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Alpha's Road Leads To Rome

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There is a well-known saying that 'All Roads Lead To Rome' – in fact that expression was used by Michael de Semlyen as the title for his excellent book that exposes the efforts of Rome to utilise the modern ecumenical movement as a means of bringing 'separated brethren' back into the Pope's flock. In the March-June 2004 issue of ALPHA NEWS there is a detailed account of a visit by Nicky Gumbel, his wife Pippa and their son, Jonny to Rome and in the course of the visit they 'were presented to the Pope by Father Raniero Cantalamessa, Preacher to the Papal Household'. 'Father' Cantalamessa has featured previously on the front page of ALPHA NEWS and last year was a guest 'preacher' at Holy Trinity Brompton. Not only did Nicky Gumbel meet the Pope 'at the end of a General Audience' but he also met representatives of 'The Congregation on the Doctrine of the Faith'.

This 'Congregation' is simply the modern title since 1967 of what was previously known as 'The Office of The Inquisition' – the Papal approved organisation charged to root out and destroy heresy and an honest look at history will tell of how the blood of many true Christian martyrs bears testimony to its ruthless efficiency. Peter De Rosa in his book 'Vicars of Christ' wrote 'It is clear from this that the aim of the Inquisition was to defend, not the faith, but the papal system [p 232]... once a pope like Gregory 1X had initiated the inquisition, pontiffs preferred to contradict the Gospel [rather] than an "inerrant" predecessor, for that would bring down the papacy itself [p 245]... An anonymous Catholic once said "It would be better to be an atheist than believe in the God of the Inquisition" [p 251]'.

The article in ALPHA NEWS quoted glowing references from Roman Catholic clergy who view ALPHA as a vital tool in heeding the present Pope's call for a 'new evangelisation' – when the Pope speaks of a 'new evangelisation' he is not of course speaking of preaching that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone according to the Scriptures alone and for the Glory of God alone. The Pope's 'new evangelisation' is aimed at educating and galvanising Roman Catholics to go out and Romanise and Sacramentalise the world. In another article I recently wrote this about ALPHA – As long as ALPHA continues to present what I would describe as an 'anorexic skeleton' of Christianity, Rome is quite happy to let her people attend. However, afterwards, by way of follow up, Rome 'fleshes out' this 'anorexic skeleton' by showing her people a series of videos entitled 'Drink From The Wells of The Church' [not the Scriptures!] This series of videos feature 'Father' Raniero Cantalamessa [a welcome guest 'preacher' at the Holy Trinity Brompton Church – home of ALPHA] who is a 'Papal Preacher' and in them he introduces those watching to all the "damnable heresies" [2 Peter 2:1] of Rome.

On the order form to purchase these videos it states – 'ideal for group use to follow Alpha'. The absence of faithful, meaningful, biblical doctrinal content in ALPHA means that we read the following comments [with some comments by myself added] in this ALPHA NEWS article 'Cardinal Philippe Barbarin, Archbishop of Lyon, France has taken a close interest in the growth of Alpha in the country...he said "For the French Church, Alpha is a great opportunity for our time. It is a wonderful gift that we have received from England" 'The Catholic Church in Scotland is being encouraged to use Alpha by Cardinal Keith O'Brien, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh...he said "A priority for me on my appointment was the 're-Christianisation ['re-Catholicisation'] of Scotland'. I see the Alpha course as an initial tool [no doubt to be built upon by 'Father' Cantalamessa's video series mentioned above] for this programme". One Catholic lay-reader, Mrs Mary Hagar of Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA runs alpha in two parishes near her home... "I went to

an Alpha training programme on the east coast and I came out saying 'This is what I've looked for my whole life. This is the programme that is going to change lives...For those of us who are Catholic, Alpha is the tool that is bringing into reality in our lifetime the church we have always dreamed of'".

Alpha may for Mrs Hagar be 'bringing into reality the church that she has always dreamed of' but in reality Alpha is helping to up-build 'the church' that God specifically warned His people against in Revelation chapter 17. The ALPHA NEWS article quotes Nicky Gumbel's comments upon his return from Rome. For any true Christian, one who knows anything about Rome's treatment of true believers down through the ages and up to and including today, these comments will make sad reading. Nicky Gumbel said [with some comments by myself added] – 'It was a great honour to be presented to Pope John Paul 11, who has done so much to promote evangelisation around the world [like setting his seal of approval upon the 1994 'Catechism of the Catholic Church' that teaches every soul-damning (2 Peter 2:1) Roman Catholic heresy?]

We have been enormously enriched by our interaction with Catholics in many countries. It is a great privilege to meet inspiring leaders from different parts of the church – Catholic, Baptist, Salvation Army, Pentecostal, Lutheran, Methodist, and so many more – and discover that what unites us [ERROR!] is infinitely greater than what divides us [what divides is 'gospel truth']. As Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa has pointed out, the battle today is similar to that of the first century [like Paul's rejection of the 'false gospel' of the Judaizers (see Galatians 1:6-9) whose modern-day counterpart is found in Roman Catholicism and its 'gospel']. The battle is around the King [Is Nicky Gumbel aware that 'When the triple crown is placed on the head of a new pope at his "coronation" ceremony the ritual prescribes the following declaration by the officiating Cardinal – "Receive the tiara adorned with three crowns, and know that thou art the Father of Princes and Kings, ruler of the world' (Roman Catholicism by Loraine Boettner p 127)]

Is Jesus a Universal Saviour, or just one among many? [The 'Jesus' of Roman Catholicism is very much a "Universal Saviour" – in fact he is so "Universal" that according to Rome it is not even necessary to hear about him or believe on him in order to be saved - as you can hear by listening to the audio extract by Pastor John MacArthur posted to our web site. This Roman Catholic 'Jesus' is not the Lord Jesus that Paul wanted the lost to hear about so that they might be saved, for without hearing about Paul's Lord Jesus they would not be able to believe and be saved – see Romans 10: 10-15]. Thus, on the crucial issue of our day, we can be united [in error] and proclaim this Jesus [not the biblical Lord Jesus] to a desperately needy [sinful] world'. I said recently in a talk that I gave on Alpha – 'it is again my view that any PASTOR, PREACHER or BIBLE TEACHER who co-operates with Rome rather than confronting Rome – such a person, and NICKY GUMBEL is one such person, should not be entrusted with teaching the Word of God for he and they are not, in Paul's words to Timothy – "faithful men" [2nd Timothy 2: 1-2]'. This report of Nicky Gumbel's visit to Rome and his audience with the Pope serve only to strengthen my expressed convictions.

Cecil Andrews – 'Take Heed' Ministries – 18 March 2004 Link to this posting : <http://www.firstplumbline.net/html/drnickygumbalalphasroadleadstorome.ht...>

In the Vatican: Alpha speaker Nicky Gumbel is presented to the Pope, who has called for a 'new evangelisation', at the end of a General Audience in the Papal Audience Chamber in February. March 2004 Mr Gumbel – along with his wife Pippa and son Jonny – were presented to the Pope by Father Raniero Cantalamessa, Preacher to the Papal Household, at the end of a General Audience in the Paul VI Audience Hall in the Vatican. Father Raniero has been a friend since the two men met at a conference in Frankfurt in 1999. Also introduced was Kitty Arbuthnott, head of Alpha for Catholics, who presented the Pope with a painting of the Prodigal Son by Christian artist Charlie Mackesy, whose drawings illustrate the Alpha manuals. It was part of a five-day visit to Rome during which they met representatives of the Congregation on the Doctrine of the Faith, the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, the Sant'Egidio Community, the Focolare Movement and the Rome School of Evangelisation run by the Emmanuel Community. They also met Cardinal Stafford, who was until recently President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, and

the Rev'd Nicholas Hudson, Rector of the Venerable English College. An increasing number of cardinals and senior Catholic clergy are encouraging the course's growth as they seek to fulfil the Pope's call for a 'new evangelisation'.

Cardinal Philippe Barbarin, Archbishop of Lyon, France, has taken a close interest in the growth of Alpha in the country. Speaking on the new Alpha introductory video, he said, 'For the French church, Alpha is a great opportunity for our time. It is a wonderful gift that we have received from England.' In January, around 600 Catholic lay leaders and priests attended an Alpha conference in Paris, where a fifth of all Catholic churches now run the Alpha course. The conference was run by the French Alpha office. The Catholic church in Scotland is being encouraged to use Alpha by Cardinal Keith O'Brien, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh. Writing in the brochure for the forthcoming Glasgow Alpha conference, he said, 'A priority for me on my appointment as Cardinal was the "re-Christianisation of Scotland". 'I see the Alpha course as an initial and very important tool for this programme – bringing together those who are seeking the way ahead through the following of the Christian faith.' In America, the course is having an impact on hundreds of Catholic parishes – and it is spreading fast.

In April 1999, more than 500 Catholic clergy and lay leaders attended a conference in Baltimore introduced on video by Cardinal William H. Keeler, Archbishop of Baltimore. Catholic parishes using Alpha all over the world are experiencing a new dynamism and sense of mission in their local congregations. One Catholic lay leader, Mrs Mary Hagar, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, runs Alpha in two parishes near her home. She said, 'I have been doing evangelisation programmes in the Catholic church for 30 years. We have been trying to evangelise people with minimal to poor to dismal success. 'I went to an Alpha training programme on the east coast and I came out saying, "This is what I've looked for my whole life. This is the programme that is going to change lives." 'The first course far exceeded our expectations in numbers of people signing up and after the Holy Spirit weekend, the testimonies verbally and in writing were astounding. 'For those of us who are Catholic, Alpha is the tool that is bringing into reality in our lifetime the church we have always dreamed of.' 'It was a great honour', says Nicky Gumbel After returning from Rome, Nicky Gumbel said : ' It was a great honour to be presented to Pope John Paul II, who has done so much to promote evangelisation around the world.

We have been enormously enriched by our interaction with Catholics in many countries. It is a great privilege to meet inspiring leaders from different parts of the church – Catholic, Baptist, Salvation Army, Pentecostal, Lutheran, Methodist, and so many more – and discover that what unites us is infinitely greater than what divides us. As Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa has pointed out, the battle today is similar to that of the first century. The battle is around the King: Is Jesus a Universal Saviour, or just one among many? Thus, on the crucial issue of our day, we can be united and proclaim this Jesus to a desperately needy world.' Link to this posting: <http://www.firstplumbline.net/html/drnickygumbalandpapal.html>
The Alpha Course : Is It Bible-Based Or Hell-Inspired?

The question therefore arises concerning the Alpha Course: Is it Bible-based or Hell-inspired? Does its teaching rest solidly and squarely upon the authoritative rock of Holy Scripture or does it teach error in the name of Jesus? By Rev. Paul Fitton. The Alpha Course is sweeping through this nation, crossing the denominational divides, and spreading across the world with great rapidity. From its inception in 1991 when approximately 600 people attended the 4 existing courses it has steadily grown in popularity to the extent that in 1996 some 250,000 people attended an estimated 5,000 courses. The estimated figure for those attending this year is in the region of 500,000 persons. The Alpha course is therefore being adopted by more and more churches as the years pass by. It knows no denominational boundaries – Anglicans, Methodist, Congregationalist, United Reformed, Elim Pentecostal, Salvation Army, Baptists, Presbyterian, Charismatic Fellowships, Evangelical Free Churches, and the Roman Catholic Church: all run their Alpha Courses. If the Alpha course continues to advance at the present rate its teaching will eventually permeate into the majority of churches, and influence the greater part of people who in this land claim to be Christian.

If the Alpha course is a faithful declaration of the Gospel of Christ and instructs people in sound Biblical doctrine then it can only be a mighty influence for good, but if it is not a faithful declaration of the Gospel, and if its teaching is not rooted in sound Biblical doctrine then it will be an awful influence for evil. The question therefore arises concerning the Alpha Course: Is it Bible-based or Hell-inspired? Does its teaching rest solidly and squarely upon the authoritative rock of Holy Scripture or does it teach error in the name of Jesus?

1. REASONS WHY THE CHRISTIAN SHOULD EXAMINE THE ALPHA COURSE

There are many today who would question the right of any believer to dispute the teachings of another who professes to be a Christian. They think that all that matters is that a person teaches and does things in the name of Christ. Such a belief is wrong. If we examine the conclusion to the Sermon on the Mount, we discover that the false prophet preached, and prayed, and performed great signs and wonders in the name of Christ. He deceived the people in Christ's name and the tragic result was that both the false prophet and those that heeded him were to be cast out of the presence of God on the day of Judgement Matthew 7:15-25.

It is the Christian's duty to test the teaching of others even when they teach in the name of Christ. Isaiah 8:20 states: "To the Law and to the testimony: if they speak" – notice the communication here: it refers to the thoughts of one being communicated to another – "if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." The Christian is taught by God to test the utterances of another. To check the words of those who speak and teach to see if they are in accord with the Book – the Word of God. It is the Christian's duty to examine the teachings of those who purport to teach in the name of Christ, to examine the doctrine and teaching of others to see if they are founded and fixed upon the Scripture. It is also the duty of the Believer having examined the teaching of another in the light of Scripture to reject anything which is not sound in doctrine. Nowhere does the Bible teach that the Christian is to embrace error. Rather the Bible teaches that the Christian should recognise error and then reject it absolutely. II John 10: "If there come any unto you and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed." Sound doctrine, Biblical doctrine, doctrine founded upon and substantiated by the Word of God is the only basis for fellowship.

Any doctrine not found in the Bible must with those that teach it be rejected. It must also be reprovved. It is one thing to recognise error, another to reject it and yet another to reprove it. Eph. 5:18 – "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness." Once more we are reminded that error, falsehood must not be received but rejected by the Child of God. Now notice the final words of the verse: "[...]but rather reprove them". Error, false doctrine, false practices, false teachers must not only be recognised by examining them in the light of God's Word, and rejected by every true believer, but the Christian must then reprove them – speak out against them, declare that they are wrong. These, then, are the Scriptural reasons for examining the Alpha Course. Believers have a duty to test everything that is taught in the name of Christ by the Word of God. They have a duty to recognise that which is error, reject it as being error, and reprove it, that is, speak out against that error.

2. THE ROOT FROM WHICH THE ALPHA COURSE IS DERIVED

Whenever a movement or doctrine is examined it is always important to trace it back to its roots. The Lord Jesus Christ declared in Matthew 7:18 – "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit." Similarly we can say that if a stream is contaminated at its source then the pollutant will be in the river and all who come into contact with that river run the risk of being contaminated. It is therefore essential that at we trace the Alpha course as far back as possible. The course is formally attributed to Nicky Gumbel, Curate of Holy Trinity, Brompton. Immediately this information should cause us great concern. Holy Trinity, Brompton is an Anglican Church. The Anglican Church as a whole has tolerated error for a very long time. Long before the ordination of women became an issue there were very serious doctrinal, and moral issues that the Anglican Church never addressed and certainly never dealt with in the light of Scripture.

The Anglican Church has embraced the error of the mass even though one of the Thirty Nine Articles denounces it as a “blasphemous fable and dangerous deceit”. It has permitted ungodly men, men who have no knowledge or experience of the rebirth, to minister. It has defended homosexuals among the clergy despite the Bible’s condemnation of such practices. It has tolerated men who have denied the virgin birth, the resurrection and ascension of Christ. We say this because if Nicky Gumbel were the spiritual man he and others claim him to be he would not be a curate in the Church of England. God calls men out of apostasy, not into it. Let us, however, concentrate on Holy Trinity, Brompton. It was there in the early nineties that the ‘Toronto Blessing’ first showed its ugly and ungodly head in Britain. In fact, Nicky Gumbel was one of the leading lights in the propagating of this evil in this land. Now I have not the time to deal with the Toronto Blessing at this time, but I can assure you that it will be dealt with on another occasion in the will of God, and shown to be the evil that it is. Suffice it to say: the Toronto Blessing is not the work of the Holy Spirit. Now the main text behind the Alpha Course is the book Questions of Life which is attributed to Nicky Gumbel. The book carries his copyright.

The man, therefore, whose teaching lies at the heart of the Alpha course not only belongs to a denomination which has tolerated error; but to a local congregation of that denomination which was responsible for the inception into this country of the Toronto Blessing, which is another great evil and error. Nicky Gumbel may be a very intelligent man, that we do not dispute, but he is obviously a man who can embrace doctrinal error. Now we cannot condemn the Alpha course simply because the man behind it attends a particular Church. Nevertheless the fact that he can tolerate doctrinal error in the Church of England, and not merely embrace the doctrinal errors of the Toronto Blessing but actually support and propagate its errors, should cause us concern and alarm. Everything he holds to cannot be substantiated by the Word of God. Therefore we must carefully consider what is taught in the Alpha course because on the whole it is the teaching of Nicky Gumbel. Source Link to this posting/article: <http://www.firstplumbline.net/html/drnickygumbalthealphacourseisitbibleb...>

Visit to the Holy Trinity Brompton

By David W. Cloud

Fundamental Baptist Information Service The Connection with the “Toronto Blessing” and the “Laughing Revival” HTB is one of the centres for the “Toronto Blessing” and the “Laughing Revival” in England. Eleanor Mumford, a member of the South-West London Vineyard church (associated with John Wimber), visited the Toronto Airport Vineyard Church in Ontario in 1994 and brought back the experience she contacted there. One of the priests from Holy Trinity Brompton, Nicky Gumbel, attended a meeting in a home in May 1994 where Mumford told of her experiences in Toronto and “invited the Holy Spirit to come.” The moment she did that, strange things began to happen. One person was thrown across the room and lay on the floor howling and laughing, “making the most incredible noise.” Another man was laying on the floor “prophesying.” Some appeared to be drunken. Gumbel testified that he had an experience “like massive electricity going through my body.”

Gumbel got himself together and rushed to a meeting at Holy Trinity Brompton, where he apologised for being late. When he closed that meeting with prayer and said, “Lord, thank you so much for all you are doing and we pray you’ll send your Spirit,” the same strange phenomenon were again manifested. One of those present lay on the floor with his feet in the air and started laughing like a hyena. HTB is also associated with the “revival” proceeding at the Brownsville Assembly of God in Pensacola, Florida. Steve Hill, the evangelist who has played a key role in the meetings in Pensacola, visited Holy Trinity Brompton and met with Holy Trinity’s vicar, Sandy Millar, just before the outbreak of the Brownsville experience. At the time Hill met Millar, he was returning from a three-year trip to South America and Russia, and he was staying with a Roman Catholic couple in London who open their home to visiting ecumenical Christians.

He found a copy of a British charismatic magazine entitled Renewal which spoke of the “revival” at Holy Trinity, and when he visited the church he had “a refreshing and empowering experience of the Holy Spirit” which opened the way for the Brownsville experience. The HTB-Brownsville

connection was further illustrated during the message Sunday evening by Jeremy Jennings, one of five men on the "pastoral team" at HTB. He said that Christians can create reality by blessing that which does not exist. To support this strange doctrine he cited a new book entitled *Feast of Fire* by John Kilpatrick, pastor of the Brownsville Assembly of God. Kilpatrick tells of how he prayed for 19 years that God would give his church an orchestra. They even built an orchestra pit in their auditorium, but they were unable to put together the actual orchestra. Finally, or so he claims, God told him to stop praying for the orchestra and to start blessing the non-existent orchestra.

When he began to do that, the revival broke out and the rest is history! Jennings concluded this story by saying, "We can bring things into being by blessing things that do not exist." Christian Rock Music The largest part of the March 30 service at HTB was given over to the "worship time," led by a contemporary Christian rock group composed of two electric guitars, a drum set, a cello, and an electric piano. The music was typical of that found throughout the charismatic world. Some of it was slower, repetitive praise songs. Some of it was rock music with charismatic-style lyrics. The music was the same as that which I heard at New Orleans '87 and Indianapolis '90, massive charismatic ecumenical conferences I attended with press credentials. Fifty percent of those attending were Roman Catholic and a Catholic mass was held every morning during the congresses. When the charismatic movement refers to "worship," it is usually referring to its music.

The pew Bibles in HTB were the New International Version. I noted that most people did not bring a Bible to the service, depending rather on the pew Bibles during the sermon. I did not see anyone taking notes or searching their Bibles. The vicar of Holy Trinity Brompton, Sandy Millar, gave the announcements and prayed. He asked God to "answer the prayers of millions and give us peace in the world." Anglican Theology and Ecumenical Unity We must understand that Holy Trinity Brompton is a part of the Church of England, which is incredibly and wretchedly apostate. When I was passing through London in 1982, I picked up a copy of a newspaper containing an interview by John Mortiner of the Sunday Times with former Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie. It was Easter, and the interviewer asked Runcie if he understood why Christ had to suffer. The Archbishop replied, "As to that I am an agnostic." He did not know for certain why Christ died on the cross! The interviewer asked, "Is God a judge?" Runcie replied, "No." The interviewer then said, "So you don't see God as celestial Lord Chief Justice?" Runcie said, "Not at all. I had an old landlady when we were at Oxford.

And when we got into any sort of trouble, she'd say: 'There's one above who seeth all'. I can't think of God like that." Mortiner then asked Runcie if God accepts people of other religions, and Runcie had this reply: "I can't believe in a God who only saves people who live in certain latitudes. I used to lecture to Hellenic cruises about [Islamic] mosques, and I found great spiritual values in them." Runcie's unbelief is typical of the Church of England today. Large numbers of Anglican priests and bishops are modernists who deny the Word of God, and there is a massive homosexual movement within the Church of England. When the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement celebrated its 20th anniversary recently at the Anglican Southwark Cathedral, more than 2,000 assembled to show their support. One can find every sort of strange unscriptural thing in Anglican churches today.

In one newspaper I read while in London a well-known secular reporter described his visit to an Anglican church on Easter Sunday. He said he went to see if it was still as boring as he remembered it being when he was young. The service featured songs by the Spice Girls, a popular female British rock group. The audience were asked trivia questions about this group and their music. The speaker then said the first Spice Girls were Mary and Martha who brought spices to Christ's empty tomb! This wicked nonsense is typical of Anglicanism today. In 1996, the Anglican doctrinal commission reported that Hell is not a place of eternal fiery torment. The present Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, glories in the Church of England's diversity. Last year he stated: "Anglicanism at its very best can hold differences of thought together. Catholicism, evangelicalism, charismaticism, and liberalism all contribute" (*Calvary Contender*, July 1, 1996). Even the pope of Rome is welcomed with open arms by the modern Anglican denomination. John Paul II was welcomed as a religious hero by the Church of England on his historic trip in 1982.

The first Archbishop of Canterbury to visit a pope was Geoffrey Fisher, who paid an unofficial visit to John XXIII in December 1960. Every successor to Fisher has trotted to Rome to fellowship with the pope. Michael Ramsey officially audience with Paul VI in March 1966. Robert Runcie met with John Paul II in October 1989 and became the second Archbishop of Canterbury to attend a papal mass. George Carey journeyed to Rome to meet with John Paul II in June 1992 and again in December 1996. Though Holy Trinity Brompton is conservative theologically, for an Anglican church today, meaning they accept the Bible as the infallible Word of God, they ignore the Bible's commands to separate from apostasy, and they continually call for trans-denominational ecumenical unity. They also hold to traditional Anglican beliefs pertaining to the priesthood, the mass, and infant baptism. We believe that if the Holy Spirit were truly in control He would lead them out of these unscriptural doctrines and practices and He would teach them biblical separation. The HTB is sponsoring the project to build a multi-million dollar Millennium Village in London to coincide with the A.D. 2000 celebrations.

The Village is envisioned as a centre for ecumenism. In regard to this project, Sandy Millar stated that it is good to see Christian leaders in England laying aside denominational differences to work together (Renewal, March 1997). The Holy Trinity Brompton also sponsors the Alpha course, which is a series of lessons used for evangelism and discipleship. The Alpha program, which is designed to be conducted in homes, is very weak doctrinally. The emphasis is on building relationships and learning to "worship." It also promotes charismatic practices such as speaking in tongues and healing. The fact that the Alpha courses are praised by a wide variety of apostate ecumenical leaders is evidence of its unscriptural character. For example, in the February 1997 issue of Alpha News, the lead article was titled "Archbishop praises Alpha on Pope visit as Catholic church hosts conferences." It noted that Archbishop of Canterbury George Carey praised the Alpha course in a speech in Rome during his official visit with Pope John Paul II in December. The Alpha courses have been accepted by the Roman Catholic Church in England. More than 400 Catholic leaders are booked to attend a conference on the Alpha courses in Westminster Cathedral Hall in May 1997.

The courses are so popular with the Catholics that two other Alpha training conferences are scheduled for Catholic venues later in 1997. Nicky Gumbel stated the ecumenical philosophy of the HTB in these words: "We need to unite ... there has been some comment which is not helpful to unity. Let us drop that and get on. It is wonderful that the movement of the Spirit will always bring churches together. He is doing that right across the denominations and within the traditions ... we are seeing Roman Catholics coming now ... Nobody is suspicious of anybody else ... People are no longer 'labelling' themselves or others. I long for the day when we drop all these labels and just regard ourselves as Christians with a commission from Jesus Christ" (Renewal, May 1995, p. 16). Confused Invitation and "Spirit Slaying" During the service at Holy Trinity Brompton, there was no clear presentation of the Gospel or of how it relates to personal salvation.

The invitation at the end of the meeting was confusing and hazy. Sandy Millar first invited the Holy Spirit to come. He then invited people to come to the front "to express your faith" or "if you want to re-express your faith" or "if you are having difficulty expressing your faith these days." He noted that those coming forward would be assisted by members of the ministering team. At least one man fell to the ground after hands were laid upon him. He was a man who had been sitting near me in the balcony during the service, and I had noticed that he was particularly enthusiastic during the "worship times." He held both hands in the air and swayed to the beat of the music. He went to the front when the invitation was given, and when hands were laid upon him he began shaking. This gradually increased in intensity, and finally he fell to the floor. Link to this posting/article : <http://www.firstplumbline.net/html/drnickygumbalvisittoholytrinitybrompt...>

Mind Science and The Alpha Course What is Metaphysics ? Back Ground Information According to Buddhism. Whatever is found in 'practise' must lie within the scope of the metaphysical description. When the description fails to include the 'practice', the metaphysics is inadequate and requires revision. There can be no appeal to practise to supplement metaphysics, so long as we remain

contented with our metaphysical doctrines. Metaphysics is nothing but the description of the generalities which apply to all the details of practise.

According to the Modern theosophy society

Secret Doctrine 1, p. 130 ... in occult metaphysics there are, properly speaking, two "ones" – the One on the unreachable plane of Absolute-ness and Infinity, on which no speculation is possible, and the Second "One" on the plane of Emanations. The former can neither emanate nor be divided, as it is eternal, absolute, and immutable. The Second, being, so to speak, the reflection of the first One (for it is the Logos, or Isvara, in the Universe of Illusion), can do all this.

According to Mary Baker Eddy Institute

Mary Baker Eddy founder of Christian Science taught :

Science of Being

Seeing creation in the way it is presented in the ninth chapter, we come in the tenth chapter to where this becomes to us the Science of the whole world's being. For now it is established, more radically than ever before, that there are not, and never can be, two opposing creations, two antithetic bases of being, Mind and matter, but one alone, Mind. And therefore only scientific metaphysics (pure Mind) not semi-metaphysics (mixing Mind with matter) is able to overcome the inherent self-destructiveness of physics (pure matter). In consequence, at the end of "Science of Being", we find ourselves standing on the Platform of infallible divine metaphysics, surveying our world as it is in Science, not the way it appears to be to material sense. Remember that we began to take up this position when, at the end of "Footsteps of Truth," we stood on "the Horeb height where God is revealed," and entertained the vision of an absolute boundless creation.

According to Helena Blavatsky

Who confirmed that Theosophy is Luciferian, Helena Blavatsky states: "We are about to found a magazine of our own, Lucifer. Don't allow yourself to be frightened: it is not the devil, into which the Catholics have falsified the name of the Morning Star, sacred to all the ancient world, of the 'bringer of light,' Phosphoros, as the Romans often called the Mother of God and Christ. And in St. John's Revelation does it not say, 'I, Jesus, the morning star'? I wish people would take this to mind, at least. It is possible that the rebellious angel was called Lucifer before his fall, but after his transformation he must not be called so..." H.P. Blavatsky in a letter to her sister Vera. go to "Open your columns to free and fearless discussion, and do as the theosophical periodicals have ever done, and as LUCIFER is now preparing to do. The 'bright Son of the morning' fears no light. He courts it, and is prepared to publish any inimical contributions (couched, of course, in decent language), however much at variance with his theosophical views.

He is determined to give a fair hearing in any and every case, to both contending parties and allow things and thoughts to be judged on their respective merits. For why, or what should one dread when fact and truth are one's only aim?" H.P. Blavatsky in Lucifer, October, 1887. go to

According to the bible it says :

Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming...How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer...thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. (Isaiah 14:9-16 KJV)

The Hebrew word for hell is sheol, this is the place where dead people go to the grave. other attributes of "Lucifer" Lucifer Goes to Hell Lucifer Fallen from Heaven Lucifer Means "Light-bringer"

New Testament References to Satan Falling From Heaven Satan Radiates Light in His Fall from Heaven Revelation 12:9 (NASB) And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. (To be thrown down this would mean Satan fell.

And He said to them, "I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. thus Satan and Lucifer are two different names for the same being. By Miguel Hayworth Director/First Plumblin Apologetics.

Helena Blavatsky also taught :

“The Secret Doctrine carries this idea into the region of metaphysics and postulates a ‘One Form of Existence’ as the basis and source of all things.” (Blavatsky, H.P. The Secret Doctrine. Vol. 1, Page 46)

In the following quote Blavatsky states Jehovah and the Serpent [Satan] that tempted Eve both are the “One” It is curious that Jehovah’s name in Hebrew should also be One,. . . Jehovah — esoterically (as Elohim) — is also the Serpent or Dragon that tempted Eve. . (Blavatsky, H.P. The Secret Doctrine. Vol. 1, Page 73) (Comment: This is blasphemy of the Holy Spirit.)

What is the Link between Alpha and Metaphysics ? According to the Guardian newspaper: “Gumbel’s combination of humour, anecdote, metaphysics, quotations from the bible and complex theology are both persuasive and compelling. On the form that they are invited to complete when they finish the Alpha course, students are asked ‘would you have described yourself as a Christian before you took the Alpha course?’ Most of them write ‘sort of’ or ‘more or less’ or ‘Christian-ish’. And would they describe themselves as Christians now? Most of them write yes.” Sue Arnold Sunday June 11, 2000.

According to Dusty Peterson

The Heart (Important Note: The following section may offend some readers, but please check out our claims. They will be found to be true.) The meticulously-researched book A Different Gospel, by D.R. McConnell, proves beyond doubt that the spiritual and doctrinal roots of both Hagin and Branham – and hence the movements they inspired – lie firmly in a man called E.W. Kenyon who belonged to the ‘New Thought’ metaphysical movement. ‘New Thought Metaphysics’ also spawned Mary Baker Eddy’s ‘First Church of Christ, Scientist’. (Oddly, Nicky now sells Alpha books on the basis that they teach “metaphysics”.)

Sadly, ‘New Thought Metaphysics’ is based squarely on the occultist, psychical practices of ‘Theosophy’ (essentially an early name for the modern New Age movement). Indeed, an associate of Baker Eddy was also the co-founder of the Theosophical Society alongside the ‘queen’ of Theosophy, Helena Blavatsky, who confirmed that Theosophy is Luciferian – i.e. Satanic. (In truth, ALL of the movements cited above have seen unbiblical manifestations just as Alpha does. But this should not shock us. Like all the links in this chain from Toronto down, Alpha too prefers to interpret the Bible in the light of its experiences rather than the other way around.

Among the other similarities between these groups, our book demonstrates that : Alpha too is Dominionist and ecumenical; Alpha too demotes Christ and deifies man; and Alpha too encourages psychical practices like visualisation and positive confession. (See our book for details of these, and other, parallels.) Each of these movements also leans substantially toward the false belief that the Lord Jesus is ‘the Way Shower’ rather than ‘the Way’ period. These things are all New Age.) Despite the above paragraph, some readers may feel that the provenance we have described amounts to nothing more than ‘guilt by association’. It should be noted, however, that the people involved have all admitted that they were indeed influenced by the linked groups or individuals, and they have not repented of these things. Is this a sign of wisdom and spiritual maturity?

Why is HTB endorsing RHB when he still supports Hagin? What is HTB doing when it calls Cain “a true servant of God” even though he has not repented of his relationship with Branham? Why does HTB continue to work with Toronto Airport when it still promotes Benny Hinn? There is an additional point to make here. We have established that it is only one step – via Wimber or Cain – from Nicky to Kenneth Hagin. Intriguingly, it can also be argued that there is only one step from Nicky to Branham, one step from Nicky to Kenyon, one from Nicky to Baker Eddy, and, in at least four separate ways, just one step from Nicky to Helena Blavatsky herself. The “virus” which Alpha is spreading is not from God at all. It lies in the occult – i.e. the enemy.

The attached chart proves this much more fully and demonstrates that 'Toronto' and Alpha have identical spiritual roots. Please feel free to copy it for anyone you know who would benefit from it. Footnote The statement from The Observer newspaper that "Gumbel's ... humour, anecdote, [&] metaphysics ... are both persuasive and compelling" is printed on the back cover of the 2001 editions of books by Gumbel such as Searching Issues, Questions of Life and A Life Worth Living. Could not another quote be used, or the seriously misleading word "metaphysics" be dropped? go to Link to this posting/article: <http://www.firstplumbline.net/html/drnickygumbalmetaphysicsandthealphaco...>

The Alpha Course Financial Reports And People Who The Trustee's Are ?

The alpha courses are generously funded by wealthy Christians in a wide variety of professions.

Alpha International Charity Number: 1086179 Ken Costa – Reported funding the Alpha Course.

Vice Chairman of the European investment banking arm of UBS.

Director of Alpha International. Chairman of Alpha Partners.

Trustee of Alpha International. CBI Member. Made personal Donation to Conservative Leader

David Cameron (Registered 24 November 2005) Church Warden – Holy Trinity Brompton

If you want more information You can download the Alpha Director's Financial Report for 2004.

This is in a PDF format click on the link to download the pdf file if you have not got Acrobat Reader

click on the icon to download the latest version this will open a new window.

Alpha Financial Report 2004. Accounts for year ending 31 Dec 2005 unavailable information will be added as soon as they are available.

For other sources : http://www.theyworkforyou.com/mp/david_cameron/witney <http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/Alpha> –