



*“For such men are slaves not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of unsuspecting.”*

Romans 16:18

# BENDED KNEE INTERNATIONAL

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## *The Believer's Greatest Danger* Part 4

BY TOM WATSON

We come now to the fourth part of our series on the danger of deception before the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Due to the claims of extra-biblical revelation, the influence of New Age and eastern thought and political correctness, we have looked at deception that comes through Bibles, books, and blogs. In our final article, we give examples of deception that come through bloviation.

Webster's defines the following: <sup>1</sup>

Bloviolate – to speak at some length bombastically or rhetorically

Bombastic – refers to speech or writing that is pompous and inflated and suggests extravagant verbal padding (unnecessary or irrelevant material) and little substance.

Bloviating is a common trend in the church today both in what is proclaimed and what is written. It becomes a means to elevate one to a place of prominence and recognition. We live in a time when a simple and pure devotion to Jesus Christ and trusting in the revealed truth of Scripture as sufficient for life and ministry are considered naive.

Bloviating seems to be an everyday occurrence in the Charismatic Word of Faith movement. For example, Joel Osteen, who has the largest church in America, with 52,000 in weekly attendance, rarely mentions sin, hell or Satan but teaches if you want to be rich, just prophesy yourself to be rich. If you want good health, just prophesy yourself to be healthy. Such teaching does not come from the Bible but from Osteen's late father who taught, "If you want to change your life, you have to change your confession. The miracle is in your mouth."<sup>2</sup> Bloviation may draw thousands, but neither the Bible nor the reality of life supports this.

Then there is Joseph Prince, the senior pastor of New Creation Church of Singapore with a membership of 34,000 and the author of the book, Health and Wholeness through the Holy Communion. Prince can be seen on television weekly and mixes truth with error. Prince teaches one can be saved and healed by taking communion. An evaluation of Prince's teaching on communion reveals:

According to Prince, the broken body of Christ, represented by the bread, is separated from the blood of Christ, represented by the wine; the wine guarantees spiritual salvation while the bread guarantees physical salvation.

Prince also teaches that the only reason (I repeat, the only reason) believers are sick is because they don't properly discern the Lord's body as providing health through partaking of the bread.

Word-Faith preachers like Prince fail to perceive the reality that many unbelievers enjoy near perfect health all their lives, while many faithful believers suffer from serious ailments all their lives. Rather than acknowledge reality they peddle fantasies.<sup>3</sup>

Or, should we say they bloviate?

The Word of Faith preachers are not alone when it comes to bloviating. David Jeremiah, considered by most a sound Bible teacher, bloviates when promoting his book, Life Wide Open, by stating, "A small handful among us have discovered what the rest of us would pay dearly to know: How can we bring real living excitement into life?"<sup>4</sup> Has Jeremiah and his small handful discovered something no one else has found? Do we have to pay dearly for biblical truth? Is their discovery biblical truth or does his statement, in reality, have little substance?

***“Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.”***

James 1:16

It becomes extremely troubling to discover this small handful, who are self-proclaimed experts on the Christian life, includes a feminine spiritualist, a Buddhist sympathizer, an emergent church leader and others who promote the unbiblical practice of contemplative prayer. World Magazine reported that Jeremiah's Turning Point ministry spent a quarter of a million dollars buying his books from retail stores in an effort to elevate them to best sellers. Jeremiah did not deny this but explained it as a marketing technique.<sup>5</sup>

Perhaps the best example of extreme bloviating coming out of the charismatic movement is Joyce Meyer's heretical teaching that Christ paid for our sins in hell between the cross and His resurrection. In a recorded message entitled "From the Cross to the Throne," Meyer states this:

"And you've got to really glean some things out of the Word of God to really get hold of what He did for you during those three days. What happened from Friday between 9:00 o'clock and noon to Sunday morning? Do you know something? A large majority of the church really doesn't even know. Honestly and truly they really don't even know when this night's over. ... There is no way I could even hope to explain this to you. If God doesn't give you revelation on it, you won't understand a thing I'm saying. ... The Bible can't even find any way to explain this. Not really. That's why you've got to get it by revelation. There are no words to explain what I'm telling you. I've got to just trust God that He's putting it into your spirit as He put it into mine."<sup>6</sup>

Meyer continues describing what she claims God revealed to her about Christ paying for our sins in hell.

"All the hosts of hell was upon Him. Up on Him. They got on Him. They got Him down on the floor and got on Him. And they were laughing and mocking. ... All right, now get a picture of this. If God ever paced in His whole life He was pacing during these two days. God just kind of showed it to me that way. Now, I don't know if He actually paced or not, but He showed it that way. You see the Father could see down there and see what was going on. He was watching what they were doing to His beloved Son. ... Sunday morning. Sunday morning, here comes the Son. Sunday morning. God gets Himself together. Ho, hoooo. Justice has been met. Somehow the thing's been taken care of. And ol' God gets His voice together and He hollers out three words and they go roaring through the universe and entering the gates of hell. He said 'It is enough! It is enough!'"<sup>7</sup>

Later Meyer wrote, "There is no hope of anyone going to heaven unless they believe this truth I am presenting."<sup>8</sup> However, when Meyer was confronted with her heretical teaching on the atonement, she denied, even though on tape, she ever taught it. Sometimes there is little difference between a politician and a TV evangelist. Meyer is right about one thing, "The Bible can't even find any way to explain" what she taught.

We know, without a doubt from Scripture, that Christ died and paid the price for our sins on Calvary's cross.

**"and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed."<sup>9</sup>**

Meyer's heretical teaching is pompous and inflated as a clear example of bloviation. Politicians bloviate to get votes. Authors bloviate to sell books. Preachers and TV evangelists bloviate to impress and gain a greater following. However, Paul would say, "For such men are slaves not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting."<sup>10</sup>

Bibles, books, blogs and bloviation, all can be used as instruments of great deception. No matter what we read or hear, we must be examining the Scriptures daily, to see whether these things are so.<sup>11</sup>

"Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren."<sup>12</sup>

#### ENDNOTES AND SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

1 Webster's New World Dictionary, Third College Edition, 1991 p. 151, 158

2 Lighthouse Trails Research Journal, Vol 3-No. 2 March/April 2015, p. 7

3 Media Spotlight, Vol 38 – No.4 Winter 2015 pgs. 28-30

4 Lighthouse Trails Research Journal, Vol 3-No. 2 March/April 2015 p. 15

5 World, February 21, 2015 p. 49

6 The Quarterly Journal Vol 23, No. 1, January – March 2003 pgs. 8, 9

7 IBID p. 9

8 IBID p. 9

9 1 Peter 2:24

10 Romans 16:18

11 Acts 17:11

12 James 1:16

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## Personal Opportunities for You in 2017

We are always thankful for you who have prayed and supported BKI in making it possible for us to proclaim the gospel and encourage believers on both sides of the world. We would like to share with you how you can be personally involved in the ministry of BKI in 2017.

We invite you to:

- spend one week, July 17-21, working with a Navajo Church teaching and evangelizing Navajo children on the Navajo Reservation.
- spend one week, July 17-21, helping a Navajo Church concerning any physical needs they have with their church building and grounds. Other dates may be available.
- personally share the gospel and provide Bibles to the Navajo people for a minimum of two days up to five days at the Navajo Nation Fair in Window Rock, Arizona. The dates are September 5-10, 2017.

All materials are supplied by BKI, but, you are responsible for your personal expense. We also plan a Spring and Fall Native American Leadership Conference on the Reservation next year.

We invite you to prayerfully and financially support one of our Siberian pastors and/or churches this year. These believers are facing severe economic hardships and tension from a new law forbidding personal evangelism. The instruction of the Scripture and the example of the early church tells us we must be sensitive to the needs of poor believers facing hardship. Sixty dollars for us is a trip to Walmart. Sixty dollars for them is a month's salary. The pastors are Anatoly Kidiekov and Kostya Yanov. The churches are Baj-Xaak, Shivilig and Susch in the Republic of Tuva.

\*If the Lord leads you to be a part of BKI's ministry in 2017, you may contact us through our website ([www.bendedknee.org](http://www.bendedknee.org)) or by mail (PO Box 1325, Roanoke, TX, 76262).

Thank you!

***They only asked us to remember the poor - the very thing I also was eager to do.***  
**Galatians 2:10**

## Navajos by the Numbers

- 22% hold full time employment. Unemployment is six times greater than Alaska, the highest of the 50 states.
- 43% live below the federal poverty line which is double that of Mississippi, the worst of the 50 states.
- 49% have an annual household income of less than \$25,000 and qualify for food stamps.
- 44% do not have a high school education.
- 50% of their homes are in need of serious repair compared to a U.S. national average of 5%.
- They have one of the highest rates in the nation of domestic abuse, alcohol and drug addiction and teenage suicide.
- Around 7% can be considered evangelical Christians.
- Conclusion: You do not have to go far to be in the midst of a mission field.
- Source: The Arizona Republic, December 20, 2016.

**We give thanks to the Lord for your prayers and support  
of the ministry of Bended Knee International.**

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