

Lorraine Day Accepts Universalism

A CLEAR WARNING ABOUT THE ERROR OF UNIVERSALISM IS GIVEN IN GREAT CONTROVERSY, pp. 540 TO 543

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE: ONGOING BATTLE IN THREE DENOMINATIONS / NARNIA FEVER IN THE CHURCHES

Universalism is the teaching that everyone in the entire history of the world will be saved,—and that Satan and all his angels will also be saved.

MIKE CLUTE'S CONCEPT

I discussed this at length in WM-615 (June 1995), where I noted that Mike Clute had finally arrived at the next step after the “God will not kill the incorrigibly wicked”—universalism, the concept that no one will die the second death, but all will be admitted to heaven.

This is an easy step to take; for **if a person believes that God will not slay anyone in the final Judgment, then it is logical to go on and decide that no one will die at all—and everyone will be saved, to live with the holy angels through all eternity.**

The basic problem here is an unwillingness to accept as true the plain statements of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.

Such willingness to embrace concepts not taught in God's Word leads people to accept other errors as well. Here is a statement by Mike Clute, which a friend recently found on his website. In addition, to believing that God will never kill any wicked in the final Judgment—*Mike has decided that God is a woman!* The continual striving for some new thing can be a source of grave danger.

“A brilliant and most enlightened professor of religion at Keene College in Keene, Texas, began to teach his students that God destroys no man . . . It was at a workers' meeting in Texas in 1969 that I heard Elder [Morris] Lewis explain why he believed God does not destroy. He had a chalkboard which he used to explain his concept. There were about 50 pastors there and half of them agreed with him and half disagreed. I was one of those who agreed.

“In August of 1976, the Lord revealed to me His true character and the next year I began to write it out. When it was pointed out to me that this ‘Almighty God,’ the El Shaddai of the Old Testament is also the same as the ‘Almighty Breasted One,’ my mouth dropped open and I did a double take—like, ‘What did you just say?’ The Almighty God who revealed Himself to Abraham is a Her, not a Him. A woman.”

LORRAINE DAY'S CONCEPT

Here is a statement sent us recently by a friend:

“Dr. Lorraine Day has spent many hours on the phone with us, and has invested much in materials and postage trying to convince us that the fires of hell are only a symbolic cleansing, and that Ellen White could not have been God's prophet.”—*Western States*.

Here are several statements from Lorraine Day's 45-page 8½ x 11 book, *What Happens at the Judgment?*

She begins by quoting from Fred Wright, a strong advocate of the “God will not kill the wicked” theory, who at least twice was caught in adultery in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Wright's concept is that God would be very mean and evil if He were to ultimately kill those who continued their rebellion against Him and His law, on and on to the very end.

(Yet God must do this in order to safeguard the stability, peace, and happiness of a universe of beings who love Him and are not in rebellion.

An underlying problem here is a refusal to believe what God has said in His Inspired Books.)

Lorraine spends the next several pages declaring that God could not be loving if He ever killed any of the rebels.

After this, she says that God permanently takes away everyone's sins; and therefore everyone will be saved.

(But, throughout her reasoning, she totally ignores God's justice in punishing the wicked with a final, rather quick death. She also ignores the fact that man has free will, that he is responsible for his decisions, and—because his will is free—if taken to heaven, he would be free to start a new rebellion!)

She then tries to convince the reader that it is really all right to sin. (This concept is based on the assumption that it is not necessary to obey God or His law; and that the law of God is not really the foundation of His throne.)

She then states that God is going to win everyone back to Himself; but, in this booklet, she never explains how or when that is going to happen.

“It is God's nature not to throw anything away. Why would He create billions of people just to per-

manently annihilate them by whatever means?”—*p. 14.*

“After all, God tells us that He watches out for the sparrows and we’re told we’re far more important than sparrows. If you are willing to die for something, you don’t throw it away.”—*p. 14.*

In her concern to prove her points, she rationalizes some Scripture concepts and obliterates others.

“Did God create an angel (who became Satan) to be smarter than God is? That has to be the case if Satan can win 80% or more of God’s children away from God, and God doesn’t have a clue as to how to win them back.”—*p. 15.*

“After the Judgment . . . Death will be abolished . . . When ‘death’ is abolished, No one will be dead. Everyone will be alive.”—*p. 16.*

She then cleverly undercuts the concept of free will, by declaring that we really do not have it.

“But do we really have ‘free will’? Consider this: We didn’t ask to be born. We had no choice in it . . . We had no choice as to who our parents were.”—*p. 17.*

She then reveals her belief in “determinism,” a Freudian psychiatric concept that we are pushed to make decisions by forces beyond our control.

“And we have no choice as to the circumstances nor experiences that go into making up our subconscious mind which determines in large part how we react to situations and how we make decisions.”—*p. 17.*

Lorraine Day then pits her concept of eternal salvation for everyone in contrast with the error of an eternally burning hellfire, and asks the reader to choose which one he wants:

“If God has really given us ‘free will’ to choose Him or not to choose Him, then why would He punish us for exercising that ‘free will’ in not choosing Him? And this is not just any punishment, but the punishment of eternal death, a horrible death and annihilation from burning!”—*p. 17.*

Under the subtitle of “*Regarding God’s Saving of All Mankind*,” she says that, like the truth of Christ’s resurrection from the dead—

“The same is true of the church of today regarding universal restoration—the saving of all mankind.”—*p. 18.*

Just as Satan used passages of Scripture when he met Christ in the wilderness, Lorraine uses them also:

“Phil 4:6 ‘Be anxious for nothing!’ (Don’t worry about anything) . . . Universal restoration is truly ‘the peace that passes all understanding.’”—*p. 18.*

She takes Bible verses, which refer to God’s faithful, obedient children, and applies them to all the incorrigibly wicked as well. In her view, everyone in the world will receive all the promises made to the few who are faithful to God.

“Do you mean we actually get a second chance?”

you ask. Isn’t that heresy? . . . [Mentions fall of Adam and Eve] . . . ‘Did God give them a second chance? You bet He did! He immediately gave them the promise of a Saviour . . . [Genesis 3:15 quoted.] That’s the promise of a second chance.’—*p. 19.*

There is a world of difference between giving people a limited probationary period of time in which to reveal character and make their decisions,—and giving them perpetual, never-ending time to, hopefully, make a good decision—and saving them whether or not they do.

“‘If God’s going to save everyone eventually, then I can ‘be bad’ as long as I want, and I’ll still have a chance later to change and be saved, so what’s the big deal? I can put off coming to Christ for as long as I want.’”—*p. 19.*

In her reply to this question, which she poses,—Lorraine never says the person will ever need to accept Christ at all—or ever stop sinning! The only problem, in her thinking, is that the person would not be as happy as long as he continues in sin.

“Yes, you can. Go and sin as much as you wish. All it eventually leads to is pain and suffering. Jesus will still be there waiting for you.

“Then why should we pray for people, when everyone is going to be saved anyway?”

“Don’t you realize that it’s better to be with the Lord, than to be without Him? Even if there were nothing after this life, wouldn’t it be better to be with the Lord now than not to be with Him now?”—*pp. 19-20.*

Under the subhead, *on p. 21*, “*When Will We See this Happen?*” Lorraine Day presents her concept that everyone will ultimately “accept Christ.”

Regarding Obadiah 15-16, she says:

“The wicked will be ‘as though they’ve never been’ because they will have been converted and become new creatures in Christ.”—*p. 28.*

Regarding the Bible statement, “fire consumed the wicked,” and similar statements about “fire,” she says:

“This obviously means fiery trials. Purification by trials—not literal fire . . . We are cleansed and purified by fiery trials.”—*p. 30.*

Near the end of the book, she says,

“Which would be greater? For God to wipe out Satan from the universe with a tremendous show of force and vengeance or—to win him back and change him into a new creature in Christ?”—*p. 41.*

Here are the last two sentences in her book:

“God never fails! He’ll win everyone of His children back!”—*p. 43.*

It is because Lorraine Day has been so influential with our people that we present this unfortunate change in her thinking. We are told that it was through reading in the Spirit of Prophecy that she first learned about the natural remedies which removed her breast cancer. But now she has abandoned those precious counsels.

Ongoing Battle in Three Denominations

Three large Protestant denominations are each facing a major crisis, which could split each one down the middle; and, yes, you guessed it: Conservatives and liberals in each one are fighting over the same issue.

CRISIS IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

The General Assembly of PCUSA will vote on a measure in June of this year which, if enacted, would nulify its church constitution's fidelity/chastity standard for PCUSA ministers. It would allow certain exceptions to the standard for "conscience reasons."

A PCUSA commission drew up the proposal. Many PCUSA leaders have voiced support. It is expected that if the assembly adopts it, and a majority of presbyteries (regional units) ratify it, the 2.3-million-member denomination will experience a major exodus. A large number of members will leave because they do not want to remain in a denomination which has homosexual ministers.

CRISIS IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH (U.S.A.)

A crucial vote is scheduled for ECUSA. This 2.3-million denomination will decide whether it will apologize and repent for having consecrated an openly gay bishop in 2003. A large number of the head bishops from the rest of the international Anglican Communion throughout the world have demanded that this vote be taken.

ECUSA leaders (in charge of all American Episcopalian churches), already banned from Anglicanism's chief policy-making body and disfellowshipped by many of the Anglican Communion's archbishops, have announced that they will not agree to declare that their decision to ordain V. Gene Robinson as bishop of New Hampshire churches was wrong.

This decisive vote will be taken this summer at the 2006 ECUSA General Convention. If the leaders' refusal is approved by the delegates,—it will result in an eventual split into two segments. One will be an affluent minority liberal gay-rights group; and the other will be an underfunded majority, consisting of several conservative alliances.

It is expected that the actual split will occur within two years at the next worldwide Anglican Lambeth Conference, which will convene in the summer of 2008.

It is generally believed that, at that time, many conservative ECUSA dioceses and churches would be named by the majority to replace ECUSA as the authentic Anglican church body in America.

However, ECUSA leaders have the quiet support of many leaders in the headquarters of the Archbishop of Canterbury in London. It is thought that ECUSA leaders will try to solve the problem by apologizing for all the controversy (but not for causing it) and expressing regret for not having consulted with other Communion

leaders before ordaining Robinson.

But very influential Communion leaders in the southern hemisphere have warned in advance that they will not accept such an apology. They want Robinson kicked out of office, and agreement by ECUSA to totally stop ordaining gay ministers and bishops.

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES (U.S.A.)

It is fully expected that this 1.5-million-member denomination will split this summer. Headquartered in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, this large church body has historically been strongly opposed to homosexuality as a practice opposed to Scripture.

But, in recent years, the liberal-dominated governing board of the ABC, located in Valley Forge, has repeatedly blocked all attempts to enforce the policy on member churches. The reason given is that the member churches are autonomous, do not have creeds, and have the right to interpret the Bible as they wish. The board has also allowed gay-approving liberal churches to transfer from predominantly conservative regional units to gay-friendly ones in a different geographic area.

As a result an explosion is coming.

The ABC's Southern California-based Pacific Southwest Region, with 300 churches in three states (most of which are conservative) are scheduled to vote in April on whether to sever connections with the denomination.

Several other regions are preparing to do likewise—if the central ABC board continues to refuse to discipline pro-gay congregations.

The situation has already become precarious because donations to the central board have fallen off heavily. It has dropped many staff members and is currently renting out most of its headquarters to private firms.

A large percentage of church members are either sending their donations to anti-gay black denominations or to the pro-gay United Church of Christ denomination.

The Northern California-based ABC churches have already ejected several pro-gay churches from membership.

Leaders of American Baptist Evangelicals, an anti-gay support group, recently declared the ABC to be doomed to collapse and voted to help the conservative churches which leave it.

The consequence of all this infighting is very likely to result in all three denominations splitting wide open, with conservatives (anti-gays) and liberals (pro-gays) going in opposite directions. In all three, legal battles will be fought in the courts for years to come—in order to see which groups obtain ownership of church offices, churches, parishes, other church properties, vehicles, and equipment.

—vf

Narnia Fever in the Churches

The fascination of Christians with C.S. Lewis' brand of witchcraft is truly amazing.

James Dobson's Focus on the Family filled an entire broadcast in January with utter praise for this witchcraft series of books by C.S. Lewis. It was forcefully stated on that broadcast that this movie was destined to bring thousands of young people to Jesus Christ, who could never have been converted by merely reading the Bible! Dobson's organization had earlier produced a very expensive series of sound portrayals of the entire series.

Many churches throughout America are so thrilled with Lewis' spooky stories that they have celebrated the great event by changing their main auditoriums into a "Land of Narnia."

What is this great event? On December 9, 2005, a major Disney movie, based on the first book of C.S. Lewis' *The Chronicles of Narnia*, opened in movie houses across America. Millions of Americans flocked to see it; so much so that the movie took in \$24 million on opening day alone.

Instead of preaching against witchcraft as satanic, and denouncing movie-going as worldly, churches organized large groups of church members to go see it. Christians arrived in busloads at the theaters.

Those entering the Bellaire United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas, must walk through a wardrobe and brush past coats—to emerge into "the land of Narnia," where Pastor Valerie Hudson gives them a Narnia sermon. At the University Baptist Church, also in Houston, Pastor Robert Creech based all his December sermons on Narnia stories.

Church pastors all across the nation are declaring the movie to be "Christian," and many churches are using the story as part of their Sunday school lessons. Perhaps this should not be surprising; since they have said that the book it is based on (*The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*) is a glorious Christian allegory.

I am told that the story is about a small girl who walks through a mirror in a wardrobe closet—and enters a strange new world with mythological creatures, pagan gods (including Bacchus, the god of wine and drunken revelry), women who dance around in a frenzy (called Maenads), and a witch who—like the evil people described in the Harry Potter tales—casts spells and tries to kill people. Aslan, the lion, is the hero who gains strength when he faces the Rising Sun

in the East, which causes him to shed rays of light.

This is Christian? Far from it. Like the Harry Potter books and movies, it is an open door to spiritualism.

Satan has a way of captivating minds, especially when they get close to spiritualistic phenomena. If people choose to be attracted—they are overwhelmed by a fascinating delight. The devil wants to lure people into ever deeper involvement with demons;—and witchcraft stories and indoctrination has become an extremely successful device toward this end.

We frequently receive letters and emails from ex-witches and former coven practitioners who, upon reading the information in our website,

harrypottermagic.com,

lament how witchcraft has ruined their lives. They are distraught and fear to trust their self-control. But those who have found Jesus Christ as their only Saviour are able to find release from demonic power and freedom to once again live honest, moral, decent lives.

The Narnia books are required reading for newly initiated members of covens and neophyte witches. Witches and wizards recognize that C.S. Lewis' witchcraft books provide a basic framework, upon which the Harry Potter books and advanced witchcraft lore will build upon.

C.S. Lewis, who never stopped smoking his tobacco-filled pipes, had earlier been an actual witch, illuminist, and member of the coven known as the *Thelemic Order of the Golden Dawn*.

C.S. Lewis wrote, "As I believe, Christ . . . fulfilled both paganism and Judaism" (*Reflections on the Psalms*, p. 129).

In 1999, I wrote an article about C.S. Lewis (*Who Is C.S. Lewis? [WM-857, p. 4]*). Here is information from it: Lewis viewed the atonement as a type of Roman Catholic penance rather than having any element of Messianic substitution. He did not think that baptism amounted to much, said there were errors in the Bible, and believed in a burning purgatory where (after death) souls would be redeemed by fire. His close friends were Catholics and he regularly went to confession. He deeply believed in the Tao (an oriental pagan religious concept), loved fantasy, said that Narnia had nothing to do with Christianity, and wrote science fiction for adults (*Out of the Silent Planet*, etc.) —vf