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"Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy."

—I Timothy 6:17

CONFERENCE UPDATE an update from our Student Worldview Conferences

This summer more than 1,600 students attended Summit's Student Worldview Conferences. They came from across the U.S. and a number of other countries, including Germany, South Korea, New Zealand, Egypt, and Canada.

While the majority of these 16 to twenty-something young adults came from an evangelical perspective, they represented a cross-section of denominations, educational backgrounds (home, private, public, and Christian schools), and personal experiences.

Most students who attend the Summit are eager to learn a "worldview" perspective and how to apply these ideas to what they hear in the classroom and see in popular culture. Typically, students come from committed Christian homes and are active in youth group. One such high school senior told her parents upon returning home, "This was the best two weeks of my life!"

Another student from a Christian background had a number of questions about the religion she had grown up in, including how God could judge people who were raised with a different religion from Christianity. As we talked about her questions, she came to the point where she trusted what she did know about God, his mercy and justice, in spite of not having an answer to every difficult question. She said after one conversation, "This was very, very helpful."

On the other hand, some students come to our conferences skeptical of Christianity and the Bible. Some have doubts about the faith they learned in childhood while others are not sure what to believe. A few come under duress, preferring to be anywhere but an academic camp for two weeks. But somewhere in the midst of hearing from the nation's leading Christian professors, authors, and speakers and living among a vibrant community of Christians, many times these students, too, experience life-change. The following are a few of their stories:

One girl came as a non-Christian with a lot of questions. Each Thursday of the second week is "testimony" night, where several students and summer staff shared their

personal struggles and the biblical answers they find satisfying. Afterward, this girl told her small group leader that she now knew enough to trust Christ as her Savior, and the leader led her in prayer. (Almost every session, decisions are made for Christ.)

After the first week one male student exclaimed, "Man, I've got to make some changes in my life."

A college student had never told anyone, including her parents, about her immoral life-style. She was viewing pornography, had numerous one-night stands with guys, and came to the Summit thinking she might be pregnant (as it turns out, she wasn't). She told her small group leader

about her life and began meeting with the women's staff director for personal counseling. Before leaving the Summit, she realized her need for accountability to their parents and called them with her confession and desire to change.

One young woman, after hearing our pro-life speaker, commented, "I came here believing in a woman's right to an abortion, but you have taken away all my reasons." This same student told one of our staff, "I get no sleep at night from sitting up thinking about all these ideas." And before the session ended, she said, "I don't know what to do. I've never met any smart Christians before."

Another student came as a result of his aunt and uncle's encouragement. As an atheist, he was planning on staying for only the first week. But he saw a qualitative difference in the lives of the staff and other students and was intrigued by the relevancy of the biblical story to life's important questions. He ended up staying the entire two weeks and now believes in God.

A nineteen-year-old had already received her college degree and was planning on moving to a large city to work in the fall. She came to the Summit questioning everything. During the first week her small group leader suggested to the girls in her group that they should look into attending our intensive 12-week "Summit Semester" this fall. This girl's comment was, "Three months of Summit sounds like hell on earth." However, by the second week, she had done a 180 in her attitude, decided to break off her relationship with a non-Christian guy, and applied to attend Summit Semester. Her parents were so excited they offered to pay for the apartment she had already rented for the fall so she could attend our semester program.

God is in the business of saving souls, which means also changing hearts and minds. It is such a privilege to help young people understand the difference a biblical worldview makes, not only in society, but also in their individual lives.

—Chuck Edwards



from the PRESIDENT'S DESK a word from Dr. Noebel

I just finished reading a 23-page summary of a 622page book published by Regnery (2008) entitled Shadow World: Resurgent Russia, the Global New Left, and Radical Islam by Robert Chandler. If the book (which I have ordered) is only half as informative as the summary, I highly recommend it as summer reading for all Summit Journal readers. The summary contains nothing that I found out of line or "way out" in some field other than the field of truth.

In fact, Chandler's work more than reinforces what I say in two recent Schwarz Report articles — "The Socialization of America" and "Obama's 'Red' Spiritual Advisor." You can read both on the Summit web site (Summit.org) under The President's Desk articles.

Chandler, a retired Air Force colonel and Vietnam veteran who holds a Ph.D. in political science from George Washington University, ties together the whole presentday Marxist universe (old communists, new communists, old socialists, new socialists, Congressional Progressive Caucus, Democratic Socialists of America, Socialist International, Institute for Policy Study, Campaign for America's Future, The Nation (magazine), etc.

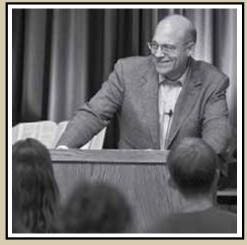
Here's a taste of what Chandler reports: "The Institute for Policy Studies was founded in 1963 by Samuel Rubin (1901-1978), a Communist and Russian émigré. Rubin's daughter Cora Weiss has headed the Samuel Rubin Foundation since her father's death, and she continues to serve as the 'grandmother of IPS' by acting as a primary financier of the Institute. Her husband, Peter Weiss, served as Chairman of the IPS Board of Trustees, and he has long been a member of the National Lawyers Guild (cited as a Communist front)."

The transformation of the United States into a socialist paradise in which Big Brother Government and its elite members rule over every facet of our lives is progressing aggressively on two fronts: I) global warming and 2) public healthcare.

The Journal has tracked the global warming issue for months, but has said little about the real threat of public healthcare aimed at the very heart of our nation. Once either of these two schemes is signed into law, our nation, as we have known it, will no longer exist. Once nations become nanny states, the way out is very difficult and time-consuming.

To be sure, what we are discussing is a Marxist advance in the United States of America, and we can support this assertion with the following: a) the name of the Congressional committee in charge of global warming (now called climate change since nothing has warmed up since 1978) is the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming and is chaired by Edward J. Markey (MA-7); b) the name of the Congressional committee in charge of healthcare is the Committee on Energy and Commerce and is chaired by Henry Waxman (CA-30).

Both Markey and Waxman are members of the Congressio-Progressive Caucus, a far left. Marxist caucus founded by socialist Bernie Sanders (who is presently a U.S. Senator but retains his membership in the House caucus). Everything produced by these



two committees as well as the other nine House Committees chaired by Congressional Progressive Caucus members (George Miller, Bob Filner, Barney Frank, John Conyers, Bennie Thompson, Nydia Velazquez, Charles Rangel, Louise Slaughter, and Bob Brady) reeks of the New Marxism.

New Marxism is quite simple to discern from Old Marxism. Old Marxists (sometimes called Marxists-Leninists) slaughtered millions of property owners (see R. J. Rummel's Death by Government). On the other hand, New Marxists (called progressives, Fabian socialists, Communist-lite, Keynesians, Gramscites, etc.) allow property owners to exist and produce wealth and then tax it away in order to redistribute it to the economically disadvantaged. The economically disadvantaged then corral their votes and keep their benefactors in office. Included in the mix are the intellectual elites, who corral their studies favoring socialistic and progressive ideas and the superior governing classes, who corral their votes in Congress to further the Marxist/socialist society they are ushering in and now calling "transformational change."

Or, as Prager explains, "The left everywhere seeks to make as big and powerful a state as possible. It does so because only the state can redistribute society's wealth. And because only a strong and powerful state can impose values on society. The idea of a small government, the American ideal since its inception, is the antithesis of the left's ideal."

Christians, however, must constantly remind themselves that the "values" imposed will be values of the secularist left. Hence we heard Obama say during the presidential campaign, "The first thing I'd do as President is sign the Freedom of Choice Act. That's the first thing that I'd do." The FOCA legitimizes abortion on demand at any time and for any reason. And we heard President Obama declare June 2009 LGBT Pride Month in honor of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered Americans! Before long, euthanasia will be declared a "right" and funded by the very ones it is poised to kill.

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This is the world in which we as Christians are living. We must resist all we see that is abhorrent and evil, or history will surely repeat itself. Hegel, though, may have been right when he said that the only thing we learn from history is that we learn nothing from history!

Let me close with some positive notes from our Summit family:

My children were in the 2nd session at Summit this summer. It was a very faith affirming time for them. They shared in our church service that what they learned and experienced at the Summit deepened their understanding of what they had been taught at home all their lives. We thank the Lord for you and your ministry to our children and the scholarships made this life dream possible.

-David and Wendy, Mission Hill, SD

Summit Ministries has been one of the most impacting ministries in my life. It has challenged me to stand up for my beliefs and really think about my faith. It has also helped me as a public school teacher to be confident in my walk with the Lord. Thank you for also being so generous and letting Summit alumni return to the campus. I have truly been blessed.

-Angela, New Brighton, MN

"Thank you so much for your very generous and gracious gift of a scholarship to send me to the Educator's Conference last week. I went to the one in Tennessee and had the time of my life learning, interacting, and finding so many pertinent ways to integrate worldview into my classroom. I'm thrilled with deepening my own biblical worldview and becoming more informed so as to be a better witness in our community. Thank you for making all this possible and being mightily used of God in so many lives."

- Barbara, Kings Mills, OH

Readers interested in purchasing Shadow World may do so for \$29.95 plus shipping (or the 23-page summary of the book for \$5). Both may be purchased through Summit's web store (www.summit.org/store/) Please allow a few weeks for delivery.

BIBLIGAL GHRISTIANITY

But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.

Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge—by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith.

Grace be with you. Amen.

-I Timothy 6:11–21, NKJV

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I wish we didn't live in a world where buying and selling things (especially selling) seem to have become almost more important than either producing or using them.

> —C.S. Lewis, Letters to an American Lady, December 19, 1955

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[The devil Screwtape in a speech at the "Annual Dinner of the Tempters' Training College for Young Devils":] What I want to fix your attention on is the vast overall movement towards the discrediting, and finally the elimination of every kind of human excellence-moral, cultural, social, or intellectual. And is it not pretty to notice how "democracy" (in the incantatory sense) is now doing for us the work that was once done by the most ancient Dictatorships, and by the same methods?

The basic principal of the new education is to be that dunces and idlers must not be made to feel inferior to intelligent and industrious pupils. That would be "undemocratic." . . . Children who are fit to proceed to a higher class may be artificially kept back, because the others would get a trauma ... by being left behind. The bright pupil thus remains democratically fettered to his own age group

throughout his school career, and a boy who would be capable of tackling Aeschylus or Dante sits listening to his coeval's attempts to spell out A CAT SAT ON THE MAT.

In a word, we may reasonably hope for the virtual abolition of education when I'm as good as you has fully had its way. All incentives to learn and all penalties for not learning will vanish. The few who might want to learn will be prevented; who are they to overtop their fellows? And anyway the teachers—or should I say nurses?—will be far too busy reassuring the dunces and patting them on the back to waste any time on real teaching. We shall no longer have to plan and toil to spread imperturbable conceit and incurable ignorance among men. The little vermin themselves will do it for us.

—C.S. Lewis, The Screwtage Letters

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If all the world were Christian, it might not matter if all the world were uneducated. But, as it is, a cultural life will exist outside the Church whether it exists inside or not. To be ignorant and simple now-not to be able to meet enemies on their own ground-would be to throw down our weapons, and to betray our uneducated brethren who have, under God, no deference but us against the intellectual attacks of the heathen. Good philosophy must exist, if for no other reason, because bad philosophy needs to be answered. The cool intellect must work not only against cool intellect on the other side, but against the muddy heathen mysticisms which deny intellect altogether. —C.S. Lewis, The Weight of Glory

ECONOMICS AND HEALTH CARE

If government-run health care is such a great idea, why won't members of Congress enroll their own families?

The question has been on the minds of many Americans, but Democrats aren't giving answers. Instead, they are exempting themselves from their own health care "reform."

The Affordable Health Choices Act drafted by Sen. Edward Kennedy's staff and the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee pushes "Americans into stingy insurance plans with tight, HMO-style controls," the Wall Street Journal reports.

At the same time, Page 114 of the act specifically exempts members of Congress from the public plan.

The bill mandates that all other Americans enroll in "qualified" health plans and submit proof of enrollment to the government.

Everyone must report "the name, address, and taxpayer identification number of each individual who is covered under health insurance that is qualifying coverage" and include the "number of months during the calendar year during which each such individual was covered under such health

insurance," along with "such other information as the Secretary may prescribe."

Under his plan for health "reform," President Obama has promised Americans that citizens will have the same health care options members of Congress receive. During his presidential campaign, he told an audience in Canton, Ohio, in October 2008: "If you don't have health insurance, you'll be able to get the same kind of health insurance that members of Congress give themselves."

At a news conference June 23, Obama said people will be able to choose their insurance "the same way that federal employees do the same way that members of Congress do."

According to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, "Federal employees, retirees, and their survivors enjoy the widest selection of health plans in the country. You can choose from among Consumer-Driven and High Deductible plans that offer catastrophic risk protection with higher deductibles, health savings/reimbursable accounts and lower premiums, or Fee-for-Service (FFS) plans, and their Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO), or Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) if you live (or sometimes if you work) within the area serviced by the plan."

Mark McClellan, a doctor and economist at the Brookings Institution, told USA Today he believes Congress gets a great deal when it comes to health care options.

"It's significantly more generous than most Americans are getting," said McClellan. According to the report, members of Congress also receive medical care from a Capitol doctor for a small charge and may get treatment at military hospitals—the same medical care offered to presidents and visiting dignitaries...

—Chelsea Schilling, WorldNetDaily, July 23, 2009

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The health bills coming out of Congress would put the decisions about your care in the hands of presidential appointees. They'd decide what plans cover, how much leeway your doctor will have, and what seniors get under Medi-

Yet at least two of President Obama's top health advisers should never be trusted with that power.

Start with Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel, the brother of White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel. He has already been appointed to two key positions: health-policy adviser at the Office of Management and Budget and a member of Federal Council on Comparative Effectiveness Research.

Emanuel bluntly admits that the cuts will not be painfree. "Vague promises of savings from cutting waste, enhancing prevention and wellness, installing electronic medical records and improving quality are merely 'lipstick' cost control, more for show and public relations than for true change," he wrote last year (Health Affairs, Feb. 27, 2008).

Savings, he writes, will require changing how doctors think about their patients: Doctors take the Hippocratic Oath too seriously, "as an imperative to do everything for the patient regardless of the cost or effects on others" (Journal of the American Medical Association, June 18, 2008).

Yes, that's what patients want their doctors to do. But Emanuel wants doctors to look beyond the needs of their patients and consider social justice, such as whether the money could be better spent on somebody else.

Many doctors are horrified by this notion; they'll tell you that a doctor's job is to achieve social justice one patient at a time.

Emanuel, however, believes that "communitarianism" should guide decisions on who gets care. He says medical care should be reserved for the non-disabled, not given to those "who are irreversibly prevented from being or becoming participating citizens An obvious example is not guaranteeing health services to patients with dementia" (Hastings Center Report, Nov.-Dec. '96).

Translation: Don't give much care to a grandmother with Parkinson's or a child with cerebral palsy.

He explicitly defends discrimination against older patients: "Unlike allocation by sex or race, allocation by age is not invidious discrimination; every person lives through different life stages rather than being a single age. Even if 25-yearolds receive priority over 65-year-olds, everyone who is 65 years now was previously 25 years" (Lancet, Jan. 31).

The bills being rushed through Congress will be paid for largely by a \$500 billion-plus cut in Medicare over 10 years. Knowing how unpopular the cuts will be, the president's budget director, Peter Orszag, urged Congress this week to delegate its own authority over Medicare to a new, presidentially-appointed bureaucracy that wouldn't be accountable to the public.

Since Medicare was founded in 1965, seniors' lives have been transformed by new medical treatments such as angioplasty, bypass surgery, and hip and knee replacements. These innovations allow the elderly to lead active lives. But Emanuel criticizes Americans for being too "enamored with technology" and is determined to reduce access to it.

Dr. David Blumenthal, another key Obama adviser, agrees. He recommends slowing medical innovation to control health spending.

Blumenthal has long advocated government healthspending controls, though he concedes they're "associated with longer waits" and "reduced availability of new and expensive treatments and devices" (New England Journal of Medicine, March 8, 2001). But he calls it "debatable" whether the timely care Americans get is worth the cost. (Ask a cancer patient, and you'll get a different answer. Delay lowers your chances of survival.)

Obama appointed Blumenthal as national coordinator of health-information technology, a job that involves making sure doctors obey electronically delivered guidelines about

what care the government deems appropriate and cost effective.

—Betsy McCaughey, New York Post, July 24, 2009

RADIGAL ENVIRONMENTALISM

lan Plimer has outraged the ayatollahs of purist environmentalism, the Torquemadas of the doctrine of global warming, and he seems to relish the damnation they heap on him.

Plimer is a geologist, professor of mining geology at Adelaide University, and he may well be Australia's best-known and most notorious academic.

Plimer, you see, is an unremitting critic of "anthropogenic global warming"-man-made climate change to you and me-and the current environmental orthodoxy that if we change our polluting ways, global warming can be reversed.

It is, of course, not new to have a highly qualified scientist saying that global warming is an entirely natural phenomenon with many precedents in history. Many have made the argument, too, that it is rubbish to contend human behaviour is causing the current climate change. And it has often been well argued that it is totally ridiculous to suppose that changes in human behaviour—cleaning up our act through expensive sleight-of-hand taxation tricks—can reverse the trend.

But most of these scientific and academic voices have fallen silent in the face of environmental Jacobinism. Purging humankind of its supposed sins of environmental degradation has become a religion with a fanatical and often intolerant priesthood, especially among the First World urban elites.

But Plimer shows no sign of giving way to this orthodoxy and has just published the latest of his six books and 60 academic papers on the subject of global warming. This book, Heaven and Earth—Global Warming: The Missing Science, draws together much of his previous work. It springs especially from A Short History of Planet Earth, which was based on a decade of radio broadcasts in Australia.

Plimer gets especially upset about carbon dioxide, its role in Earth's daily life and the supposed effects on climate of human manufacture of the gas. He says atmospheric carbon dioxide is now at the lowest levels it has been for 500 million years, and that atmospheric carbon dioxide is only 0.001 per cent of the total amount of the chemical held in the oceans, surface rocks, soils, and various life forms. Indeed, Plimer says carbon dioxide is not a pollutant, but a plant food. Plants eat carbon dioxide and excrete oxygen. Human activity, he says, contributes only the tiniest fraction to even the atmospheric presence of carbon dioxide.

There is no problem with global warming, Plimer says repeatedly. He points out that for humans periods of global warming have been times of abundance when civilization made leaps forward. Ice ages, in contrast, have been times when human development slowed or even declined.

So global warming, says Plimer, is something humans

should welcome and embrace as a harbinger of good times to come.

> —Jonathan Manthorpe, Vancouver (Canada) Sun, July 28, 2009

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Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton struggled Sunday to find a silver lining in India's rejection of legally binding carbon-dioxide emissions reductions, saying a plan can be devised to fight climate change and boost India's economic development at the same time.

Addressing one of the most contentious issues between New Delhi and Washington on the first day of her visit to the Indian capital, Mrs. Clinton tried to focus on the positive aspects of India's environmental record, such as its interest in clean energy.

Her Indian hosts, however, got straight to the point.

"We are simply not in a position to take on legally binding emissions reduction targets," India's minister of environment, Jairam Ramesh, told reporters, standing beside the secretary at New Delhi's ITC Green Center, which is designed to use maximum natural light with windows that keep out heat, reducing the need for air conditioning.

India and China are leading a group of developing countries opposed to Western calls for specific targets in a treaty to replace the Kyoto Protocol when it expires in 2012. A major summit is scheduled for early December in Copenhagen, where the United States and other developed countries hope to make significant progress.

Aware that no global treaty can work without commitment from the world's biggest polluters, Mrs. Clinton tried to convince India that such progress can be achieved without sacrificing their development needs.

"I'm very confident the United States and India can devise a plan that will dramatically change the way we produce, consume, and conserve energy and in the process spark an explosion of new investment and millions of jobs," she said.

She did not elaborate. A senior State Department official traveling with Mrs. Clinton said she did not have a specific plan in mind and that her confidence was based on various ideas she has heard on both sides.

—Nicholas Kraler, The Washington Times, July 20, 2009, p. I

In an astonishing admission, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg says she was under the impression that legalizing abortion with the 1973 Roe. v. Wade case would eliminate undesirable members of the populace, or as she put it "populations that we don't want to have too

Her remarks, set to be published in the New York Times Magazine this Sunday but viewable online now, came in an

in-depth interview with Emily Bazelon titled, "The Place of Women on the Court."

The 16-year veteran of the high court was asked if she were a lawyer again, what would she "want to accomplish as a future feminist legal agenda."

Ginsburg responded: Reproductive choice has to be straightened out. There will never be a woman of means without choice anymore. That just seems to me so obvious. The states that had changed their abortion laws before Roe [to make abortion legal] are not going to change back. So we have a policy that affects only poor women, and it can never be otherwise, and I don't know why this hasn't been said more often.

Question: Are you talking about the distances women have to travel because in parts of the country, abortion is essentially unavailable, because there are so few doctors and clinics that do the procedure? And also, the lack of Medicaid for abortions for poor women?

Ginsburg: Yes, the ruling about that surprised me. [Harris v. McRae—in 1980 the court upheld the Hyde Amendment, which forbids the use of Medicaid for abortions.] Frankly I had thought that at the time Roe was decided, there was concern about population growth and particularly growth in populations that we don't want to have too many of. So that Roe was going to be then set up for Medicaid funding for abortion. Which some people felt would risk coercing women into having abortions when they didn't really want them. But when the court decided McRae, the case came out the other way. And then I realized that my perception of it had been altogether wrong.

-WorldNetDaily, July 8, 2009

HOMOSEXUALITY

The Episcopal Church General Convention overwhelmingly passed a resolution to open to "any ordained ministry" openly gay clergy. The resolution passed during the denomination's triennial gathering in Anaheim, California. It defies a defacto moratorium on the ordination and consecration of gay bishops instituted by the worldwide Anglican Communion following the ordination of openly gay bishop Gene Robinson in 2003. It also goes against a plea from Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, who traveled to California the week prior to the vote to argue against it. While the move likely will create further schism within the church globally, Bishop of Iowa Alan Scarfe said the bishops who supported it "bring the church to transparency and remove any attempt at evasion; this is who we are."

-World magazine, August 1, 2009, p. 11

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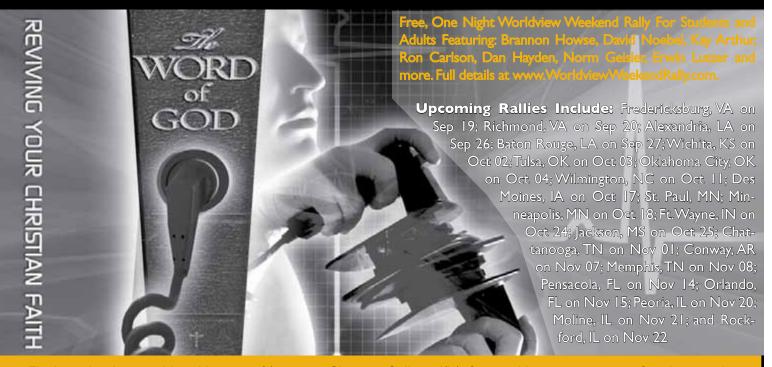
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