

Haven Newsletter

June 2005

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Worshipping Death

In the aftermath of the Terri Schiavo murder, I was stunned to read an article in which her brother was interviewed. The interview started with the words "George Felos worships death". Felos is the attorney for the ex-husband. Strong words indeed and perhaps this can be accepted as a sign of grief. But it was so much more than that. He was referring to Felos's beliefs as expressed in a book he wrote a few years ago. In this book,

 Litigation as Spiritual Practice (Blue Dolphin Publishing 2002.) Felos claims that he channels the spirits of the comatose victims who just happen to implore Felos to help them

die so they can move on! Gee wonder why the media didn't discuss this part of the story? How convenient that the beliefs of someone like Shirley MacClain and other New Agers wasn't brought into the discussion. Every Channeller I have heard read or talked to also believed in karma and reincarnation. The logical inference is that Felo's believes in some sort of reincarnation and that Terri's murder would not be



George Felos

"Baby Doe"

"Unfolding today
A miracle play
This Indiana Morn
The father—he sighs
She opens her eyes
Their baby boy is born
"We don't understand
He's not what we planned"
The Doctor shakes his head
"Abnormal" they cry
And so they decide
This child is better dead.

I bear the blame
Believers are few
And what am I to do?
I share the shame
The cradle's below
And where is Baby Doe?

A hearing is sought
The lawyers are bought
The court won't let him eat
The papers applaud
When judges play God
This child is getting weak
They're drawing a bead
Reciting their creed
"Respect a woman's choice"
I've heard that before
How can you ignore?
This baby has a voice

I bear the blame
Believers are few
And what am I to do?
I share the shame
The cradle's below
And where is Baby Doe?
Where will it end?
Oh, no.

It's over and done
The presses have run
Some call the parents brave
Behind your disguise

whom I didn't agree with very often, was very accurate in his description of the formerly Judeo-Christian Western world—he called it "The Culture of Death". Why does he say this? Perhaps this is because the Schiavo case is not the only case when the state was used to murder an innocent victim. Almost twenty years ago in the Baby Doe case in Bloomington, Indiana, a young baby boy born with Down's Syndrome was starved to death at the request of his parents. Despite numerous appeals for adoption and for mercy, the courts and parents decided this baby was not worthy of life. Someone I met many years ago, Steve Taylor, Christian singer and producer wrote a song entitled "Baby Doe". Read the words and weep.

There have been other examples as well. The Netherlands has entire "protocols" codifying what the doctors had already been doing—murdering children who were deemed handicapped or too much of a burden. As I mentioned before in this forum, one of my former professors, Michael Tooley, wrote a paper in 1972 entitled "What is a Person?" In it he described the notion that personhood is ascribed and attributed by society, and that it only belongs to those who are conscious of their own consciousness. He argues from this that parents should be able not only to abort their child, but kill the child up to the age of two, if the child is a financial burden or for

a bad thing—by contrast it could be seen as a good thing since she is now free to reincarnate. Since Terri's own family were committed Roman Catholics, which rejects reincarnation, you could literally see a millenia old fight in the hospital room of one injured lady. The late Pope,

Denial your disguise
Your rhetoric lies
You watched a baby starve
I bear the blame.

(Steve Taylor @1984 Birdwing Music/Cherry Lane Music Publishing Co. Inc. (ASCAP)

other reasons. This paper has been echoed by Peter Singer at Princeton and many others. As a parent of a handicapped child I take this seriously. As a friend of many handicapped and chronically ill people, I

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Worshipping Death, cont.

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take this even more seriously. In my conversations with Dr. Tooley, I pointed out the arbitrary nature of what he was saying. Why two? Why not five or fifteen? Why not blonds or ultimately why not the Jews? If society determines the value and even the status of a person as a person, then how do you logically stop any of these examples? If I go into a coma, then do I magically become less a person because of my apparent lack of consciousness? This is why the framers of this country said that people were given inalienable rights by their Creator. They recognized that any rights given by Crown or legislature could also be taken away by the same. Their failure to apply the sentiment consistently was a wretched mistake, but that does not mean that the original sentiment was not correct. If our creator gives us rights, then men cannot remove them. But as we are now seeing in many cases, Judges and Doctors are playing roles that they are not suited for. Some are pushed into it by the family and others jump into with glee, but the slippery slope has no brakes.

Rhetoric is treacherous here in our postmodern soup—up is down and down is up. Killing is now "mercy". Starving is a loving act.

How does one speak to a Culture of Death? The early church fathers spoke out against the culture of death of their day (by which comparison we come out looking good—for now...) They spoke out

play these "games". They spoke out against the corruption, denied the Eucharist to any baptized believer who attended and in some cases would completely excommunicate the offending believer. When Constantine became Emperor, one of his first official acts was to shut down the games. It took a long time, but one of the great evils of the ancient world was gone. It also took a long time for the abolition of slavery in the US to prevail, but it was worth it. Christians need to decide whether their faith means anything or not. The Prophets remind us of our need to take care of the weakest among us—the widow, the orphan, the alien in our midst, and even though Howard Dean or Frank Rich of the NY Times might castigate us for intrusion, we cannot sit back and watch anymore. I am not advocating violence or anything like that. I am not interested in picking up the weapons of this world to fight spiritual battles. But I am saying that we have to fall out of love with our comfortable lives, be willing to be mocked by the pagans (interesting note here—one of the Roman slurs against Christians was that they were "people haters" - because the Christians wouldn't go to the games to see people get slaughtered! The irony is rich...) and lovingly convince people that slaughter of the innocent, in such a way that most people

Think of how much "love" we could have shared by not sending any help! The point of course is that it is never an option to starve someone to death and people from the Pope to Nat Hentoff (on completely different ends of the political spectrum) have seen this clearly. The question seems to be will the great herd of folks in the middle see this? Will we let our elected officials of either party know that we will not slide further and that we will honor innocent life? The right to privacy or the overly hyped freedom of the individual to choose can never be used to promote gross evil.

Our complacency here is stunning. Our comfort has bound us. When will we speak the truth in love to a increasingly pagan world? When will we wake up?

Non Prophet Update

Every year I think the American church can't get more confused, and every year I am proven wrong. So called Christians (e.g. Ken Blanchard—author of the One Minute Manager!) endorses numerous New Age writers such as Deepak Chopra, Christian Seminary Profs (e.g. Richard Mouw—Fuller Seminary President) endorse Mormon Profs as Christians and the biggest church in the country has a pastor, Joel Osteen, who as a matter of strategy/policy, will not tell anyone anything that might offend or discourage them in any way. Apparently entire chunks of the Bible will have to be

against slavery, abortion, the unjust wars, treatment of the poor and mostly, against the "games" going on in the Coliseum. The Roman "genius" of management was summarized as "bread and circuses". Keeping the herd fed and entertained was the secret to power. The games were gruesome beyond belief, especially under Nero and Caligula and a few others. The early church would not

wouldn't even go to a serial murderer, is not we will continue to do as a people/nation.

Rhetoric is treacherous here in our postmodern soup—up is down and down is up. Killing is now "mercy". Starving is a loving act. As one writer ironically noted, too bad we didn't know that during the African famines of the 70's and 80's!

lost! All that sin stuff has been replaced by the good news that we are ok with ourselves and God is ok with us. One wonders why Jesus ever needed to come here in the first place. Didn't he realize that we already have it all together? Couldn't he see that we are just evolving upwards and onwards? That each and every day we

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Prayer Requests

- 1) Please pray for my family's salvation. I have had some good chances to talk to them recently and would covet your prayers for them. There has been some movement here, so we are thankful and excited about what is happening.
- 2) Pray for those whose marriages have been damaged by sin and destruction through cults and personal failure. Pray for Bruce and Diane, JJ and Marc, Don and Peggy, Mike and Cheryl, Jeanette and Brad, Michael and Pam and others.
- 3) Pray for our friends with chronic disease problems. As my wife Terri is now part of this request, please include her along with Rebecca, Sherri, Liz, Julie and Josh. Also our friend Shannon is recovering from cancer surgery.
- 4) Pray for our troops at war. We have many young friends who serve our country and need your prayers. Please keep in mind Matt and Chris and the others.
- 5) Praise the Lord for his continual protection and provision. We are so blessed to have so many who take an interest in our ministry. We are in the midst of our usual summer slump concerning the giving. Please pray that the Lord will raise up new supporters and encourage our existing ones to continue their help in this ministry effort. Thanks for the great help at the end of the year. We appreciate everyone and are thankful to represent and serve.
- 6) We have had some wonderful conversations with Mormons, JW's, Muslims, New Agers, Buddhists, Jews, Atheists and many other people in different religions lately. Recently we had some quality time with people from the Church Universal and Triumphant, especially Jason and Martin and Fausto. Please pray that our efforts to share the Gospel will be fruitful and that we will be faithful in this work at all times.
- 7) I am on my third draft of my dissertation proposal. Pray that I get it right one of these times! Keep this one up. It has been busy and I have neglected my studies. I just met with the committee this past month and am trying to move forward.
- 8) This has still been the busiest time I have ever been in regards to my speaking schedule. Pray that I will be faithful and be diligent to spend my time wisely with ministry and family concerns.
- 9) Pray for some individuals who are potential new members of Haven Ministry. We always are on the look for others to grab an oar

Non Prophet Update, cont.

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are better and better? The only way one can take this seriously is to be completely shut off from the actual world. Wars in almost every part of the earth in the past one hundred years, children raped and enslaved all over much of Southeast Asia, Muslims killing the infidels (all non Muslims!) in numerous countries and so on. But Joel is here to tell us that we are ok, and the "s" word (ssh—sin! Don't tell anyone) is verboten in the biggest house of some "god" in the country. No

Speaking Schedule

June 4 –5– Peoples Fair, Denver, CO
 June 4—Horizon Calvary Chapel Outreach
 June 1,8, 15. Worship Center Church, Brighton, CO—Islam, Culture and the New Age, Cult Proofing your Kids.
 June 12— Royal Gorge Calvary Chapel, Canon City, CO
 June 19— Horizon Calvary Chapel, Littleton, CO
 June 22, 29—Littleton Bible Chapel. The Da Vinci Code, Islam
 June 26—Red Rocks Fellowship, Littleton, CO. The Most Hated Words in the Bible.
 June 7,14,21,28. Weekly Bible Study at the Honsbergers!
 July 3—Red Rocks Fellowship. How Dare You Say You're Right?
 July 6,13.—Littleton Bible Chapel. Islam.
 July 5—Last Bible Study of the Summer at the Honsbergers!
 July 17—Monroe Evangelical Free Church, Phillips, NE. Morning Services.
 July 17. Hastings Evangelical Free Church, Hastings, NE. Evening Services.



surprise that the only continent in the world where the Church is not growing is the North American one! Lord help us repent and teach the faith that once for all was handed down to the saints. (Jude 3) (Speaking of screw-ups—I misspelled Reductio in the past issue. Sorry—California Public Schools!)

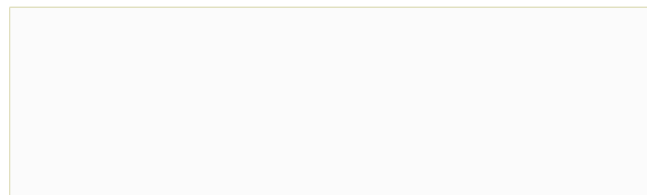
July 17—Nasings Evangelical Free Church, Nasings, NE. Evening services.
 July 20—Highland Park Evangelical Free Church, Columbus, NE. Seminar to be announced.
 July 24—Countryside Bible Church, Hampton, NE. Morning Service and Sunday School.
 July 24—Aurora Evangelical Free Church, Aurora, NE. Evening Service.
 July 30—Day long seminars at Pleasant View Bible Church—Cult Proofing Your Kids and Postmodernism.
 July 31—Stockham Community Church, Stockham, NE. Morning Services.
 July 31—Pleasant View Bible Church, Aurora, NE. Evening Service.
 ...and possible Mission trip to India in August. Plus many other possible engagements. Pray lots!!!

As usual there are many other engagements pending. Don't forget to check the website for further information.

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We thank the Lord that yall love us and put up with us. That is proof of grace in and of itself. I thank Him for my wife, my children, my ministry and that so many of you pray for and

support us. Truly amazing in itself.

Thanks Again
Bill and Terri and Resident Monsters

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