

AWAKEN *the* PLANET

NEW APOSTLES & PROPHETS SEEK TO “BRING HEAVEN TO EARTH” IN TACOMA NOV. 18

TACOMA, WASHINGTON—On Sunday, November 18, a host of apostles, prophets, and teachers associated with various charismatic renewal and “restoration” movements will converge upon the Tacoma Dome to *Awaken the Planet*.

Spearheaded by a half-dozen regional, national, and international speakers, this one-day rally aims to generate revival in the church through signs and wonders.

One of the organizing ministers, Gig Harbor pastor Nathan French, recounts his prophetic vision that helped launch this event:

[God] said, “I want to wash Washington!” That is the cleansing, The Lord called it Wash-A-Ton. The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand and ready to sweep the land. *Awaken* means to wake up! I saw . . . the hand of God [come] down. We shall see the greatest move of God in history, sweep the nations of the earth, for the glory of the Father.

We have been born for such a time as this. We believe this is a whole new beginning of revival unto awakening. Jesus is going to *Awaken the Planet!* You are invited to be a part of uniting the bride, to see Jesus lifted high.

Powered by a mesmerizing worship band led by Rick Pino, these self-titled apostles and prophets will endeavor to “break denominational barriers” for one solitary purpose: to “bring heaven to earth.”

This is a common refrain (some would say “mantra”) of the modern prophetic movement, largely inspired by the phenomenal success and growth of ministries connected to Bill Johnson’s Bethel Church in Redding, CA.

“IF MY PEOPLE . . . REPENT”

Conference organizer Nathan French, who is pastor and “prophetic evangelist” of The Rock Revival Center in Gig Harbor, invokes Second Chronicles 7:14 as the theme for this event:

If my people who are called by my name would humble themselves and pray, turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive them, and heal their land.

On the website for *Awaken the Planet*, this passage is emblazoned below dramatic aerial footage of the Tacoma Dome. But when it comes to “scheduling” revivals, this verse is one of the most used—and misused—passages on the planet.

If “My people” refers to Christians, then will this prayer work for persecuted believers in China or Syria or Pakistan? If these saints would “humble themselves and pray [and] turn from their wicked ways” will God “heal their land”? It doesn’t make sense, does it?

The truth is that when believers read and understand 2 Chronicles 7:14 in context, and examine the whole counsel of Scripture, it is clear that God is referring to his covenant with Israel and not to the American church—or to the church in any other nation.

The “healing of the land” is therefore a promise to the Jews who repent during the Great Tribulation when they recognize and receive Jesus as Messiah (Zechariah 12:2-10). Though two-thirds of the Jews (those who reject Christ) will perish in the day of wrath (Zech 13:8), the remnant will be spared (Romans 11:25-27) and enter the Millennial Kingdom when Jesus returns physically to Jerusalem “with all his saints” (Zech 14:4; 1 Thessalonians 3:13).

This powerful prophetic promise to God’s people Israel stands in stark contrast with the declarations of charismatic revivals today which seek to “bring heaven to earth.” Only Jesus Christ himself will accomplish this when he returns *bodily* to Jerusalem at the end of the Great Tribulation to establish his Millennial kingdom.

Tragically, therefore, such prophetic revivalists are confusing God’s prophetic promises to Israel with his present-day plan for the church.

NATHAN FRENCH is pastor and “prophetic evangelist” of The Rock Revival Center in Gig Harbor, based out of Peninsula Christian Fellowship.

- Nathan embraces the modern-day “biblical government” of apostles and prophets
- Nathan declares, “every believer is a supernatural minister of the *gospel of power*. All ministry flows from the prayer “Thy kingdom come . . . *on earth as it is in heaven.*”
- Nathan teaches “Christ is returning for a glorious *overcoming* bride—His Church. We are sons and daughters of the King, *more than “sinners saved by grace.”*”
- Nathan has authored two books through “channeling” the voice of God and/or Jesus, who dictate to him word-by-word
- Nathan often has visions of Jesus doing simple things such as sitting beside him
- God tells Nathan, “do not have your own thoughts in the way. . . . Process information by My Spirit, which *bypasses the mind*”

Did you catch the instruction from “God” that contradicts the Bible? Second Corinthians 10:5 commands believers to “destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and *take every thought captive* to obey Christ” (ESV).

- “Jesus” has personally endorsed Nathan’s book (with a lengthy quote on the back cover)

All of these writings are a result of time with me and spending time with me is what I long for every believer to do. How I long to gather them but they do not come. Point them back, beloved; this is my heart’s cry. It is not my will that my creation ignore me. Let this book share what was not meant to be a secret and I will whisper light to the darkness. —Jesus

- Nathan’s technique for writing is reminiscent of that used by many New Age authors, including Neil Donald Walsh’s *Conversations with God* and Sarah Young’s *Jesus Calling*

The Bible condemns spirit-writing (channeling) or “working with angels” which come as deceiving spirits.

- *If therefore the “light” that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! (Matthew 6:23b)*
- *Woe unto them . . . that put darkness for “light,” and light for darkness (Isaiah 5:20a)*

The truth is that God has already given us his “God-breathed” (*theopneustos*) Scripture, which declares that it is “profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” so that every man, woman, and child of God “may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Nowhere do the Scriptures encourage us to seek visions of Jesus; nor does God seek to write “new wisdom” through prophets today: “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time *past* to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son. . . . [by coming in the flesh]” (Hebrews 1:1).

The plain truth is that God has already given us his son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, which is the living Word of God. And the apostle Paul warns us of false Christs and false spirits who would *impersonate* our Lord:

- *But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. (2 Corinthians 11:3)*
- *For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it! (2 Corinthians 11:4)*
- *But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. (Galatians 1:8)*

Jesus warned the disciples of spiritual deception in the last days: “Take heed that no one deceives you . . . for many will come in My name, saying, “I am the Christ” and will deceive many” (Matthew 24:5).

The tragic reality is that many false prophets like Nathan French have been “awakened” or “activated” by opening themselves to deceiving spirits, who regularly appear to them in visions, impersonate Jesus, and encourage them to lead God’s people astray by pursuing false ways to experience “another spirit.”

- *For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore [it is] no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works. (2 Corinthians 11:12-14)*

CHRIS OVERSTREET is the founder of Compassion To Action and has served at Bethel church for 14 years

- Overstreet has trained and equipped thousands of students in “Power Evangelism” at Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry
- “Power Evangelism” is a book and methodology made popular by late founder of the charismatic Vineyard movement, John Wimber
- Instead of relying upon the Holy Spirit to bring conviction of sin as the word of God is preached, “Power Evangelism” relies on signs, wonders, and healings to persuade unbelievers to trust in Jesus
- The danger with this approach is that it creates more street *magicians* than street *evangelists*
- Instead of creating a hunger in God’s people for his Holy Word, it creates an appetite to constantly ask for “more Lord”
- Practitioners often say “double it” when it comes to generating tingling sensations in unsaved people
- Popular street healings include “leg lengthening”
- This unbiblical methodology puts control of the “power” (allegedly the Holy Spirit) in the hands of individuals
- Bethel faculty and students often try to impart spiritual gifts to others by touching them and shouting “fire”
- Overstreet explains that he has a vision “to help raise up [power] evangelists across America”

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS IN PRISON IN UNBELIEVING BELIEVERS . . . HE LONGS TO GET OUT . . .”

—Chris Overstreet <https://youtu.be/C-gK92AFtKs?t=56>

Is this biblical? Compare this with the promises of our Lord, who declared “I will never leave you nor forsake you” (Hebrews 13:5). See John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7

The word for “Comforter” is *parakletos*, which can also mean “helper.” But as the context indicates, this Helper is for the protection, benefit, and aid to the *believer*; it is not a force that is just bursting to *escape* our bodies so that it can “awaken the planet.”

This is why it is critical for believers to heed God’s command to “Test all things; hold fast what is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21). As the apostle John exhorts:

- *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. (1 John 4:1)*

CHRIS DONALD is Senior Leader at The Promise Church in Woodland, WA

- Chris is “passionate about demonstrating the love and *power* of Jesus . . .” Chris sees “how the *power* of God can radically change a church and a region through signs, wonders, and miracles”
- Chris has ministered alongside false teacher Todd White at his *Lifestyle Christian University* in Texas (his own brand of Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry)
- Chris Donald’s admiration for White, and participation in his “University” of heresies is problematic:
- In a TBN television interview, Todd declared, “*The cross to me isn’t the revelation of my sin. The cross to me is actually the revealing of my value. . . . I mean, heaven went bankrupt! So the value of a person is determined by the price that was paid for it [sic].*”

<https://youtu.be/FM9B0AzfeMQ>

- This is a popular, but erroneous view that elevates the unbiblical concept of “self-worth.” The price God paid is not a measure of individual or collective *human* worth, but of *His divine love*: “For God so loved the world . . .” (*John 3:16*).
- Known for his many “*leg-lengthening miracles*” around the world, Todd White also teaches the “*little gods*” heresy of Kenneth Copeland, as well as the *false prosperity gospel*

<http://www.piratechristian.com/messedupchurch/2017/9/todd-white-has-a-gigantic-mansion-now-he-wants-you-to-buy-him-this-19-million-mega-church>

<https://youtu.be/1YfkrKC0qw0>

- White also teaches the false doctrine of sinless perfection, and has repeatedly implied and declared, “I am sinless” which contradicts God’s word: If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and *His word is not in us* (1 John 1:10, NKJV).

<http://www.piratechristian.com/museum-of-idolatry/2017/10/todd-white-says-i-am-sinless-just-like-jesus>

- Unfortunately, by teaching at White’s Lifestyle Christian University and praising its program, *Awaken the Planet* speaker Chris Donald is not only exhibiting poor judgment, but is aiding and abetting unbiblical doctrines that are destructive to biblical Christianity

“Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, *contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them*. For those who are such *do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly*, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple” —Romans 16:17-18.

DAVID HERZOG is founder of David Herzog Ministries, based in Scottsdale, AZ.

- His book bio says that he “operates in the glory, prophetic, revelatory, apostolic training and evangelistic realms as creative miracles, signs, and wonders flow.”
- In *Glory Invasion*, Herzog declares that “mysteries are being unveiled now to those who seek the knowledge of God’s glory.”
- In another book, *Aligning with Heaven*, Herzog invites readers to “discover the secrets to aligning with Heaven and releasing God’s supernatural blessing” by understanding “the connection between the wisdom of the ancients, Israel, and the supernatural.”
- One of the mystical ways Herzog seeks to Awaken the Planet is by “awakening” believers to quantum spirituality—a belief system that combines quantum physics with New Age doctrines:
- Herzog says, “We know now that from quantum physicists that when you speak, it’s actually subatomic particles that are being created in the atmosphere. They can speak to an object, and the object will change forms according to how it’s spoken to. . . . objects and matter is [sic] affected by what you say.”

<https://youtu.be/0nz99df1v4c>

- For the low, low price of \$997 (regularly \$1,497) Herzog offers online mentoring in the keys and secrets of the “Greater Glory realm that can’t be released in a normal conference” including:

- *How to activate the Glory and live in it daily*
- *How to move in Creative Miracles and Healings*
- *How to walk into the Future now*
- *How to travel in the spirit*
- *How to access the 3rd Heaven*
- *How to release miracles from a distance*
- *How time reversal operates in the Glory*
- *How to release supernatural financial miracles*

<https://thegloryzone.org/mentoring/>

- None of these New Age teachings have any biblical basis, yet this pseudo-science is used to justify false word-faith doctrines
- Herzog declares, “It is better to be an amateur in the new glory than a professional in the old anointing” (especially if you can make as much money as he does selling access to “new” glory)

How any sincere believer could buy Herzog’s package of New Age “science” (falsely so-called) or promote him at a national “revival” conference, is beyond this writer. God-fearing pastors should not be sending their sheep to be fleeced by this wolf, but should warn against this false teacher of New Age deceptions.

RICK PINO is a primary voice in the “global worship movement,” having traveled to nearly all 50 states and over 60 different nations. In 2014, he launched the Heart of David (HOD) Ministry School in Austin, TX.

- Pino aims to establish day and night (24/7) worship centers around the globe, patterned after the IHOP “prayer furnace”
- Before HOD, Pino had formed Fire Rain Ministries to “share the reality of Jesus’ love to the nations through music and prophecy”
- Pino worked with Bethel artist Sean Feucht to produce “Fire on the Altar featuring 50 hours of non-stop worship. Feucht seeks to “ignite worshippers to sing...’til the whole earth looks like heaven.”
- 24/7 prayer rooms and worship centers focus on hours of repetitive, trance-inducing music, often combined with fasting, “soaking” and meditation which produces manifestations and experiences similar to those experienced in Eastern religions
- Pino believes he has a God-given “mandate to raise up musicians who are daring to believe that their *worship can change the spiritual climate* of cities, regions, and nations”
- Pino believes he was “visited by the angel of Zechariah chapter 4 in 2006. His album *Angel of Awakening* is based on this encounter
- Pino says, “the Lord used this messenger to speak to me about how He was going to be releasing this mighty angel to blow the trumpet of awakening in the earth the following year (2007)
- Pino describes *Angel of Awakening* as “part of that emerging sound of awakening! ...Songs I have received from the Lord, and songs that *the Lord poured out spontaneously*
- Pino has collaborated with IHOP, famous for its emphasis on the “Bridal Paradigm” songs which depict “love” for Jesus in disturbingly sensual and sexualized ways. Four different examples:
 - *I daydream of Your touch / Just how close can I come / Face to face, eye to eye / Cheek to cheek, heart to heart / To Your chambers, Lord, I run / ...I fall into Your heart / I fall into Your arms / Your fragrance leaves me marked*
 - *I’ve been kissed by Love / I’ve been kissed by the Son / . . . I’ve been kissed by Jesus*
 - *Closer than the skin on my bones / Closer than the song on my tongue / Your thoughts define me, You’re inside me / You’re my reality*
 - *So, I’ll pour my love on You / And just like lovers do I’ll pour my love on You, Jesus / Just like lovers do.*

NOT YOUR GRANDFATHER'S OLD REVIVAL

All of the speakers at *Awaken the Planet* will be proclaiming what they believe is the “gospel of Jesus Christ.” However, a survey of their beliefs reveals that the new gospel “is not your grandfather’s old gospel.”

Bill Johnson, a self-titled apostle of the modern prophetic movement whose ministry endorses the event, explains:

The Church has largely replaced the gospel of the Kingdom with the gospel of salvation. The gospel of salvation is focused on getting people saved and going to heaven [but] . . . that is only a part of the whole message that Jesus gave us. The gospel of the Kingdom is focused on the transformation of lives, cities, and nations, *bringing the reality of Heaven to earth.*

Bill Johnson, *Jesus Christ is Perfect Theology* (Destiny Image, 2009) p.22

In contrast, Jesus declared before Pilate: “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight . . . but now My kingdom is not from here.” (John 18:36).

Johnson’s definition of the “reality of Heaven” on earth includes physical healing of all diseases. Correspondingly, one of the major missions of the “prophetic evangelists” at *Awaken the Planet* is to inspire and train believers how to “awaken” their divine ability to bring forth “signs, wonders, and healing miracles.”

Most evangelicals would agree that God still heals today, as a result of prayer, through both medical and miraculous means. However, healing through “power evangelism” *is not the gospel of Christ!* Nor does the biblical gospel guarantee a life free from sickness and death. Paul, Timothy, and Trophimus were all New Testament Christians who suffered physical ailments, without experiencing divine healing (2 Corinthians 12:7-9; 1 Timothy 5:23; 2 Timothy 4:20).

In spite of this, charismatic leaders still try to find universal physical “healing in the atonement” because instead of being students of the Scriptures who rightly divide the word of truth, they merely repeat what they’ve heard from other word-of-faith teachers.

One of the most prominent voices of this belief today is Bill Johnson of Bethel Church, whose Global Legacy

organization is a key sponsor of *Awaken the Planet*. But Johnson’s take on universal healing elevates it to a doctrine that actually redefines the gospel. Bill declares, “I refuse to create a theology that allows for sickness.”

To fans and friends of Bethel, this may sound like theological high ground. However, it is in reality a declaration that if Christians do not accept and teach divine healing as an integral, expected, and essential part of the gospel of Christ, then according to Johnson, they do not have the true gospel—a serious charge indeed!

As a result, Bill has set the doctrines of Bethel above and outside the boundaries of God’s Word. This false teaching has serious ramifications, even for Bill and his family. Johnson’s wife, Beni, has cancer; his son Eric, despite years of prayer and declarations, suffers from 90 percent hearing loss; and Bill himself wears glasses.

But Johnson’s false teaching goes even further astray from the word of God. In *Charisma* magazine, Johnson shares the doctrine of Bethel that teaches believers they can be so filled with the Spirit and glory of God that they will do “greater things” (more powerful signs and creative miracles) than even Jesus himself.

The truth is that Johnson, as well as the apostles and prophets at *Awaken the Planet* believe they are “evangelizing” in order to give birth to a new generation of god-men and god-women. Johnson explains how they arrive at this unbiblical doctrine:

While Jesus is eternally God, He emptied Himself of His divine powers and became a man (see Phil. 2:7). It’s vital to note that *He did all His miracles as a man, not as God.* If He did them as God, I would still be impressed. But because *He did them as a man yielded to God,* I am now unsatisfied with my life, *being compelled to follow the example He has given us.* Jesus is the only model for us to follow.

<https://www.charismamag.com/spirit/supernatural/14932-youve-got-the-power>

WHEN HEAVEN INVADES EARTH (FOR REAL!)

I hope many Christians reading this are shocked. This should be all that believers need to know in order to realize that Bill Johnson—along with the prophets, apostles, and disciples who seek to *Awaken the Planet*—are the ones who believe and teach “another gospel.” And not only “another gospel,” but “another Jesus.”

Tragically, they are so convinced their theology will “bring heaven to earth” that they are not only immune to biblical correction, but also to common sense reality. This is a very strong delusion, indeed.

The plain teaching of Scripture reveals that we cannot and will not receive our glorified bodies (transformed, holy, perfect) on planet earth until we are either raptured (caught up in the clouds to be with our Lord) or resurrected from the dead:

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye . . . For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality (1 Corinthians 15:51-53).

Hallelujah! What a day of rejoicing that will be!

In both cases (whether our bodies are upright or “horizontal” at the Rapture) the saints will *then* return with Jesus when he redeems Israel at the end of the Tribulation, to reclaim his throne and establish his Millennial Kingdom (1 Thess. 3:13; Jude 14; Zech 14:4).

This is when God’s glory comes to earth—which is not now; and not at the Tacoma Dome on November 18; nor at any future stadium event or “glory awakening” organized by false apostles and prophets.

Furthermore, the revelation and manifestation of God’s glory is not accomplished by and through the church; it is accomplished by and through Jesus Christ at *his* glorious appearing—which is the Second Advent.

Until that time, all efforts to *Awaken the Planet* using mystical means (which often result in spiritual manifestations which are not biblical) are setting up the world and the church for mass deception (2 Thessalonians 2:9-12).

Tragically, today’s new apostles and prophets are not producing true disciples of Jesus, but are reproducing “little gods” who declare their *own* eternal power and glory. This is New Age (antichrist) theology. “Power Evangelism” is thus not the fruit of the Holy Spirit, but of the enemy, who seeks to distort God’s Word and derail Christians from His true prophetic plan, purpose and calling: to preach the *gospel that saves*, and to make disciples.

NO THUNDER UNDER THE DOME?

Instead of traveling tents, today’s apostles and prophets are consumed by dreams and visions of overflowing arenas and stadiums. Consider these quotes by *Awaken the Planet* organizers:

CHRIS OVERSTREET: One morning as I was talking to God, an unusual prayer came on my lips. I remember suddenly crying out, saying, “God, I want to see one hundred million souls saved!” . . . I began to prophesy into this prayer. . . . I began to see stadiums filled with people, and from them came a radical discipleship movement of believers displaying the power of the Holy Spirit.

NATHAN FRENCH: Many years ago, while I was driving, the Lord led me by His Spirit, turn by turn, to the Tacoma Dome. I had an open vision of a massive crowd of people repenting of their sins and flooding the altar in tears—tears of Godly sorrow and then of abundant joy! Leaders from all walks of life began to assemble under a banner of love, seeing each other as friends laboring in the same field.

Considering this emphasis on huge numbers as proof of Spirit-led revival, those attending *Awaken the Planet* on November 18 may be surprised to discover that the apostles and prophets and worship band will NOT be thundering beneath the 23,000-seat Tacoma Dome. Instead, they will be tucked into the cozy four-room Exhibit Hall, which the official website says can be configured to seat up to 3,000 people.

If this seems a little disappointing to some, or even deceptive, it’s nothing close to the bait-and-switch of Antichrist, who comes with all “power, signs, and lying wonders” (2 Thessalonians 2:9). As John warned,

Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour (1 John 2:18).

So in this last hour, true believers will be truly awake—(Ephesians 5:11-16) and eager to warn others to avoid this event, where smooth words and flattering speeches—along with sensual, powerful music—are likely to “deceive the hearts of the simple” (Romans 16:18).

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