THE APOSTASY
OF
"SLAUGHTERHOUSE"
RELIGION?

Emergent Church Leaders - Deny Blood Sacrifice!

by Wendy Howard ...
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The ultimate apostasy is being proclaimed by many denominations of Christendom in 2012 - the denying of the Blood Sacrifice of Christ Jesus for the Sin of the world.

A recent expose by Roger Oakland, *Hope for the World*, Winter 2012, has shown the appalling message that is being presented by THE EMERGING CHURCH MOVEMENT - calling the glorious substitutional death on the Cross "A SLAUGHTERHOUSE RELIGION".

www.understandthetimes.org/commentary/c67.shtml

The New Age, the Roman Catholic Church, many of the heretical Evangelical, Pentecostal and Liberal denominations of Protestantism are amongst those who are demanding an end to the "slaughterhouse religion". The Emerging Church leaders included in this full-on attack against the sacrifice of Christ as our Substitute are:

- TONY CAMPOLO,
- BRIAN MCLAREN,
- WILLIAM SHANNON -
- HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK, (deceased)

www.lighthousetrailsresearch.com/slaughterhousereligion.htm

Fosdick rejects the blood atonement liberal theologian, was once pastor of the Riverside Church in New York City, he is featuring heavily in this movement, which is influencing millions in Christendom in our day.

So serious do I consider this that I will quote at some length from the Emerging Church Movement, to let readers grasp the extent of this remarkable fall-away!

Do **NOT** be deceived, the Cross itself is still being preached by these renegades, but it is being used as a symbol only, of self-denying...
service and love. **NEVER as a blood-sacrifice** which is in every way shadowed in the animal sacrifices of the Old Testament.

The Bible has long predicted the disastrous disgrace of these false prophets “among you” who deny the Lord that “bought them” - that is, paid the price for Sin. What a judgment awaits these guys when they face eternity!

“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.” 2 Peter 2:1.

**THE GLORY OF THE SACRIFICE OF THE CROSS.**

Let us, then, consider afresh the wonders of what Christ Jesus did at Calvary. Comparing as we go the wicked doctrines of the Emerging Church with Christ’s glorious but horrendous death!

These false prophets can be very convincing and plausibly subtle and loving. They can make many Church-goers wilt under the heat of their logical reasoning, and wreak destruction upon the souls of untold hundreds of thousands. Stand fast and proclaim the Gospel in all its blood-letting and suffering, SIN is no light matter and the redemption of lost sinners is no light matter either. The Gospel is not only about the Beauty of Christ’s Love, it is about the ugly anguish of the Only Way that could redeem us.
“FALSE ADVERTISING FOR GOD”?

The false teachers are calling for Christendom to “think outside the box”, to be more creative in their faith, to attract modern people with an up-to-the-minute presentation of the basic message of Christianity.

In an interview, Brian McLaren of the Emerging Church Movement denounced the concept of God sending His Son to suffer a violent death. McLaren called it “false advertising for God”, he said:

“One of the huge problems is the traditional understanding of hell. Because if the cross is in line with Jesus’ teaching then - I won’t say, the only, and I certainly won’t say even the primary - but a primary meaning of the cross is that the kingdom of God doesn’t come like the kingdoms of this world, by inflicting violence and coercing people. But that the kingdom of God comes through suffering and willing voluntary sacrifice. But in an ironic way, the doctrine of hell basically says, no, that’s not really true. That is the end, God gets His way through coercion and violence and intimidation and domination, just like every other kingdom does. The cross isn’t the center then. The cross is almost a distraction and false advertising for God.”

This unbelievably blasphemous statement shows how twisted and wicked are the doctrines of our day! It is the antithesis of the real message of the Gospel. Want some more of this trash? We need to know what is being said:

McLaren states:

“And I heard one well-known Christian leader, who - I won’t mention his name, just to protect his reputation. Cause some people would use this against him. I heard him say it like this: The traditional understanding says that God asks of us something that God is incapable of Himself. God asks us to forgive people. But God is incapable of forgiving. God can’t forgive unless He punishes somebody in place of the person He was going to forgive. God doesn’t say things to
you - Forgive your wife, and then go kick the dog to vent your anger. God asks you to actually forgive. And there’s a certain sense that, a common understanding of the atonement presents a God who is incapable of forgiving. Unless He kicks somebody else.”


O.K., PEOPLE OF GOD let us consider afresh the various aspects of the Death of Christ on the Cross of Calvary.

IT IS ALL OF THESE THINGS:
1. The sacrifice of Christ is PENAL;
2. It is SUBSTITUTIONAL;
3. It is VOLUNTARY;
4. It is REDEMPTIVE;
5. It is PROPITIATORY;
6. It is RECONCILING;

These terms are NOT doctrine alone; they are living words that express the Love of God, Who in Himself bore our sins. By the time you reach the end of this booklet I want you to have grasped ALL these Truths of the mighty Sacrifice of the Son of God, and be able to speak out with power and Holy Spirit taught knowledge on the Holiest of all subjects. We will get down to Bible study with zeal, and examine carefully and prayerfully the Scriptures on these aspects of the Cross as God declares it in His Word.

PRE-CIVILIZED BARBARITY???

I will quote here from Roger Oakland, 2012:

"Many in the emerging church movement would vehemently object if someone told them that emerging church leaders don’t like the Cross. They would jump up and say, ‘Yes, they do. I’ve heard them talk about Jesus and His going to the Cross. They say they love the Cross.’ Some emerging church leaders do say they love the Cross, but an underlying theme is gaining momentum among them. It says Jesus’ going to the Cross was an example of sacrifice and servant-hood that we should follow; but the idea that God would send His Son to a violent death for the sins of mankind - well, that is not who God is. A loving God would never do that! Such a violent act would make Christianity a ‘slaughterhouse religion.’"
Liberal theologian...Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969) believed that the doctrine of the atonement, where "Jesus suffered as a substitute for us" because of our sins, is a 'precivilized barbarity.'

In his book, *The Modern Use of the Bible*, Fosdick says that Jesus going to the Cross should be seen as an example of a life of service and sacrifice, and not compared with 'old animal sacrifices' and 'made a pious fraud' played by God upon the devil. In Fosdick's other book, *Dear Mr. Brown*, he states:

'Too many theories of the atonement assume that by one single high-priestly act of self-sacrifice Christ saved the world.' Fosdick ends that statement with a pronounced - No! He insists, 'These legalistic theories of the atonement are in my judgement a theological disgrace.' (Page 135).

As a former pastor of Riverside Church of New York City, his ideologies have remained intact and have drifted right into the Emerging Church Movement. In October 2006, that church held a 5th Fosdick Convocation in his honour. Two of the speakers honouring Fosdick were Brian McLaren and Tony Campolo.

MEANWHILE, BACK TO GOD'S WORD.

1. The sacrifice of Christ Jesus on the Cross is PENAL.

The Bible shows it was indeed a PUNISHMENT for Sin. It was fore-shadowed by the "shadows" or "types" of animal sacrifices in the Old Testament. This is not just a "theory of the atonement" or "legalistic theories of the atonement" invented by disgraceful, old-fashioned fundamentalists. THE WORD OF GOD pronounces these sacred matters:

"Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:" Galatians 3:13.
“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” 2 Corinthians 5:21.

God’s LOVE compelled Him, in Christ the Son, to suffer HIMSELF instead of us. We were guilty, He is Just and His justice cannot allow Him to simply wipe the slate clean. So, He bore the penal requirements Himself to save us. It is nothing like kicking the dog instead of your wife! It is like a father stepping in front of a policeman’s bullet to save a beloved teenager son who is a rebel and criminal. What love!

2. The sacrifice of Christ Jesus on the Cross is SUBSTITUTIONAL.

God loved us so much that He gave a stand-in, if you will, for ourselves. A substitute. This Son of God, our Saviour, came into the world when there was no hope! Fallen, sinful mankind had NO HOPE!

“Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.” Isaiah 53:4-6.

“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” 1 Peter 2:24.

“For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. And almost all things are by the law purged with blood: and without shedding of blood is no remission. It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:” Hebrews 9:19-24.
ARE THESE MATTERS MERE THEOLOGICAL THEORIES?
Made up by silly old out-dated Bible-bashers?
NO, these are declarations of the Almighty God, Creator of the Cosmos.
No "slaughterhouse religion" - but the Blood of the New Covenant, signed in the Blood of the Testator. See Hebrews chapter nine, study the whole chapter carefully. In a King James Version.

A POLITICALLY-DOMESTICATED YEARNING
FOR SURVIVAL BEYOND DEATH???
Marcus Borg is a name we should not forget. He is a Professor in Religion and Culture and Hundere Endowed Chair in Religious Studies at Oregon State University. He is a lecturer and the author of a number of books. Including:

Jesus & Buddha,
The God We Never Knew,
Reading the Bible Again For the First Time,
Taking the Bible Seriously But NOT Literally. (et al)

Borg's thinking has seriously influenced the Emerging Church leaders' understanding. Brian McLaren has said he has "high regard" for Borg. Roger Oakland tells us that

"Walter Brueggemann, a professor at Columbia Theological Seminary and one of the contributors for Richard Foster’s Renovare Spiritual Formation Study Bible considers Borg an essential part of the emerging spirituality. Brueggemann states, 'Marcus Borg is a key force in the emerging new paradigm of Christian faith.'"

Borg makes his views on God, the Bible, and Christianity very clear in his book The God We Never Knew. He says he was transformed while he was in seminary:
"I let go of the notion that the Bible is a divine product. I learned that it is a human cultural product, the product of two ancient communities. Biblical Israel and early Christianity. As such, it contained their understandings and affirmations, not statements coming directly or somewhat directly from God...I realized that whatever ‘divine revelation’ and the ‘inspiration of the Bible’ meant (if they meant anything) they did not mean that the Bible was a divine product with divine authority.” (Page 25).

Borg also writes:

To think that the central meaning of Easter [resurrection] depends upon something spectacular happening to Jesus’ corpse misses the point of the Easter message and risks trivializing the story. To link Easter primarily to our hope for an afterlife, as if our post-death existence depends upon God having to transform the corpse of Jesus, is to reduce the story to a politically-domesticated yearning for our survival beyond death.”


Fosdick also writes on this:

“Christ’s sacrificial life and death are too sacred to be SO misrepresented.”

Oakland comments:

"He means that Christ is an example to be followed, not an innocent sacrifice for our guilt and thus worthy of praise and worship. Satan wants desperately to be worshipped and adored as God. He hates all that Jesus’ death stands for. Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, purchased with His own blood the lives of those written in the Book of Life.”

BACK TO THE WORD OF GOD.

3. The Bible shows us that Jesus Christ is vastly more than a MERE EXAMPLE.

He VOLUNTARILY came into the world to inhabit a Body that could be sacrificed for the Sin of the whole world. The Bible even records what the Eternal Word, the Son of God, said as He came from Heaven,
before He entered the throbbing womb of a Jewish virgin girl called Mary. These are the amazing words the Eternal Son of God said:

“Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me.”

Hebrews 10:5.

This body was to be sacrificed, as an offering for Sin. No more would animal sacrifices be a part of God’s Plan. The Divine Sacrifice was entering the world. God the Son would die in our place. Amazing Love.

This record shows the pre-existence of the baby Jesus, He was God come in the flesh, the Second Person of the Divine Trinity. He said:

“Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of Me) to do Thy will, O God.”

The Old Testament told of this wondrous Saviour Who would come. Jesus said:

“Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.” John 10: 17,18.

Yet, these modern-day false prophets declare that Jesus Christ was not an innocent sacrifice for our guilt - He was just an example. No, a thousand times no, worthy is the Lamb that was slain. Consider this scene in Paradise; the redeemed will be there, you and I also if we are truly born-again:

“And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten.
thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice,  

**Worthy is the Lamb that was slain** to receive power, and riches,  
and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. And  
every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the  
earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I  
saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him  
that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.”  


God’s Word contains no higher revelation than that of the value  
of Christ Jesus’ death for mankind, as an atoning sacrifice. The evil distain  
and denial of this wonder of all wonders is polluting our churches in 2012.  
Many shall follow this denial, and the way of truth in the Gospel shall  
be evil spoken of.  

**Could this mean that the very truth of the sacrifice of Christ would be  
spoken of as evil and a slaughterhouse religion, a “bloody” disgrace?**  
I think it could well mean this, in part at least. This apostasy we are  
considering herein is a fulfilment of prophecy:  

“....even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon them-  
selves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways:  
by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.”  
2 Peter 2:1b-2.

4. **HOLY SCRIPTURE shows that the death of Christ**  
on the Cross was **REDEMPTIVE:**

“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of  
sins, according to the riches of his grace; Wherein he hath abounded  
toward us in all wisdom and prudence;” Ephesians 1:7, 8.  
For ye are **bought with a price:** therefore glorify God in your body,  
and in your spirit, which are God’s.” 1 Corinthians 6:20.

The Greek word for “redemption” is “apolutrosis,” meaning deliverance, a releasing effected by payment of ransom, liberation procured by that payment. Mankind, all of us, in our sin, were under the sentence of death (John 3:18, 19; Romans 6:23), but the act of Christ in shedding His Blood purchased us! (1 Cor. 6:20; 7:23; 2 Peter 2:1; Rev. 5:9; 14:3, 4).
To whom then were we enslaved to be under the sentence of death? WHY?
The ransom for our release was paid to the holy demands of God the Father for the sinner, to free we lost sinners from just condemnation. WHY?
Because we all had sinned and broken the holy commandments of God. This “SIN” is an awesome offence against the Creator:

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”
Romans 3:23.

THE EMERGING CHURCH LEADERS DENY SUCH SACRED TRUTHS??

In 1991 a man called William Shannon (biographer of Catholic monk and mystic Thomas Merton) said:

“This is a typical notion of God. He is the God of Noah who sees people deep in sin, repents that He made them and resolves to destroy them. He is the God of the desert who sends snakes to bite His people because they murmured against Him. He is the God of David who practically decimates a people...He is the God who exacts the last drop of blood from His Son, so that His just anger, evoked by sin, may be appeased. This God whose moods alternate between graciousness and fierce anger...This God does not exist.” (emphasis added). ("Silence on Fire", 1995 edition, pp. 109-110).

Comparing the former Catholic priest Brennan Manning, who has been a huge voice in emerging spirituality in the denominations, we see in his book of 2003 called Above All that he mimics William Shannon almost word for word:

"The god whose moods alternate between graciousness and fierce anger...the god who exacts the last drop of blood from His Son so
that his just anger, evoked by sin, may be appeased, is not the God revealed by and in Jesus Christ. And if he is not the God of Jesus, he does not exist*. (emphasis added). (Above All, pp 58, 59).

This mindset is becoming hellishly ghastly in its blatant blasphemy and superciliousness. SO, the Holy Word is wrong, centuries of Christians and their witness are wrong - they all lived and died for a Christ on the Cross and the Almighty Father, both of Whom did not even exist!

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS WONDERFUL WORD ON THIS DIVINE THEME. It is Truth.

6. The death of Christ Jesus is PROPITIATORY.

Romans 3:25:

"Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;"

This word "propitiation" is the Greek word "holstering" which is about satisfaction of all God’s righteous demands upon the sinner. Propitiation is a meeting together of Justice and Mercy; this is why that Greek word is used for the “mercy seat” in Hebrews 9:5. This was the lid of the ark that covered the Law. On the Day of Atonement the mercy seat was sprinkled with blood, and this changed the judgement seat into a mercy seat:

“But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building: Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer
sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:
How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit
offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead
works to serve the living God?
And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by
means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were
under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise

CHRIST JESUS HAS BROUGHT PROPITIATION.
Justice and Mercy have merged in His sacrifice on the Cross.

“HEREIN IS LOVE, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent
his Son to be the propitiation for our sins…” 1 John 4:10.

6. The Death of Christ Jesus is RECONCILING.
There is no way to be reconciled to God but by Christ’s sacrifice,
for God is Holy. What is “reconciliation”? Sinners are at variance to
God, they are in conflict with Him, they must be returned to His favour or
perish. Christ’s death enabled lost sinners to come back to God, and have
close relationship with Him again. There is no “reconciliation” for such
heretics as the leaders of the Emerging Church Movement. Try to just
wipe out the sacrifice of Christ by calling it a “slaughterhouse religion”
and you throw your own selves and your hearers into the pit of hell!
This “reconciliation” by Christ is so complete and far-reaching that
the Scriptures state that God is not now “imputing” sin unto the entire
world!

Why will any people go to hell then?
Because they, themselves, will not be reconciled to God. They deny the
need for Christ’s Blood sacrifice and deny their own inability to save them-
selves by “good works.”

“And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus
Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;
To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not
imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the
word of reconciliation.” 2 Corinthians 5:18, 19.
HAVE YOU TAKEN UP
THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION,
CHRISTIAN?

You have been committed with “the word of reconciliation” and dare not draw back.
Do NOT yield in any way to the carnal minds that “lead” the Emerging Church and many denominations in our day. Denounce them! ETERNITY looms ahead.
Our Standing IN Christ and the Mystery of the INDWELLING Christ.