the GC session to inquire about their intentions. Both Follett and Kloosterhuis told Paulsen they would like to continue to serve but would be happy to step aside if

he wished since they are eligible for retirement. They asked to be informed of any change as early as possible so that they could prepare their families and make plans for the future.

Apparently, Follett and Kloosterhuis were not informed of any change until a few hours prior to the nominating committee report, which proposed different individuals for their jobs. The time frame for what appears to be a last-minute change on the part of Paulsen is contiguous with that of the time frame when conversations relative to NAD president were going on.

Three sources told AT's source that Follett has been involved in a series of conflicts with 3ABN over the past several years. These have mostly been situations in which 3ABN wanted to use programs which the denomination paid to produce under its own terms instead of the general guidelines under which those programs were available to all broadcasters.

According to the AT's sources, 3ABN has repeatedly expressed an unwillingness to accept the editorials and production decisions of most denominational media organizations. **For example, when Robert Folkenberg was GC president he attempted to negotiate an agreement with 3ABN in which 3ABN would be given direct access to all of the programming that it wanted from denominational TV ministries. 3ABN refused to sign this agreement because it did not want to release Faith for Today nor promise to continue to release Breath of Life after C.D. Brooks' retirement. Only It Is Written was entirely acceptable.**

3ABN also wanted dominance of local church programming and broadcasting around North America. AT's sources suspect that pressure to block Follett's re-election came from issues of this kind. Two of them described Paulsen's agony over not wanting to be influenced by major donors but that he was feeling great pressure.

The GC officers used the provision in the GC bylaws permitting additional at-large delegates to be appointed by the GC committee to invite Danny Shelton, president of 3ABN, and others to come to the GC session as delegates even though they were not selected as delegates by the union conference where they reside."

Posted by: SoulEspresso Jun 25 2007, 08:19 PM

QUOTE(mozart @ Jun 25 2007, 04:02 PM)

God's Truth and our Christian friends and family is our church Snoop. that's where the blessing is. IMO-the "organization" is more like a thorn in our side. something we have to persevere with until we see there is no more **hope** for it to ever walk that straight and narrow path. some say that the organization won't ever fall. personally, i think that it's awful close and has been on the tippy-toe edge for a long time.

If we preoccupy ourselves with the organization we'll get really depressed and lose our focus. I know. Story of my life for the last five years. Jesus, you and your friends--that's church.

Posted by: Snoopy Jun 25 2007, 08:30 PM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ Jun 25 2007, 08:19 PM)

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Soul, I think I would truly enjoy being a member of your congregation.

Posted by: steffan Jun 25 2007, 09:28 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ Jun 25 2007, 11:48 AM)

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Of course God brings people in but...he uses people and tools to do it. Just like a person that has prayed for healing and receives it through a good surgeons hands. God worked through that surgeon to make the sick person well. Same here. God has, is and will use 3abn to take the message to those that might not ever hear it otherwise.

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jun 25 2007, 10:03 PM

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Of course God brings people in but...he uses people and tools to do it. Just like a person that has prayed for healing and receives it through a good surgeons hands. God worked through that surgeon to make the sick person well. Same here. God has, is and will use 3abn to take **the message** to those that might not ever hear it otherwise.

When you say "the message" are you referring to the unique, non-denominational "Return to God" message that 3ABN has worked tirelessly to promote since its inception?

'Since its inception, Shelton and 3ABN have worked tirelessly to promote 3ABN's ministry and to spread its unique, non-denominational "Return to God" message.'

as quoted in

**Three Angels Broadcasting Network, Inc.,
an Illinois non-profit corporation, and
Danny Lee Shelton, individually,
Plaintiffs,**

v.

**Gailon Arthur Joy and Robert Pickle,
Defendants.**

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jun 25 2007, 10:17 PM

QUOTE(steffan @ Jun 25 2007, 07:28 PM)

Of course God brings people in but...he uses people and tools to do it. Just like a person that has prayed for healing and receives it through a good surgeon's hands. God worked through that surgeon to make the sick person well. Same here. God has, is and will use 3abn to take the message to those that might not ever hear it otherwise.

Yes, Steffan, what IS the 3abn message? Since you are so closely involved with the inner workings of the ministry, please provide us with a synopsis of what "the message" is. I thought I knew, but obviously I assumed incorrectly.

I, for one, seriously want to hear and understand.

Posted by: Observer Jun 26 2007, 02:46 AM

QUOTE(steffan @ Jun 25 2007, 08:28 PM) □

Of course God brings people in but...he uses people and tools to do it. Just like a person that has prayed for healing and receives it through a good surgeon's hands. God worked through that surgeon to make the sick person well. Same here. God has, is and will use 3abn to take the message to those that might not ever hear it otherwise.

Steffan, I have a sermon that I love to preach about a woman who began her journey back to God, while sitting on a stool at a bar, on a Friday night!

I guess that you might say that God used that alcoholic beverage establishment, and the men and women drinking there to bring a woman back to God.

There once was a Broadway play, and later a Hollywood movie entitled JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR that started people on their journey to God.

I guess you might say that God used that medium to bring someone back to God.

I am reminded of another Christian who began his journey back to God at a time when life had no meaning for him. He was considering ending it all. But he made a telephone call--to a sex talk line, where you pay by the minute. The woman at the other end of the conversation left her script, told him that he seemed depressed, and asked him what was going on in his life. He shared with her. She told him that he needed to pay attention to his spirituality. They talked more, and as the conversation ended he had made a decision to return to the SDA faith that he had left many years ago.

I guess that you might say that God used that pay by the minute sex talk line to bring one to God.

I was recently reviewing the life story of a SDA pastor. His journey to God began when a Claymore mine blew him into a rice paddy in Viet Nam.

I guess that you might say that God used the death and destruction of Viet Nam to bring one to Christ.

I have another perspective on all of the above: God goes in human life wherever is needed to reach people with the message of salvation. God went into the bar that Friday night. God was present on the rice paddy in Viet Nam. God was even present in that man talking to the pay by the minute sex talk line. But, the issues is God. The issue was not either the sex talk line, or the war in Viet Nam.

You say that God has used 3-ABN. In truth, I do not challenge such a statement. I have financially contributed to 3-ABN. But, I do challenge your assumption that because people have come to a Christ in a journey that first began with 3-ABN, that God supports what is happening at 3-ABN. I do not think that God supported the alcoholic beverage establishment that was serving drinks to the men and women that Friday

evening.

Posted by: LaurenceD Jun 26 2007, 06:13 AM

There are good people on 3abn who bring souls to, or back to, Christ. In His spirit they have a selfless way about them and you can tell who they are.

Then there are those who take their message to the world for a price. They have this air about them--a kind of self-facination, or self-infatuation--and you can tell who they are. A couple months ago I saw a program where one of the lay persons was preaching to an audience. In the middle of his sermon he thought he'd made a remarkable point somehow, and couldn't imagine how he'd come up with such a good thought by himself. He hesitated mid-sermon, saying, "where did that come from?" (wow!) and explained how he never knows what he's going to say, and thanked the Lord for that last sentence.

So, I think it's a mixture.

The former tend to talk *with* people. The latter tend to talk *to* people, or *down to* people. I wouldn't hold my breath hoping this character steffan will stoop to talk with you here on the internet. If you haven't noticed, he's kind of a "hit and run" conversationalist.

Posted by: Clay Jun 26 2007, 08:03 AM

QUOTE(steffan @ Jun 25 2007, 10:28 PM)

Of course God brings people in but...he uses people and tools to do it. Just like a person that has prayed for healing and receives it through a good surgeons hands. God worked through that surgeon to make the sick person well. Same here. God has, is and will use 3abn to take the message to those that might not ever hear it otherwise.

arrogantly incorrect.... If God wants a person to hear something he has for them, they will hear it and as Greg has pointed out, God can use any means to do so. I think you and others of your mindset have got it twisted. Its not about 3abn, its about God. So your statement suggesting that 3abn took "the message" to those that might not ever hear it otherwise is an untruth. If not by 3abn, those that God wanted reach He would have....

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jun 26 2007, 08:12 AM

Pete, Gregory, LaurenceD, Clay:

Posted by: sonshineonme Jun 26 2007, 09:13 AM

QUOTE(Clay @ Jun 26 2007, 07:03 AM)

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You have made a good discovery here Clay. There are some that believe (and yes, I'm talking about the on the inside as well) that 3abn was a GIFT from GOD, that it is the ONLY "one" that can do a particular task, and if it fails, the GIFT is lost completely, in other words, God is not able to raise up something else to accomplish the same thing. So, it can not be done by someone/something else.

I believe that this idea has been abused - "they" have taught others to think this is the case (again, "taught" to those inside too) and so those who believe this are not only fighting for their paychecks, but for this idea. So, theologically speaking, I have had this round-dee-round with some on this idea, and I have seen how tightly believed this is. I also think many are using this idea to keep the "image" of 3abn and 3abn alive, because it has always worked before, they intend to stick to it. They may not come right out and say it, but it has been said to me, on a number of occasions.

I attempted to remind these people exactly what you have stated - practically word for word. It is almost cult-like to hear their response. I sit in amazement and think two things instantly:

1. Oh, I see, GOD is limited or limited the situation intentionally??
2. This is typical shortsided view of God, arrogance thinking one is more privileged then a nother (which obviously leads to human failure either way), and to attempt to control God and pump the pews for whatever 'man' decides is needed.

I have even had examples of bible characters (of course!) used to affirm this thinking on their part.

I don't buy it. Maybe I am wrong.

What happens with God has a mission for someone/some group, and they fail? How can people truly think that the results for that mission are forever gone, and it lays on the hands of those that failed?

If this were the true belief however, I mean DEEP DOWN REAL, don't you think these people would not do MANY of the things that they have done knowing that they are taking advantage of God's blessings, but also risking losing it all together, as is now happening? The way I see it, either way, THEY made choices to take it down, no one else did it for them, as they would like to blame everyone else...again there is that arrogance!! They should be able to abuse God their way, and everyone should let them. BROTHER!

Posted by: SoulEspresso Jun 26 2007, 09:42 AM

Many salient points here, I especially enjoyed Greg's--God loves people so much, He makes Himself the grandest Opportunist there ever was. Some years ago God touched me through Van Halen, for example.

What gets me mad is this idea that if we can get our satellite channels into enough countries, the "gospel will go to the world" and "the work will be finished." Even if everybody in the whole world knew the facts about the "Three Angels' Message," they wouldn't be saved--it isn't knowing facts, but knowing God. Knowing God has to be nurtured through real-world, real-life, relationships, best ministered through other people in the church (*NOT* talking about pastors--some yes, some no).

God will make sure every person on earth gets a fair shot at salvation with or without us. Recommended reading for lurkers and denizens: *Why Didn't They Tell Me?* by Morris Venden.

Malcolm Muggeridge used to say that "the medium is the message," ergo putting the gospel on TV was like banging out hymns on a half-tuned brothel piano. I don't know that I would go that far. God does use religious TV, and I hope He keeps using 3ABN; far be it from me to say that He can't. But if He does, that doesn't make 3ABN special, because **there's nothing God won't use** in His reckless, raging love for and pursuit of people.

But I'd think that channel would be more effective in that work if it were being run by sanctified individuals. To claim service to God and then display the kind of dishonesty (etc) that Danny, Walt & Co have, is to take the Lord's Name in vain.

Posted by: sonshineonme Jun 26 2007, 09:50 AM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ Jun 26 2007, 08:42 AM) □

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SE, I have used these same words...same idea...same same same!! And they look at me in a blank stare, not wanting to give up their thinking. It's scares me to see this. It's simply logic, based on God's love, and yet they don't see it!!! □ What does this tell you? Or me? I've talked till I'm blue in the face...it falls on brainwashed ears.

Posted by: SoulEspresso Jun 26 2007, 10:06 AM

QUOTE(sonshineonme @ Jun 26 2007, 08:50 AM) □

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C.S. Lewis said somewhere (I think) that people are used by God either as sons/daughters or as tools. The difference is willingness. His children often are given choices as to how they serve, and their service plays out through the relationship with the Father. What makes me tremble both for the church and for the individual souls who are running 3ABN is that they think they're serving as sons, but because of their moral apostasy, God may actually be using them as tools. What He does with them, they may not like at the end of it.

It's God's desire to work with everyone as His children, but sometimes He has to send them through some stuff they don't like to get them there. 'Nother book: *I Was Wrong* by Jim Bakker. Seems pertinent. Germane. Relevant. Salient. Wonder if the 3ABN board has read **that**.

Posted by: sonshineonme Jun 26 2007, 10:17 AM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ Jun 26 2007, 09:06 AM)

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I myself need to reminded of my worked out perception (this is to say CLEARER) of God and His love for us, especially when it comes to expectations on/for us (those in ministry - paid and personal) that HE GETS THE JOB DONE and it's our PRIVILEGE to be part of it...that it WILL GET DONE either way. I have ALWAYS had trouble with this way that the "responsibility" of saving people had been put on people to do, because I have NEVER seen it lead to good things - EVER!!!

This is why I go through this process again and again with those I talk to with the mentality (again, I think it's also an excuse for some) that it's their job to play God on earth...I can see the danger, I can see where it has led them, and I can see the crapola it does to their minds...and God help us help them see it. To me, what's worse? Not knowing God at all? Or being and making god's of things/institutions? They are both bad, right? Yet you have the text "...that you would be hot or cold", so we know that God does not like luke warm! That scares me too, because I find that as I weed thru the garbage, throwing this and that out, finding my way to "hot", I feel like I am LUKEWARM! This comes from being immersed in legalism for so many years, and knowing there is junk from that to get rid of, and getting real is painful for all of us...no matter what "thinking" we are coming from. The "3abn religion" or "legalism" or what every man has made for themselves to worship.

Hopefully, what ever "religion" you have, you have not become so heart-hardened (isn't that an irony, oxymoron) that God can't get you to where He wants you...we do have to let go, all of us at some point, and start over (if you will).

Posted by: Fran Jun 26 2007, 08:01 PM

QUOTE(sonshineonme @ Jun 26 2007, 11:17 AM)

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Thanks

Posted by: mystery- man Jun 26 2007, 11:55 PM

Maybe even a better example is the Jewish people who were definitely working for their father the devil and yet despite all God used them to fulfill the prophecy "He was despised and rejected of men" and the statement "you seek to kill me". In the end these people who professed to be the servants of God and His representation killed the very Son of God. Now you might say to yourself what wonderful priest and leaders without which the Son of God would not have been nailed to a cross naked and spit upon. Are you so blinded that you can not see their is no virtue in sin and the end does not justify the means. Even Judas was used by God, was not their a prophecy that he would be sold for 30 peices of silver, and by Judas own hand the prophecy was fulfilled. Yet God said of that man it would have been better that he was never born.

Posted by: steffan Jun 26 2007, 11:55 PM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ Jun 26 2007, 10:42 AM)

But I'd think that channel would be more effective in that work if it were being run by sanctified individuals. To claim service to God and then display the kind of dishonesty (etc) that Danny, Walt & Co have, is to take the Lord's Name in vain.

Actually what is taking the Lord's name in vain is what you are doing here by making the above statement when you have not been an eyewitness to any of the allegations nor has any against Danny and the board been proven. Our judgement will be measured out accordingly as we judge others. That means it's bad enough to judge others that we know personally, work with, have experiences with, but to make such judgements by what you read or have been told is inexcusable.

Posted by: mystery- man Jun 27 2007, 12:17 AM

Steffan, I have read what 3abn has said that they are non denominational, in your opinion is that really true? Amazing facts, It Is Written, and must I go on and on I believe are adventist ministries. I have not seen Pat Roberston or Jimmy Swaggart or Oral Roberts and on 3abn. I feel like screaming when I see what is written, must we remain stupid and in a sleep forever?

Posted by: Pickle Jun 27 2007, 02:07 AM

QUOTE(Panama_Pete @ Jun 25 2007, 04:52 PM)

I think that Danny Shelton fully intends to present the theory published in his lawsuit and submitted into court.

That theory seems to be that 3ABN is not affiliated with any specific denomination, and therefore, the

Save3ABN.com Web site is off base and has absolutely no business holding 3ABN up to the specific denominational standards of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, or any other church or organization, since 3ABN - the corporation -- does not necessarily subscribe to those doctrines, being an independent, non-denominational ministry.

In my opinion, it is a fatal flaw in their logic to then go on and allege that Gailon and I have frequented web sites that Adventists read.

Out of all the denominations out there, Adventists are a small part of Christianity. Presumably, if they are non-denominational with a non-denominational message, they are receiving significant support from all faiths, and if all their Adventist donors quit giving, it really wouldn't affect them all that much.

When will they acknowledge the utter futility of all of this?

QUOTE(Snoopy @ Jun 25 2007, 02:02 AM)

I had just started to get interested in the church again but this is all a real turn-off. BTJM 

Quite natural to think thoughts like that, but who might be putting them into our heads?

Having Judas as one of the 12 was certainly a turn off, and Peter (who denied), Thomas (who doubted), Philip (who was a bit slow), and James and John (who wanted to burn down a village that didn't invite them home for dinner) maybe didn't help much.

And Ananias and Saphira, and Simon Magus, and the other James who didn't like Paul (which is what led to Paul's arrest), the list of imperfect people whom God wasn't finished with yet goes on and on.

J. M. Canright, in a vision Ellen White had, wanted to get out of the boat (because someone told him an idea he had was wrong) into some better boat. That's what he did, but it sounds like he never really was happy.

We need to stay in the ship. The sinners in Zion will be shaken out. God will purify His people. And in the end, we'll all know that He was the one who did it, because no one else could.

Posted by: Johann Jun 27 2007, 03:36 AM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jun 27 2007, 10:07 AM)

We need to stay in the ship. The sinners in Zion will be shaken out. God will purify His people. And in the end, we'll all know that He was the one who did it, because no one else could.

Thank you for this admonition, Bob. Just before I wrote this I tried to call you, but I was told you were busy for the next couple of hours. It is good that you are busy teaching, teaching young people to stay with the ship under the guidance of the Spirit of Prophecy. There are powers that will try to prevent you from doing his work for the Lord. May TRUTH prevail!!!

Posted by: mystery- man Jun 27 2007, 04:21 AM

One of the most frightening statements to me is to tell someone to stay on the ship, when the ship (meaning the church) is equated to salvation. That is why Jesus would say through John because you are neither hot nor cold I will spew you out. Many believe they are on the ship while actually they have long since left the ship. The Jewish leaders during Christ time believed they were on the ship when actually

they had long since left the ship and its captain. No man can stay on the ship if Jesus puts them off. Remember Jesus told the scribes and pharisees your house is left unto you desolate. Remember when Jesus came he called the twelve to service and the leaders and Jerusalem was left without Jesus, and Satan took control. Ellen White says that history will be repeated. You can not serve man and God at the same time, you will despise one and serve the other or vice versa. Many are equating their salvation to the church instead of to the savior, thus the deplorable state of there life is justified by saying at least I have not left the church (how scary).

Posted by: Pickle Jun 27 2007, 05:00 AM

Johann,

You can call now if you want to. Class is over.

Posted by: Pickle Jun 27 2007, 05:18 AM

Mystery-Man,

Our faith is based on the Word of God.

Scripture foretells the rise of the church of Israel, the rise of the Christian church, the rise of Roman Christianity, the rise of the Protestant Reformation, and the rise of the Advent movement. Correct?

Scripture says nothing about the rise of any other group. To the contrary, we are told in the Spirit of Prophecy that the church may appear as about to fall but does not fall.

I take that to mean that before the end, the Adventist church will appear as about to fall and become Babylon, but it won't. And I also take that to mean that a group that has it all together, a group that doesn't appear as about to fall, cannot be the true church.

Posted by: SoulEspresso Jun 27 2007, 08:45 AM

QUOTE(steffan @ Jun 26 2007, 10:55 PM)

Actually what is taking the Lord's name in vain is what you are doing here by making the above statement when you have not been an eyewitness to any of the allegations nor has any against Danny and the board been proven. Our judgement will be measured out accordingly as we judge others. That means it's bad enough to judge others that we know personally, work with, have experiences with, but to make such judgements by what you read or have been told is inexcusable.

I'm sorry if I hurt your feelings, steffan. But I'm not responsible for what Danny & Co said on television or in printed communications, nor am I responsible for what they wrote in publicly available original documents. Do we really have to list again all the evidence these men have generated against themselves? Their own words have gone out over the satellite waves!

What I am responsible for is making responsible decisions regarding people who have taken upon themselves leadership roles in the church--decisions on how to lead other people I'm responsible for, and decisions on what I can do, at my level, to hold these self-appointed leaders accountable--leaders who are now denying the faith they claim to propogate. This denial is deliberate and calculated, not some provoked offhand response.

These people have disgraced my church, a disgrace which is becoming more public every day. To paraphrase a line from Asimov, their deeds have become foul, foul, foul, and yet their words are still God, God, God. Didn't our Lord have something to say about that in Matthew 7:21-23?

I'm praying for you, steffan. Why are you doing this? How can you defend the indefensible? What interest do

you have in all this? You have responded to my charges that the leadership of 3ABN is taking the Lord's Name in vain these days; do you have the courage to respond to mystery-man's question?

QUOTE(mystery- man @ Jun 26 2007, 11:17 PM)

3abn has said that they are non denominational, in your opinion is that really true?

Posted by: Ephphatha Jun 27 2007, 09:44 AM

QUOTE(Panama_Pete @ Jun 24 2007, 10:14 PM)

The current 3ABN lawsuit filed in Massachusetts by Plaintiff Danny Shelton has the following statement:

"Although many of 3ABN's employees and volunteers, including Plaintiff Shelton, are members of the Seventh-Day Adventist faith, 3ABN is a non-denominational Christian ministry which is not owned by, affiliated with, or financed by any specific church, denomination, or organization."

This poll asks if you think 3ABN donors give money and other gifts to 3ABN with the stated knowledge and understanding as stated in the lawsuit.

Based on a little (albeit limited) legal knowledge, I believe that what is being said here is that 3ABN is not an Adventist owned television station. Being Adventist owned and owned by an Adventist are different legally. The word that needs the focus here is "specific". 3ABN may be owned by an Adventist, but it is not owned by a *specific* church, so if Shelton decided to start teaching catholic or baptist doctrine or allowing it on the program the GC could do nothing about it. Also he must go through the legal channels and pay for the rights to use anything that is *specifically* Adventist while Adventist owned media outlets do not. 3ABN is not affiliated with a *specific* church, denomination or organization. Now 3ABN may be affiliated with the Adventist church in some areas, but it may also be affiliated with other churches. Affiliated here would mean "in partnership with". (Small example, Burger King is affiliated *specifically* with Coke. That means they sell exclusively Coke products at their company owned stores, Wal-mart on the other hand is affiliated with coke, Pepsi, 7-up, they sell all products so there is no *specific* affiliation). Lastly, 3ABN's financing is not through a *specific* church. It may have donors who are Adventist and donors who are Adventist entities, but some 3ABN donors are non-Adventist organizations and individuals. This wording, in essence, protects 3ABN from any legal action that might be taken against the Adventist church and also protects the Adventist Church from any legal action taken against 3ABN. So that if someone decides to sue Danny Shelton and 3ABN the General Conference can not be held liable, and vice versa. Hope that helps.

Posted by: princessdi Jun 27 2007, 10:05 AM

You know I can really understand that part of it. The part I believe to be troubling is where they say they preach a nondenominational message. I am almost positive that the 3 Angels Message is something unique to adventism, and that most support 3ABN because they feel, and have been led to believe that they are preaching not just the Three Angels Message, but the Adventist message as a whole. For the most part it is what they have been doing, BTW. They definitely have not been teaching a non denominational message. Many support them because they teach the Adventist message, now with these court papers they seemed to have distanced themselves from Adventism long ago. They just kept the spin so that they would not lose the support of the Adventism donation base. IOW, just crooked, crooked to the bone. There is almost nothing of integrity about the founding or operation of 3ABN. Sure they have some very nice, christian and sincere folk with shows on their network, but that is all just part of the spin. It's just sad. Adventist are truly looking to 3ABN to preach Adventism's unique message, and really feel this is the best way to get it done. They believe it because they have been led to believe it, but it was a lie.

Also from the way negotiations went for them to partner with GC, it was clear that the Sheltons wanted a very limited tie with the church, with absolutely no church control over any decisions made.

QUOTE(Ephphatha @ Jun 27 2007, 08:44 AM) □

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Posted by: Ephphatha Jun 27 2007, 10:35 AM

QUOTE(princessdi @ Jun 27 2007, 11:05 AM) □

You know I can really understand that part of it. The part I believe to be troubling is where they say they preach a nondenominal message. I am almost positive that the 3 Angels Message is something unique to adventism, and that most support 3ABN because they feel, and have been led to believe that they are preaching not just the Three Angels Message, but the Adventist message as a whole. For the most part it is what they have been doing, BTW. They definitely have not been teaching a non denominational message. Many support them because they teach the Adventist message, now with these court papers they seemed to have distanced themselves from Adventism long ago. They just kept the spin so that they would not loose the support of the Adventism donation base. IOW, just crooked, crooked to the bone. There is almost nothing of intergrity about the founding or operation of 3ABN. Sure they have some very nice, christian and sincere folk with shows on their network, but that is all just part of the spin. It's just sad. Adventist are truly looking to 3ABN to preach Adventism's unique message, and really feel this is the best way to get it done. They believe it because they have been led to believe it, but it was a lie.

Also from the way negotiations went for them to partner with GC, it was clear that the Sheltons wanted a very limited tie with the church, with absolutely no church control over any decisions made.

I agree with you. I think, though, that some have been reached through the messages on 3ABN. I've known many people who have become Adventist because of the truths they have heard on 3ABN. My battle is this, the owner is obviously loopy, but the other individuals who present programming like Pastor Pearson, The Aikens, Shelly Quinn, and others are genuine preachers of God's word and want the truth out there. I believe that God is in control ultimately and He is conducting the happenings at 3ABN. It may be that Danny will be seperated from 3ABN and it will be a "reborn" situation. Right now, I think for some its a delicate wheat and tares situation. If things aren't handled right, regarding 3ABN there is are a lot of delicate wheat plants that have just sprung up that maybe wrenched out of soil with the tare.

Posted by: mystery- man Jun 27 2007, 10:46 AM

Pickle, I dont see anywhere in the bible where the bible tells about the rise of the Adventist church. I dont even see the name adventist written anywhere in the scriptures. (I am a seventhday adventist myself) so dont think I am putting down the church either. The bible tells rather of a restoration of the breach and the return to Godliness. The name truth is not synonymus with Adventism. It is a mistake to

believe that one must be an adventist to be saved, that would be making the same mistake as the Jews of old. Because that was the prevailing belief during the time of the Jews they were able to threaten salvation by simply kicking one out of the church. Rather the truth was what made up the church. That is why I believe the church trade marked the name Seventh Day Adventist and threatens anyone with a law suit that does not follow their wishes in thought or the way the gospel is preached. The followers of God were christians because of the walk they had with God not because of the name. And let us not forget that the bible defined a Jew not of nationality but of a circumsised heart.

Anyone, keeping the commandments of God through the power of Christ and waiting for the second coming automatically becomes a true Seventhday Adventist. It is not the corporations stamp of the name or the churches putting you on its roll that makes you saved or a christian.

Posted by: princessdi Jun 27 2007, 11:06 AM

Agreed!

QUOTE(Ephphatha @ Jun 27 2007, 08:35 AM) □

I agree with you. I think, though, that some have been reached through the messages on 3ABN. I've known many people who have become Adventist because of the truths they have heard on 3ABN. My battle is this, the owner is obviously loopy, but the other individuals who present programming like Pastor Pearson, The Aikens, Shelly Quinn, and others are genuine preachers of God's word and want the truth out there. I believe that God is in control ultimately and He is conducting the happenings at 3ABN. It may be that Danny will be seperated from 3ABN and it will be a "reborn" situation. Right now, I think for some its a delicate wheat and tares situation. If things aren't handled right, regarding 3ABN there is are a lot of delicate wheat plants that have just sprung up that maybe wrenched out of soil with the tare.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jun 27 2007, 11:24 AM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ Jun 26 2007, 07:42 AM) □

Many salient points here, I especially enjoyed Greg's--**God loves people so much, He makes Himself the grandest Opportunist there ever was. Some years ago God touched me through Van Halen, for example.**

What gets me mad □ is this idea that if we can get our satellite channels into enough countries, the "gospel will go to the world" and "the work will be finished." **Even if everybody in the whole world knew the facts about the "Three Angels' Message," they wouldn't be saved--it isn't knowing facts, but knowing God.** Knowing God has to be nurtured through real-world, real-life, relationships, best ministered through other people in the church (*NOT* talking about pastors--some yes, some no).

God will make sure every person on earth gets a fair shot at salvation with or without us.

Recommended reading for lurkers and denizens: *Why Didn't They Tell Me?* by Morris Venden.

Malcolm Muggeridge used to say that "the medium is the message," ergo putting the gospel on TV was like banging out hymns on a half-tuned brothel piano. I don't know that I would go that far. God does use religious TV, and I hope He keeps using 3ABN; far be it from me to say that He can't. But if He does, that doesn't make 3ABN special, because **there's nothing God won't use** in His reckless, raging love for and pursuit of people.

If I had a golden apple right now I would place it in your hand! Sometimes the bronze serpent on the wooden cross becomes the focus of worship instead of the Savior it pointed to.

Knowing God and understanding how desperately He loves and wants us to be His own - that is truly the key! That supersedes any conservative, liberal or progressive interpretation of dogma, IMO.

Posted by: Pickle Jun 27 2007, 01:34 PM

QUOTE(mystery- man @ Jun 27 2007, 11:46 AM)

Pickle, I dont see anywhere in the bible where the bible tells about the rise of the Adventist church.

I think it is very clear that Rev. 10, coupled with a few other passages, foretells the rise of the Seventh-day Adventist church. I have not seen any alternative interpretation that would in my mind rule against such a conclusion.

From the very beginning of Adventism, we have taught that being a member doesn't make one saved, and that many within our ranks aren't going anywhere, which has been true since the days of the apostles. On the other hand, we have also taught that it is critical that one heed the call of God in Rev. 18:4, and that God does want us to associate as a church family.

Such association is linked in Scripture to salvation: "Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47). Again, that doesn't mean that only church members are saved or that all church members are saved. But it does show us God's intent to associate His people in a church family, and Jn. 10:16 does tell us that His intention is to end up with all His people in one fold in the end.

Posted by: st mary Jun 27 2007, 04:03 PM

I hope this is not too much off the topic but I have read your comments re; Revelation 10 foretelling the rise of the Seventh day Adventist church but I must say that you are grossly mistaken. Nowhere in scripture is there any reference to a specific modern day church organization. The body of believers or the church as referred to in the Bible is the entire christian community. Since the Israelites lost this favored position when Jesus came the first time, God has been using anyone who is willing to be used, Jews and gentiles alike, wherever they are, in an organized body or outside of an organized body. My study and understanding of scripture has not revealed anywhere in the New Testament where God has limited himself to what we know today as an organization. We have limited God to our church organizations but remember the Bible says in Col 3:11 " ... where there is neither Greek nor Jew circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian slave or free, but CHRIST is all and in all." For those of us who have and are placing our trust in an organization whether it be the Adventist church, the Baptist church, the Methodist church or any other church, our fate will be just like that of the Jews of old.

Posted by: watchbird Jun 27 2007, 04:47 PM

QUOTE(st mary @ Jun 27 2007, 06:03 PM)

I hope this is not too much off the topic but I have read your comments re; Revelation 10 foretelling the rise of the Seventh day Adventist church but I must say that you are grossly mistaken. Nowhere in scripture is there any reference to a specific modern day church organization. The body of believers or the

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agree fully. I think the Bible is for ALL Christians everywhere and that it foretells things in general that have to do with the church and changing conditions as we near the end of time. But I do not think that any specific denomination is pictured in prophecy.... and I've been an Adventist for many many years, btw.

Posted by: princessdi Jun 27 2007, 04:51 PM

I see you two are for trashing th Rev. Sem. materials also. LOL!! Where exactly did we get that from?

Posted by: st mary Jun 27 2007, 05:27 PM

I am in no way trashing anyone or anything. Jesus clearly says; "...teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." If it is not in the Bible then it is a man made doctrine. I have been and am a seventh day adventist for as long as I know myself but allowing the holy spirit to teach me is the greatest thing that ever happened to me for a long long time. Try Him and I guarantee you your world will be shaken. When Jesus came the first time the then known church destroyed him. They did not understand that he did not come to be their enemy but only to present the true and living God to them, the God whom they thought they knew. They killed Jesus instead, thinking that they were doing God a favor. My friend it will happen again so let the Holy Spirit be your teacher and not fallible men who know the truth but refuse to be corrected like the Jewish leaders of old.

Posted by: watchbird Jun 27 2007, 05:32 PM

QUOTE(princessdi @ Jun 27 2007, 06:51 PM) □

I see you two are for trashing th Rev. Sem. materials also. LOL!! Where exactly did we get that from?

don't know if I was trashing the Revelation Seminar materials or not... since I've never indulged. I do know that I asked Jon Paulien, one of the most prominent of our Revelation scholars, a few years ago which he would recommend and he said, "None". When I asked him when he was going to write one himself, he said, "Someday".

That day has come.... almost. The Seminar materials are completed but still in production at the moment.... so are not released yet. But he does have a DVD set finished and available on a special half-price deal available currently from Sam Bacchiocchi's website. This set is called "Simply Revelation". For more information go to <http://www.biblicalperspectives.com/revelation>.

Posted by: st mary Jun 27 2007, 07:20 PM

I have read and listened to some of Paulien's work on the trumpets and seals of Revelation and it is the closest interpretation I have seen yet written on the truth as it is in Revelation by any Seventh Day Adventist writer. Revelation I am finding without adding or subtracting anything is just so simple and easy to understand.

Posted by: Snoopy Jun 27 2007, 08:15 PM

QUOTE(Ephphatha @ Jun 27 2007, 09:44 AM)

Based on a little (albeit limited) legal knowledge, I believe that what is being said here is that 3ABN is not an Adventist owned television station. Being Adventist owned and owned by an Adventist are different legally. The word that needs the focus here is "specific". **3ABN may be owned by an Adventist**, but it is not owned by a *specific* church, so if Shelton decided to start teaching catholic or baptist doctrine or allowing it on the program the GC could do nothing about it. Also he must go through the legal channels and pay for the rights to use anything that is *specifically* Adventist while Adventist owned media outlets do not. 3ABN is not affiliated with a *specific* church, denomination or organization. Now 3ABN may be affiliated with the Adventist church in some areas, but it may also be affiliated with other churches. Affiliated here would mean "in partnership with". (Small example, Burger King is affiliated *specifically* with Coke. That means they sell exclusively Coke products at their company owned stores, Wal-mart on the other hand is affiliated with coke, Pepsi, 7-up, they sell all products so there is no *specific* affiliation). Lastly, 3ABN's financing is not through a *specific* church. It may have donors who are Advenist and donors who are Adventist entities, but some 3ABN donors are non-Adventist organizations and individuals. This wording, in essence, protects 3ABN from any legal action that might be taken against the Adventist church and also protects the Adventist Church from any legal action taken against 3ABN. So that if someone decides to sue Danny Shelton and 3ABN the General Conference can not be held liable, and vice versa. Hope that helps.

I disagree that "3ABN may be owned by an Adventist." It is a 501©3 tax-exempt organization which means to me that it is "owned" by its donors. The president of a for-profit corporation does not "own" it - the stockholders do. If 3ABN were to dissolve, its assets would have to be distrubuted to another tax-exempt organization or be turned over to the federal government. DS does not "own" 3ABN.

Edit note: Can't get the "c" in the parentheses without it turning into the copyright symbol...

Posted by: Pickle Jun 28 2007, 01:27 AM

QUOTE(st mary @ Jun 27 2007, 05:03 PM)

I hope this is not too much off the topic but I have read your comments re; Revelation 10 foretelling the rise of the Seventh day Adventist church but I must say that you are grossly mistaken. Nowhere in scripture is there any reference to a specific modern day church organization.

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jun 27 2007, 05:47 PM)

But I do not think that any specific denomination is pictured in prophecy.... and I've been an Adventist for many many years, btw.

I think we can agree that my mother church, the church of Rome which calls itself the Mother Church, and which throughout the Middle Ages sat upon seven hills, and which was a city which reigned over the kings of the earth, and which was drunk with the blood of the saints, and which has given birth to daughters, is pictured in Rev. 17. Thus we do have a specific denomination and modern day church organization pictured in Scripture.

As far as Adventism and Rev. 10 goes, Rev. 10 has an Angel whose face shines like the sun who lifts His hand toward heaven and swears by Him who lives forever, holding a book that is open. In Dan. 12 we have Michael lifting His hands toward heaven and swearing by Him who lives forever, and that is supposed to have something to do with when the end will be when the book of Daniel is unsealed. Thus, 12:7 tells us that Daniel would be unsealed at the end of the 1260 days.

The question is, what part of Daniel was ever sealed? Not the identity of the head of gold, that is for sure. In

fact, the only part of Daniel explicitly said to be sealed until the time of the end is the 2300 evening-morning of Dan. 8:14 (see Dan. 8:17, 26, and the marginal reading of 8:14).

Thus in Rev. 10 we have pictured the unsealing of the 2300 days after the end of the 1260 days. And that would lead to a bitter-sweet experience, after which those involved would be told that they must prophesy again, which presumably would mean that they must now give the third angel's message.

And in Rev. 11:1 John is told to measure the temple, the altar, and the worshippers, in the context of the unsealed 2300 days of Dan. 8:14 as pictured in Rev. 10. Now the sanctuary, altar, and worshippers just happen to be the three entities that are cleansed in Lev. 16 on the Day of Atonement, and "measure" just happens to mean "judge" in Mat. 7:2, and a measuring judgment just happens to be an investigative rather than a sentencing or an executive judgment.

Note that the worshippers are being measured. Why? Measuring the temple makes sense, but why measure the worshippers? To see how tall they are? How wide they are? Not at all. "Measure" has to mean "judge."

So in Rev. 10 we have a very specific people being described, a people that would have something to do with an unsealed 2300 days, a bitter-sweet experience, a call to prophesy on a global scale, a people that would recognize something about how the worshippers are now being measured.

If you can find another people all that fits, I'm interested.

Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Jun 28 2007, 04:12 AM

I concur wholeheartedly brother Pickle. Why do people keep setting up a straw man that orthodox Adventists are looking for salvation in their church? Nobody believes this of course, any more than people believe that baptism saves.

I told Jon 16 years ago that I was tired of theologians trashing our evangelistic material (which does need improvement) if they did not offer something better. Sure has taken him long enough.

I trust the final appeal will not say something like, "Come out of Baylon - which probably doesn't represent Catholicism and the "Protestant" daughter churches as we used to teach - and come into our church (if you feel like it) which may or may not have the correct interpretation of prophecy for the last days. Which used to believe that it had a prophetic/historical significance that set it apart from all other churches (but we now believe this interpretation to be erroneous). Therefore come out of amorphous Babylon in a purely spiritual way - affiliate with the remnant (whatever that represents) in your heart somehow and we hope to see you in the kingdom someday. God bless. - Oh, and by the way, if you want another non-denominational message which has no affiliation with any organization 3ABN says they can help."

Posted by: Johann Jun 28 2007, 04:13 AM

The participation in this poll tells me there are more than 3-4 people interested in this subject.

Posted by: st mary Jun 28 2007, 07:13 AM

There is only reference to two churches in scripture and those are; (1) the corrupt church of satan, Babylon of which the Roman system is a part and (2) God's true church. The modern day organizations as we know them such as the Baptist church, the Adventist church, the methodist church, the Church of Christ, etc; are not referred to in scripture. Much of what we see today masquerading as God's true church is really just a part of the system of Babylon. No man knows or even has the right to say that one of these church organization is Babylon because Babylon is a system that consist not only of the religious system but of financial, government and military system.

The christian church as we know it today is not yet perfected and Isaiah 4:1 clearly shows the state of the christian church in the last days in which I am sure we are living now. "And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own food and wear our own apparel; only let us be called by your name to take away our reproach." This is the state of the christian church today, everyone making their claim to Christ yet preaching their own manmade doctrine and declaring themselves

righteous. It may sound impossible yet God is still still working with and using imperfect man even among this mess. But God's last church, the one that will carry out his final command just before his coming is yet to appear. The references to this church is in Joel 2.

The great work done by a people great and strong on that Day of the Lord that is done by God's last church, the Two Witnesses of Revelation 11 who were later killed because of their testimony. Our faithful and dedicated pioneers were much mistaken when they applied to scripture what was to apply to the last church. I believe they thought like many before them that what they saw happening were definately the events of the last day but this was just a misapplication of scripture on their part. In Matt. 24: 21 Jesus clearly said; " For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time nor ever shall be." Have we seen this time as yet? Then he went further to say in verse 29, " Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light: the stars will fall from heaven and the powers of the heavens will be shaken." And in verse 34 he says;" Assuredly I say to you this generation shall by no means pass away till all these things take place."

This Prophecy of Matt. 24 as you all will agree has a two applications; one to the destruction of the the temple in Jerusalem after Jesus left for heaven and the other; the final destruction before Jesus comes the second time. This we know because of the questions that were asked of Jesus at the beginning of the chapter. So we know that Jesus was specifically talking to the generation of people who were alive at that time he was speaking because these people later wittnessed the destruction of the temple. The second set of people that this prophecy specifically apply to is also to the generation who will wittness his second coming. We all can admit that that the generation of our pioneers whose interpretation of scripture we follow today are long gone. So an honest mistake was made, so what do we do? Instead of admitting to our mistakes some of us have held on for dear life to what is not truth thus missing the truth in scripture.

Posted by: LaurenceD Jun 28 2007, 07:46 AM

QUOTE(Pickle)

From the very beginning of Adventism, we have taught that being a member doesn't make one saved,...

(snip)

As far as Adventism and Rev. 10 goes,...

(snip)

If you can find another people all that fits, I'm interested.

In order to avoid any confusion, maybe you should explain the difference between Adventism and adventism and why you felt it necessary to capitalize the word. Also, between adventism and Seveth-Day Adventists as a denoination, ie, the difference between May 21, 1863 (SDA inception) and the first time anyone believed the second coming of Jesus and the end of the world were near.

Posted by: st mary Jun 28 2007, 08:28 AM

In the past the people were led astray by the jewish leaders. Jesus has come and himself became the atonement for us but because man is so used to having the scripture interpereted to him even 2000 years after the cross man is still expecting it and sometimes demands it sadly. Jesus has opened up his heart to us yet we continue to feed on leftovers from other men's tables. The catholic church held sole rights to the scripture and dished out to the uneducated poor and even the educated rich people what they thought was good for them. This was against the will of God then as it is against his will today. The scripture is open to all today thank God but It is so sad to see us constantly referring to," what the church doctrine says," or " what we have been taught."

God has made it very clear in scripture ; Jesus Christ is the center of all things and until He becomes the center of all that we teach, what we have been taught by the church will never hold up. It never held up for the Jews when they watched as Jesus tore down all that they took centuries to build up. It never held up for the church in the middle ages and are we about to see for the last and final time that it is not going to hold up? It seems to me that what we have been taught by our leaders are far more important than Jesus himself.

The 3ABN saga has come to rock the very foundations of the SDA church because most members believe in the infallibility of the SDA church. This situation is revealing our hearts which is the only thing that God cares about in man. Let him do his perfect work in us. God is about redemption. The work of redemption will never be in vain

Posted by: Pickle Jun 28 2007, 09:20 AM

QUOTE(LaurenceD @ Jun 28 2007, 08:46 AM)

In order to avoid any confusion, maybe you should explain the difference between Adventism and adventism and why you felt it necessary to capitalize the word. Also, between adventism and Seventh-Day Adventists as a denomination, ie, the difference between May 21, 1863 (SDA inception) and the first time anyone believed the second coming of Jesus and the end of the world were near.

Okay, I'll give it a try.

If you look at Rev. 10 through 11:1, we are talking about a people that not only preached a message based on an unsealed Dan. 8:14, but also which afterwards recognized that there was an investigative judgment going on in heaven. Now when we realize that that is what the passage specifies, then we move beyond talking about the entire Millerite Movement, the entire Advent Awakening. We are specifically talking about the downfall of that movement that became the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

When we look at Rom. 12, 1 Cor. 12, and Eph. 4, when we read what Paul says about spiritual gifts, he in each passage compares the members of the church to the members of our physical body.

We've all been let down, we've all been disappointed, and because of that Satan tempts us to think that somehow we can be a member of the church without being a member of the church. Yet we forget that the parts of our body are tightly connected in a definite organization, and that is precisely what the church really is.

Paul says that when Jesus comes, He will have a church that is without spot or wrinkle. Jesus is the head of the church and died that He might purify it, and Paul holds that up as an example of how we are to treat our wives. In other words, Paul acknowledges that the church isn't spotless now.

Posted by: Pickle Jun 28 2007, 09:31 AM

QUOTE(st mary @ Jun 28 2007, 09:28 AM)

The 3ABN saga has come to rock the very foundations of the SDA church because most members believe in the infallibility of the SDA church.

I have yet to run into any Adventist that believes the Adventist Church is infallible. To the contrary, Adventism teaches that the Laodicean message applies to itself, and that is anything but complimentary.

Last Sabbath in my sermon we covered the message to the church of Ephesus, as a springboard. I asked folks if they thought our first love had grown dim, and they felt it had. That shows anything but a belief in our church's infallibility.

I do not blindly follow anyone. At the same time I will try to treat everyone as innocent until proven guilty, and will seek both sides of issues before coming to a conclusion.

Adventism teaches that the Bible is the only rule of faith and practice for the Christian. While some among us disagree and want to dissect the Bible and discard this part or that part, there really are no prospects on the horizon of that happening. Thus Adventism still requires as a test of fellowship that we place the Bible above every preacher, every church leader, every member. And that is how it should always be.

The real lesson we should glean from the 3ABN saga is that we each one need to get our house in order, whether we are a leader or a member in the pews. Each one of us needs to stand on the Word of God, and being willing to stand there though the heavens fall. Because one day the world's greatest men are going to try to pick us apart, and they'll put us through an IRS audit of the scale of Dan. 6, and for the same reasons. How will we fare on that day if our lives then are like what they are today?

May the Lord Jesus and His will be the most supreme focus in our lives.

Posted by: st mary Jun 28 2007, 10:05 AM

Thank you so much my brother for your kind answers.

I am also very happy to know that you do not know of anyone who believes in the infallibility of Adventism. I was born in it and it is still rife in the West Indies, and in Florida where I have attended a number of our churches including the one I am currently attending it is very much present and alive. What 3ABN has now declared to the world that it is a nondenominational organization is very typical of us when we see that what we stood for in the past is not holding us up and the future ahead looks bleak. It must be rather sad at this time for those of us whose faith is elsewhere than in Christ. I am not looking for a perfect church because there is no such thing. I am not in the least bit worried however over how God will turn events, whether at 3ABN or in our personal lives because it will always be for his glory. It is only by faith in Christ that we will make it through these times. Jesus while He was on earth stood up for the defenceless and the weak. That is our duty. That is true religion. Thank you for showing this example in the true spirit of Christ.

Posted by: watchbird Jun 28 2007, 11:02 AM

QUOTE(st mary @ Jun 28 2007, 12:05 PM)

Thank you so much my brother for your kind answers.

I am also very happy to know that you do not know of anyone who believes in the infallibility of Adventism. I was born in it and it is still rife in the West Indies, and in Florida where I have attended a number of our churches including the one I am currently attending it is very much present and alive. What 3ABN has now declared to the world that it is a nondenominational organization is very typical of us when we see that what we stood for in the past is not holding us up and the future ahead looks bleak. It must be rather sad at this time for those of us whose faith is elsewhere than in Christ. I am not looking for a perfect church because there is no such thing. I am not in the least bit worried however over how God will turn events, whether at 3ABN or in our personal lives because it will always be for his glory. It is only by faith in Christ that we will make it through these times. Jesus while He was on earth stood up for the defenceless and the weak. That is our duty. That is true religion. Thank you for showing this example in the true spirit of Christ.

But all does not look bleak. There is hope. There are those who, when they "visit the altars of the past, bring back the fire and not the ashes".... that is to say there are those who remind us that the guiding principle in our early church was not merely their codifications of "truth", but the principle of "present truth", which in its very statement indicated that truth was always growing and expanding and that we are most faithful to the past when we grow beyond it... in our understandings of doctrine and scriptures as well as in our applying the principles of Love to our lives.

Yes, there are those who still cling to the tattered coats of infallibility and uniqueness. But the voices who are

seeing the error in that are growing stronger... and more and more are lifting up their eyes to behold Christ and seeing him as increasingly glorious. If you are not so fortunate to be in such a church, perhaps you should look around a little more. There are many options for SDA worship in the state of Florida. Keep looking until you find one where the leadership of the local church is not bound by the rigid bands of yesterday.

Posted by: Artiste Jun 29 2007, 12:27 AM

Very interesting! I'm listening to Alan Reinach (religious liberty lawyer for Pacific Union) and the 3abn moderator (Latino director) both emphasizing how their religious liberty efforts are for the benefit of **interfaith** purposes! They're going on and on about it, bringing up various rationals.

I'm thinking this might be a useful approach for the General Conference to use (modified to suit the circumstances) if they wish to rationalize continuing on with 3abn as a non-denominational ministry. After all, 3abn is still a supporting ministry of the GC, right?

Posted by: Pickle Jun 29 2007, 02:34 AM

QUOTE(st mary @ Jun 28 2007, 11:05 AM)

I am also very happy to know that you do not know of anyone who believes in the infallibility of Adventism. I was born in it and it is still rife in the West Indies, and in Florida where I have attended a number of our churches including the one I am currently attending it is very much present and alive.

You are probably referring to specific types of things that you have seen. So while you have noticed a reticence to admit fault in certain situations, there may be other situations, as in asking during a sermon whether we have left our first love or not, that folks there would be quite free in admitting that we do have our problems, and serious ones at that. Would this be a fair assessment?

Last night at worship I shared with the group, among other things, from 1SM 205:

QUOTE(Ellen White)

Shortly before I sent out the testimonies regarding the efforts of the enemy to undermine the foundation of our faith through the dissemination of seductive theories, I had read an incident about a ship in a fog meeting an iceberg. For several nights I slept but little. I seemed to be bowed down as a cart beneath sheaves. One night a scene was clearly presented before me. A vessel was upon the waters, in a heavy fog. Suddenly the lookout cried, "Iceberg just ahead!" here, towering high above the ship, was a gigantic iceberg. An authoritative voice cried out, "Meet it!" There was not a moment's hesitation. It was a time for instant action. The engineer put on full steam, and the man at the wheel steered the ship straight into the iceberg. With a crash she struck the ice. There was a fearful shock, and the iceberg broke into many pieces, falling with a noise like thunder to the deck. **The passengers were violently shaken** by the force of the collisions, but **no lives were lost**. The vessel was injured, but not beyond repair. She rebounded from the contact, trembling from stem to stern, like a living creature. Then she moved forward on her way.

I love this quote. If only the Titanic had hit head on its problem, it wouldn't have sunk. Meeting head on a crisis in the proper, tactful, christlike way may precipitate the shaking, but the promise is that no lives will be lost. Hallejuah!

Posted by: Observer Jun 29 2007, 05:38 AM

QUOTE(Artiste @ Jun 29 2007, 12:27 AM)

Very interesting! I'm listening to Alan Reinach (religious liberty lawyer for Pacific Union) and the 3abn moderator (Latino director) both emphasizing how their religious liberty efforts are for the benefit of **interfaith** purposes! They're going on and on about it, bringing up various rationals.

I'm thinking this might be a useful approach for the General Conference to use (modified to suit the circumstances) if they wish to rationalize continuing on with 3abn as a non-denominational ministry. After all, 3abn is still a supporting ministry of the GC, right?

I support the efforts of our Religious Liberty people to be inter-faith. In law, one has to take cases as they come. Decisions that are made on a specific case will often affect later cases. IOW, any decision in an inter-faith case may affect one of our later cases. But defending in an inter-faith case, one is attempting to defend against later cases which may directly affect us.

Posted by: Artiste Jun 29 2007, 10:18 AM

QUOTE(Observer @ Jun 29 2007, 03:38 AM)

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Nobody is condemning religious liberty for being interfaith. In general, professionals leave their specific faith out of the picture when they are engaged in their professional duties. The 3abn program however seemed to be spending an extra effort to point out interfaith aspects. Did you see the segment?

Posted by: Fran Jun 29 2007, 11:32 PM

QUOTE(Artiste @ Jun 29 2007, 11:18 AM)

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I saw the program and agree. Then it occurred to me as I watched that it is possible for 3ABN to solicit the aid of Religious Liberty to save 3ABN from the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Now, that would be interesting. We could have Religious Liberty defending 3ABN from/for (???) the Seventh-day Adventist World Church.

Is this a possible scenario?

I believe Voltaire Wannabe would be chomping at the bits to take that case!

Truth is truly stranger than fiction!

Bob,

Thank you for my Sabbath uplift this week.

I have heard the Word spoken through you in the Spirit of the God I know and love!

Thank you for your messages. God, through you, has touched me, and I have grown.

Posted by: Artiste Jun 30 2007, 12:23 AM

QUOTE(Fran @ Jun 29 2007, 09:32 PM)

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Now, that would be interesting. We could have Religious Liberty defending 3ABN from/for (???) the Seventh-day Adventist World Church.

Amazing! What a fascinating idea!

Tonight Danny has the *President of the Southern African Indian Ocean Division, Paul Ratsara*, in his interview. Here again, he seemed to be pointing out very happily and redundantly the man's position as division president.

I was under the impression that division presidents were vice-presidents of the General Conference and so would come under the category of people that were not going to be involving themselves with 3abn. Was that not correct?

Paul Ratsara was expressing his support for 3abn and Danny Shelton.

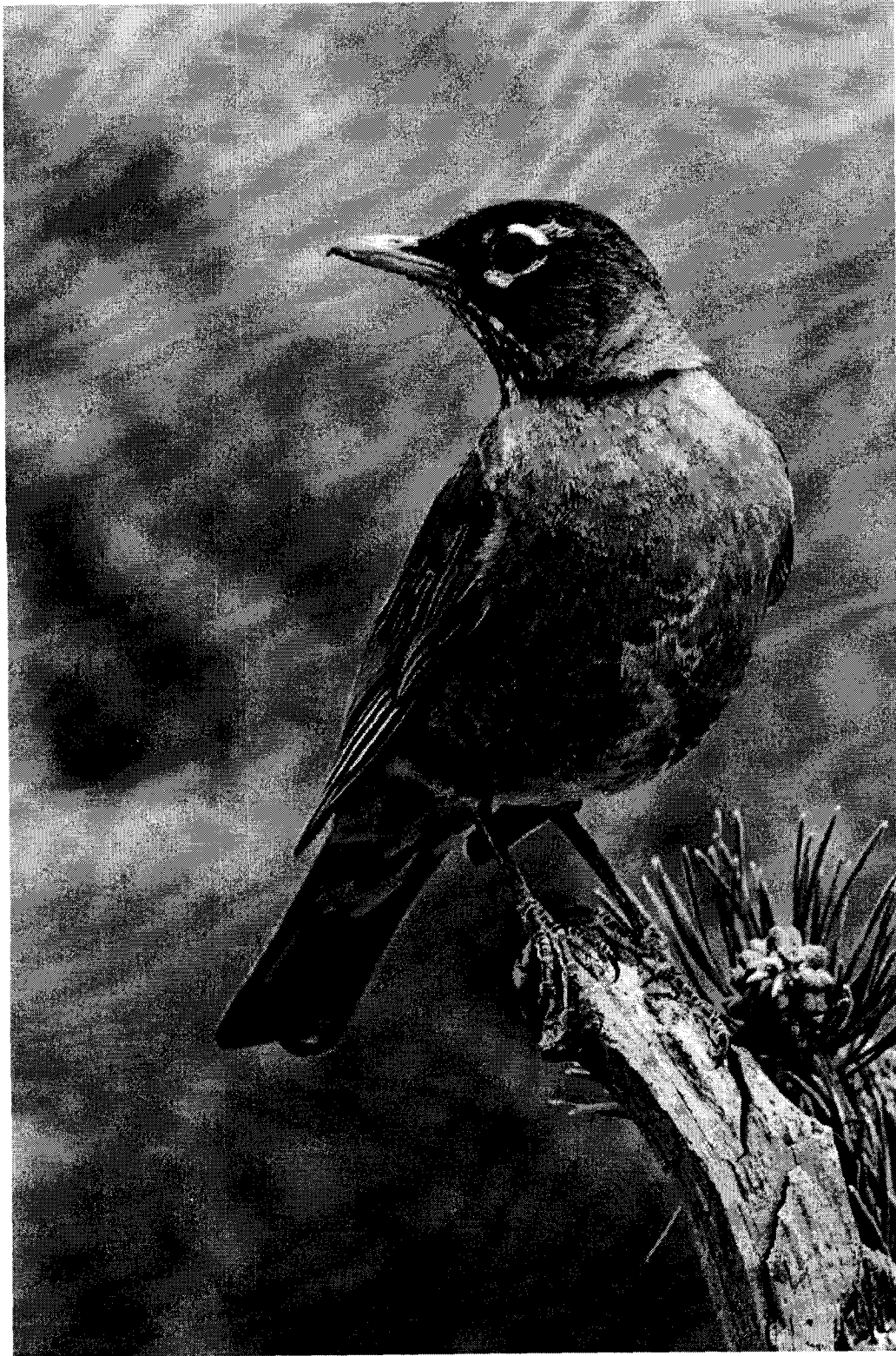
Posted by: Panama_Pete Jun 30 2007, 01:38 AM

QUOTE(Artiste @ Jun 30 2007, 01:23 AM)

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One robin does not make spring.



Posted by: Johann Jun 30 2007, 02:09 PM

QUOTE(Artiste @ Jun 30 2007, 08:23 AM)

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Last time I watched 3ABN I noticed that much of what was shown are items recorded up to 10 years ago. Is it possible that this interview was recorded before the ban?

Posted by: lurker Jun 30 2007, 06:23 PM

Either that or Danny is being **very** defiant. You know, just daring somebody to do or say something about it. I noticed he had a tape of Gerri Lynn Mendenhall on today singing and Tommy was playing the piano (one song only). Their names were equally featured on the credits for that song.

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Jun 30 2007, 08:55 PM

Elder Ratsara was here for Michigan camp meeting last weekend so my guess is it's current.

QUOTE(Johann @ Jun 30 2007, 04:09 PM)

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Posted by: Ephphatha Today, 06:27 AM

QUOTE(Snoopy @ Jun 27 2007, 09:15 PM)

I disagree that "3ABN may be owned by an Adventist." It is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization which means to me that it is "owned" by its donors. The president of a for-profit corporation does not "own" it - the stockholders do. If 3ABN were to dissolve, its assets would have to be distributed to another tax-exempt organization or be turned over to the federal government. DS does not "own" 3ABN.

Edit note: Can't get the "c" in the parentheses without it turning into the copyright symbol...

Regardless of the status of the organization, the "owner" is the person who runs it. He decides what happens and when. Donors can pull out, but it is up to the "owner" to replace those donors. And if he is one of the donors, he is an "owner", which I assure you, he is.

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