

THE SERVANT

A Christian Awareness Fellowship Publication

SPRING EDITION

1988

ELIZABETH CLARE PROPHET VISITS TUCSON

by Duane Burgess

It was just like something out of the movies. The conference room of the Hilton Hotel on East Broadway in Tucson had been rented and several hundred chairs faced the platform. Lights and camera were arranged for a full-blown media event as the meeting was videotaped and televised for those in overflow seating. Colored curtain panels hung behind the platform, upon which were suspended large portraits of New Age leaders and one painting graphically depicting New Age philosophy: the "ascension" of man as he realizes his "christ-consciousness" and "oneness with god".

...see "PROPHET..." on p. 4

IN THIS ISSUE.....

Pima County Fair -----	2
<i>Who did people at the Fair say Jesus is?</i>	
Elizabeth Clare Prophet -----	1
<i>Crystals, St. Germain and Ascended Masters made for quite a Tucson show</i>	
Witnessing Tips -----	3
<i>How to break the "language barrier" of cults</i>	
Mormons Report Record Increases In 1987 -----	3
<i>Membership now tops 6.5 million</i>	

AND MORE.....

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CAF INVADDES THE PIMA COUNTY FAIR!

Visitors to the 1988 Pima County Fair were treated to quite a variety of things to see and do. There were enough rides and shows to keep even the most energetic youngster busy all day long. Proud owners displayed their prize animals, vegetables, and jams for all to see. For those with some extra money to spend, you could buy everything from costume jewelry to a luxury motor home. There was also an incredible variety of exhibits in Pima and Thurber Halls, including everything from toy stunt planes to the immensely practical (if it works!) "automatic dog waterer".

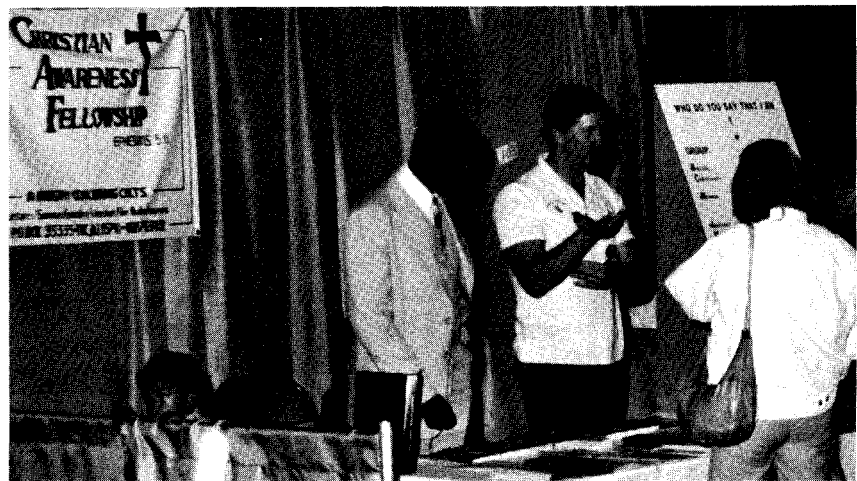
There were also booths dealing with more serious issues. The Tucson Fire Department showed films of disasters involving fire and encouraged visitors to be more conscious of fire prevention. Right to Life challenged people to do something to stop the slaughter of abortion. Various churches, including Baptist, Lutheran and Church of Christ congregations, passed out information about their denominations. And way over in the corner, wedged between the Arizona Dept. of Revenue and the Tucson Fire Dept., was the CAF booth.

This year we tried something a little different than we have done before. Several CAF members helped to construct a panel which asked the question, "Who do you say that I am?" (referring, of course, to Jesus).

On the left side of the panel was a series of buttons next to the names of various groups such as Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, New Age, Spiritism, etc., with "Biblical Christianity" being on the top of the list.

On the right side of the panel was a series of lights, one for each answer, which corresponded to the teachings of each of the cults as well as Biblical Christianity. When the button for a particular group is pressed, the answer on the right lights up.

The question asked on the panel was patterned after the question Jesus



Ron Hunt and Phil Martin talk to two visitors about Jesus while their small helper wishes he could take a "closer look" at the firemen in the next booth.

asked His disciples in Matt. 16:15. He wanted to hear the disciples' answer to the question of His identity. Did they think, as some people of that time period thought, that He was John the Baptist? Perhaps, as others believed, He was Elijah or Jeremiah or one of the other prophets. It seems everybody back in Jesus' time had a different idea of who He was.

The situation has changed little in 2,000 years, except for the fact that there are many more (erroneous) answers to the question today. The panel listed 7 wrong answers, corresponding to 7 cults. If room had permitted, we could have listed scores of other cultic answers.

Even within a cult, different views of Jesus' identity abound. One Mormon lady edged up to the panel cautiously and finally pressed the "Mormon" button. After reading the answer, "The Spirit Brother of Satan and All Men", she broke into sardonic laughter. "You don't know very much about Mormonism", she sneered, and hurried off without giving a chance for a response.

Our purpose was simply to get people (Christians, cultists and unbelievers alike) to consider that all-important

question. Some would. Many would not.

Several Fair goers weren't quite as brave as the Mormon lady. Many would stand just as far away as they possibly could and squint at the panel, then look at us briefly, and then back to the panel again. After an appropriate period of study (say, 5 minutes) some would come closer and maybe even push a button or take some literature. Others would just give a puzzled look and walk away. A few smiled benevolently and seemed to think all the answers were correct. And fewer still actually came forward and talked to us about the person of Jesus Christ. But these made it all worthwhile.

A number of Christians stopped by the booth to talk, pick up some tracts or newsletters and maybe offer a word of encouragement. In fact, many who stopped by this year told us how much the ministry of CAF is needed and appreciated. We praise God and thank Him for brothers and sisters such as these!

All in all, we believe the Fair was a success this year. A lot of literature

(See "Pima...", p. 3)

CAF CALENDAR

In March through May, CAF personnel spoke and/or presented films at the following churches in the Tucson area:

Catalina United Methodist
First Evangelical Free
Golf Links Baptist
Christ Community Church
Casas Adobes Baptist Church
Sandario Baptist Church

The goal of this ministry is to make Christians aware of the deceptive teachings of cults and the occult. Someone in your church may be in real need of this information right now. Why not talk to your pastor about booking CAF for a lecture or film showing?

MORMONS CLAIM RECORD INCREASES IN 1987

1987 was a record year for the Mormon Church in terms of their proselytizing efforts: 227,284 new converts were baptized in 1987, compared to 216,210 converts in 1986. This brings the total membership of the church to over 6.5 million. To put some of this growth into perspective, the "Evangel" newspaper recently reported that the Mormons baptized 282 Southern Baptist converts a week in 1987. The average Southern Baptist Church has 283 members. Thus, you could envision that every week in 1987 the Mormons visited a different Baptist Church, tore down the cross of Christ and replaced it with their characteristic spire.

Pima County Fair

(continued from page 2)

ended up in the hands of people that desperately need it. Also, we were able to share Christ with a number of lost people, some of whom were in cults and some who were not. We were also able to explain the ministry of CAF to a number of Christians and encourage them to study the Word and witness to friends and family in cults.

And hopefully, some of those who were curious from 20 feet out might move a few steps closer next year.

WITNESSING TIPS

by Jack Gracie

One of the very first obstacles encountered when witnessing to someone deceived by a non-Christian cult is the **language barrier**. Speaking to someone in a cult is like speaking to someone who has learned a new language. The words still sound the same--like "God", "Jesus", "Salvation", etc. But to someone in a cult, each term now has a new meaning provided by the cult.

On one occasion, a friend called me after she had spent over 3 hours witnessing to someone deceived by a cult. She was extremely frustrated because she felt that even though she had communicated the Gospel of Jesus Christ to this person, something just didn't "click". She went on to explain that she talked about Jesus Christ being the Savior and her friend agreed. Furthermore, they both talked about sin, salvation, good works and a need for a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Both of them agreed that this was important but still, some-

thing was missing.

After my friend had shared her encounter with me, she said, "Jack, where did I go wrong? Even though we were somewhat in agreement, it was almost as though we were not talking the same language."

I shared that she should have insisted on a clear definition of the terms used in the conversation, particularly the nature of God the Father and the Person and work of Jesus Christ. This would have "peeled" the cult theology away so that the terminology used by the cult could be clearly seen.

The only way this can be done is when Christians become familiar with the terminology employed by the cults. It is only by understanding the different meanings cults attach to "Christian" terms that one can enjoy any measure of success in understanding the mind of one deceived by a non-Christian cult.

Jack can be heard daily on the "A Closer Look" radio program, which is aired on the following stations:

ARIZONA

KFLR 90.3 FM Phoenix
KFLT 830 AM Tucson
KTBA 1050 AM Tuba City

KANSAS

KNGM 91.9 FM Emporia

MICHIGAN

WUFN 96.7 FM Albion
WUNN 1110 AM Mason
WUGN 99.7 FM Midland

NEW MEXICO

KFLQ 91.5 FM Albuquerque

NORTH CAROLINA

WYCV 900 AM Granite Falls

OREGON

KHPE 107.9 FM Albany

TEXAS

KTXO 1500 AM Sherman

WEST VIRGINIA

WBKW 99.5 FM Beckley

Contact the station in your area for program times. Be sure to tune in every day and take a "closer look"!

Also, **DON'T FORGET**, CAF is available for lectures, seminars and film showings. We have "Gods of the New Age" (about the New Age Movement, reincarnation, etc.), "The Godmakers" (about Mormonism) and our newest film, "Witnesses of Jehovah" (about Jehovah's Witnesses). Contact CAF for more information.

PROPHET SPEAKS

(continued from p. 1)

The lobby was crowded with New Age enthusiasts and curiosity seekers browsing through the books and New Age artifacts for sale. Many people were involved in hosting the event, greeting everyone with a smile and enthusiastically offering their assistance. Outside the hotel, a few Christians had gathered to pass out tracts and witness to those entering.

The appearance was most impressive. On the platform was a wide "altar" covered with vases of silk flowers, a collection of books, crystals, and other items of New Age religious significance.

The imagery could be described as nothing less than lovely...the colors were beautiful purples, grays and white, arranged throughout. The sound system broadcast choral music of glory and praise which would rival any contemporary praise service in an evangelical church. The New Age has even adapted some of our hymns. They sang the first verse of "How Great Thou Art" correctly, but changed the following verses to reflect their belief that man is god.

In fact, the entire event was characterized by peace, beauty, and excellence which one would expect to find in a growing, vibrant church which worships the living God. However, the New Age Movement does not know the true and living God. It is an incredible counterfeit.

Scheduled to begin at 7:00, the "service" finally got underway about 7:30. The prerecorded music ended and Elizabeth Clare Prophet came to the podium. Her appearance was striking. She wore an ivory, full length knit gown and her makeup reflected cover-girl precision. Nothing about her appearance lacked excellence or beauty. She began by inviting the crowd to join with her in celebrating "the reality of god within us...the new, aquarian age...." With the assistance of an accompaniment tape that would rival the Maranatha singers, the

people joined in singing "God's Heal in Me", proclaiming the joy of knowing god's "I AM presence" and being "one with the whole I AM race..." closing with the phrase, "I'm glad that I AM really god."

The opening song was followed by an invocation addressing the Father, Son, Holy Spirit...and Holy Mother. Then Prophet began expounding on just what the New Age is.

She spoke of the phenomenon of the 2,000 year ages and how we were leaving the age of Aries, which began 2,000 B.C., and through a reverse procession of the equinoxes we are entering the new age of Aquarius, the age of economic, political, and social freedom. The unifying theme is "freedom of inquiry"--the pursuit of our personal identity.

Dominating this new age is the as-

...the entire event was characterized by peace, beauty, and excellence which one would expect to find in a growing, vibrant church which worships the living God. However, the New Age Movement does not know the true... God. It is an incredible counterfeit."

cended master St. Germain who rebukes the international capitalist-communist conspiracy. She spoke of the "ecosystem of our earth body" and the need to protect our planet from pollution and exploitation.

Prophet spoke of origins, of the "great central sun galaxy," which is the "heart of god" where everyone began as a dual personality, "twin flames" of spiritual existence. She told of how many, through their exercise of free will, began following false gurus, accumulating negative karma, moving farther and farther from the divine flame. This caused us to descend to lower planes, of which physical life on earth is the lowest form.

Our carnal mind is described by Prophet as the antithesis of our god-consciousness and our destiny is to awaken to our own psyche. In

balancing our negative karma, we may begin ascending to be reunited with our "twin flame...the other side of our being...." Her foundation of authority is the teachings of the ascended masters, the "lost teachings" of Jesus, and the prophecies of St. Germain.

Prophet went on to explain who the ascended masters were: men and women who, after completing their cycle of reincarnation, balanced their negative karma and ascended, being "born again" in their "christ consciousness." She described our contact with the spirit world: through seven points of contact in our being, called "chakras."

New Age belief takes literally the scriptures which speak of God as light. This light is manifested in seven colored rays through which the Lord (ascended master) of the Ray communicates his spiritual truth to us.

Each ray of light corresponds to gemstones and crystals of the same color, thus we must collect and "energize" crystals and gemstones so that we may receive the communication of the ascended masters. Each ray represents various talents and abilities for service and occupations in this life, so we must concentrate on the rays which energize us to do the part we exist to perform. Just as Christians seek to know and develop spiritual gifts of leadership, service, teaching and many more, so the New Ager relates these same skills to spiritual empowerment through the various rays.

---END OF PART I---

The next issue of the Servant will feature the conclusion to Duane Burgess' article on Elizabeth Clare Prophet and her visit to Tucson. Her views on Jesus, Archangels, chakras and rock music will be discussed. Duane also describes the experience when she "channels" a message from "Michael the Archangel". Don't miss it!