

ISSUES ARISING FROM FOUR CORNERS INVESTIGATION INTO LATTER RAIN MOVEMENT

The amount of material existing on the Internet since the appearance of the Four Corners program, God of the Broken Hearts, in June 2008 has surprised many. Like several of my ex-Latter Rain friends, I have deliberately and prayerfully refrained from putting anything (original or reply or comment) on any blog-site. I believe such material must be carefully measured, kept tight, and be useful to others.

Since it appeared, I have read a lot of stuff, and observed the energy expended by many in airing what they think and have experienced. The pain is there for anyone to read... the confusion, and at times, the rewriting of history...

So, here's a contribution from someone who is "growing old disgracefully".... A lot of this began as bits 'n' pieces of email with some of my brothers-in-arms. I have obtained permission from Jim, Tony, and Eric before putting this info into the public domain. It's not an ego trip, nor a "please feel sorry for me" kind of contribution. Heck no! It's an attempt to cut to the real issues with the benefit of many long years of hindsight, discussion, and the occasional argument over a good bottle of red.... And to admit to my own culpability in helping such an evil system continue and do the damage it has done.

Some personal observations to start with

As far as I am concerned, my own steps to freedom (and I don't even particularly like using this somewhat trite language – to me it smells of the self-recovery industry) are summarised something like this.... And apologies, but you have to keep your sense of humour in all of this or you would go nuts!

1. In 1966, after seeking God as a keen young new convert attending Auckland University, I was baptised in the Holy Spirit at a Samoan Congregational home group in Barry Smith's home. Vic Hall was the fresh-faced 21 y/o who came to teach and laid hands on me. He then gradually introduced me to the perfection of the Bride, manchild, etc. He also told me I was now in the fastest growing movement in New Zealand. Ummm... there were **four** people in his Te Atatu church when I started attending Sunday nights (plus Lorraine and several mice that ran along the platform – or were they rats trying to get out?!?!?). So when I joined up, that made an annual growth rate of **25%!** So, maybe he was telling the truth.... sort of....
2. Soon after, my Charismatic Baptist friend, Don Hadden, was also baptised in the Holy Spirit when Vic laid hands on him – and the Baptism was real for a whole lot of us earnest seekers of God. Seven of us from the Baptist Church were filled.
3. I moved to Melbourne in 1967, after finishing my Commerce degree, to train as a minister at Calvary Bible College (CBC), run by Ray Jackson Snr (commonly known as Broer). I was completely unaware I was in the heartland of the Latter Rain cult. And I eagerly soaked up the "revelation knowledge" they taught. Here I was! On the **inside** of the last great move of God that would usher in the last of the last days.
4. In 1972, Don gave me Francis Schaeffer's classic book, *Escape from Reason*. It rang an alarm bell in me in the area of subjective vs objective truth and reality, and set a slow-delay fuse off in me.
5. Elizabeth and I were in trouble from 1970 for mixing with Christians from outside the Move. We joined the Ballarat Christian Youth Committee, ran an interdenominational coffee shop / youth outreach, working closely with keen believers from several church backgrounds (our friendship with charismatic Presbyterians David and Maria Stickland began through this, and they are dear friends to this day). And we continued to relate to "outsiders" – **not** merely to cultivate them into our movement (as was commonly implicitly taught by Ray and others) – but for genuine Christian fellowship and serving together. This helped us face up to our inbuilt superiority-mentality, and dishonest cultivation mentality when mixing with other outsiders.
6. I read all of Schaeffer's books in the 1970's (and Elizabeth and I even spent a little time at L'Abri in Switzerland in 1979 – I bought my still-in-current-use NIV there – to the horror of the Latter Rain people who needed the artificially verse-by-verse-structured KJV for "proofs" of their eisagetical revelations. And just as dangerous... I also read all of Solzhenitsyn's books on the control techniques of the Soviet Union, and the enforced subservience of the people. Like Hitler, the Russian leaders never cared about being loved or not; they just wanted acquiescence to their paranoid control madness.
7. Keith Holt was one of Ray Jackson's first "**FIVE**" that he declared in the mid 1970's. These "Five" (Ray, Cec, Vic, Ray Jnr, and Keith) were agents of the Melchizedek grace that would take us as a Movement on "unto Perfection"! They even travelled to the USA and other places. But Keith was offside by 1978/9. I asked him why he left and he said, "this mob practise child sacrifice! They demand you sacrifice your family and your children for the Move". This scared me.... Coz we called it "commitment".
8. I was convicted by the Holy Spirit of several dishonest practices in my personal life (like being true to my word, making sure my tax returns, declarations, etc, were truly honest truth, not taking unethical short-cuts, etc). We were a church of short-cuts, falsely manipulating sales-tax exemption statements, etc! Especially in money practices.... The fear of the Lord came again fresh on me. As someone with a formal accounting background, I was quite clever at financial shortcuts – almost proud of it!

9. But I owe my life, sanity, and long-term ministry perseverance more to Greg Passmore, than to anyone else. As Vic Hall's brother-in-law, he had a dream run at the start. But fortunately for Greg, and unfortunately for his ministry prospects in Brisbane, he started asking doctrinal questions (rather than ethical ones) – stuff like,
- How can you differentiate between the terms, Bride, Body, and Church, when several NT passages clearly refer them all to the one and same group of God's people?
 - How can you make the KJV "perfection" passages apply to literal perfection to an inner company of special people just before the Second Coming, when the context (plainly evident in the newer translations) and the Greek don't allow for such an interpretation?
 - How can you make the harvest parables (some 30, 60, 100) apply to "percentages" – which you have to in order to get the 100% = perfection idea across – when Jesus is plainly referring to 100-**fold**, etc?

Yeah, well poor old Greg innocently exposed Vic's ignorance of sound, basic doctrine, and it was good-nite to him soon after.... But, persistent little (or was that, big?) mongrel that he was, Greg took the time to publish a series of scholarly critiques examining these issues (and others) in a non-personal, NT exegetical manner (while in Latter Rain, we didn't even know what the word exegesis meant!!!).

I read Greg's treatises several times in the early 1980's – having left the Movement myself essentially on grounds that were essentially ethical and about excessive control by the peak leaders, but not really thinking out loud the doubts I had accumulated about the teachings / revelations the Move was founded on. I still remember the awful dawning realisation that I/we had it all really, really **WRONG**. That our reference points were eisagetical rubbish. That's humbling when you have been a leader....

It was a long journey, but thank you, Greg (still a dear friend) for your courage under fire. I know it cost you a lot - loss of relationships, family ties, ministry prospects, etc, etc, but you were a rock when it came to your confidence in the orthodox meaning and significance of Scripture. May this current generation of discontents and escapees also come to the same Rock that is unmoveable, and find Freedom in Christ like we did all those years ago. Freedom to stop talking about being victims, and get on with their lives, with dignity and vision for their future, rather than being chained to the hurts of their past.

10. Then for me, along came – courtesy of Waverly CF, Richard Holland, and Intermin – Gordon Fee. In the 1980's he took two 4-day teaching seminars on Corinthians and Timothy in a manner I had never heard before in Pentecostal circles (and I had by then been to a lot of conferences). He taught the necessity of basic skills in exegesis and hermeneutics – and that as a classical Pentecostal (rather than a Toronto Blessing exponent) – we do not need to sacrifice being "sound in the Word of Truth" for Charismatic activity to function.

I had the joy of telling him in Sydney in 2005 that I had prayerfully adapted what he had taught back there to an African setting and that his material was now all over Zimbabwe and central Mozambique!

11. Neil Anderson's material on taking responsibility for your own actions; stop blaming everyone else and absolving yourself from any responsibility; then working through acknowledging the strongholds, renouncing them - especially the false teachings, as well as the abusive leadership people and structure. Then consciously recovering any area of passivity of will, and setting out to walk in the Spirit with a (re)activated will.

The journey never ceases.... Much more could be written, but it's not really for boring the general public, or even Latter Rain people... To conclude, a personal argument with God that may help some of the "victims" get on with their lives....

I was really angry at God (and confused) for some seven years after we were shafted. I did a Basil Fawley... "Thank you, God!", while shaking my fist towards Heaven... I told Him, "I prayed and fasted about moving to Melbourne and Immanuel after finished my degree in Auckland. And I felt you led me to go. Then it was another 14 years of rubbish, confusion, attacks, etc, etc. Where were You?!?!? Did I miss it coming to Australia?"

This was all before the blow-up in 1988 when Ray and Ces Barton were exposed. There was no reply from Heaven for seven long years. During that time, as I have related above, I travelled the pathway back to New Testament orthodoxy of doctrine, behaviour, and church and ministry practice. But, no reply from Heaven....

Then one day I was driving back to Sydney from my brother Keith's home in Shepparton – across the backroads (he was shafted two years after us). No radio on. Silence. Suddenly, the Spirit spoke! "Now. About that question..." Like it was the day before and not seven years since I first asked it.... "Yes, I led you to come to Melbourne, and yes, you were there in My will. You were so full of (unhealed) rejection when I first called you to Myself, that if I had placed you in an orthodox group, you would have been like a fish out of water. All around the Body of Christ I have edge groups that act as doorways to my Body. They all have their own dysfunctional identities, and **it only took you 14 years to OUTGROW it!**"

The light went on! The more free I got from rejection, the less I **needed** the special in-group emphasis the crazy teachings provided. The more comfortable I became relating to believers from all kinds of church backgrounds, and the less at home I felt in Latter Rain, the greater the **freedom!** Including being free to appreciate the many **good things** I had enjoyed in Immanuel. Free to differentiate between the good and evil, and not be so sweeping in my condemnation

of “everything”. But also free to renounce the debilitating doctrines and resultant shonky practices that held me captive for 14 years.

I am putting this, and the following comments, into the public domain in the hope that every reader of this can make the same journey to wholeness.

Jim McNeice correspondence excerpts after Four Corners

(Jim was one of the “outside” ministers called in to help the MCF leadership deal with the myriad of sexual issues and abuse situations that came to light after the exposure of Ray Jackson Snr and Cec Barton in Feb. 1988. His insight has been helpful to me over the past 20 years, as a somewhat dispassionate observer / participant in the recovery and healing process for some).

Jim, here is some of what I have kept, although to be honest, I have started switching off and returning to what the Holy Spirit has commissioned for Elizabeth and myself. This was all a long time ago, and we are both very grateful to God for clearing away the mental and doctrinal mess as well as the ethical one. From the blogsites, it looks like a lot of the wounded haven’t done that too much and are still bruised and unhealed. I find that sad. It is as we spoke about years ago – you have to acknowledge the **doctrinal root errors BEFORE** you really escape the clutches of the religious spirit behind the Movement....

Hi Brian. Great to hear from you. I am saddened by the hurt that so may have suffered...When I read Jeff Hammond’s article, I am also saddened to think that he has not really rejected so much of the teaching of the past... he seems to only be rejecting the “new” latest teaching.... Like you I believe that ex-Immanuel people have to totally reject the teaching of the past and start all over again... I believe the teaching comes from a very demonic base.

You have nailed it in one, Jim. The only really “free” people I know of are those who dealt with it from a John 8 perspective – knowing the **TRUTH** and rejecting the (demonic) lies that Ray Jackson and his false apostolic anointing embedded in the Movement right from the start in the 1950’s. Jeff, and many others, seem to still choose to ignore this reality and dreamily forget he taught, among other “foundational truths”, the following lies.

1. The Bride is **NOT** the whole Body of Christ; but an inner company – that the evangelicals were/are 30%’ers, the Pentecostals 60%’ers; and “us/the Move” were/are 100%’ers!
2. The Lord Jesus would perfect **on earth**, in this dispensation, this Bride company, literally, **before** He appears in glory.
3. This company would escape the Great Tribulation, while all other Christians would be decapitated (this was one of the great strongholds of **fear** that kept people in captivity even **after** they knew Ray, and others, were shonks);
4. And therefore, the New Testament references to the Bride, etc, did not really apply to the 1stC believers. They were there primarily for **US** in the last days, and not **them**;
5. The Manchild company would be born on earth **perfect** as a result of this union between Christ and His Bride (Ray never did explain clearly this aspect of the heresy; it was always cloaked in mystery, I think, because there were implicit sexual connotations).
6. You had to be alive at the Day of Atonement - the secret appearing of Jesus (the Bridegroom) - to get into the Bride – if you died beforehand you would not “make it”.
7. Ray was one of the last “12 apostles” seen as the second 12 of the 24 elders in heaven (Rev 4:4);
8. He was **The** apostle for “South-East Asia” – including Indonesia, Australia, and New Zealand.
9. The sun is not the centre of our solar system, but rather a hole in the sky; Ray told us in CBC he had been there and stood on the edge looking into Heaven. From there, he received his revelations. In the words of Col 2:18, he had “seen into the mysteries”....
10. There was a hidden (read, “esoteric”) level of meaning in Scripture, that you needed a “quickening” of the Holy Spirit, before you could have the “revelation knowledge”; this was coupled with a frightening reliance on eisagetical explanations of OT types and shadows. As a consequence of this, we were kept away from the **plain meaning** of the NT – why? Because much of what we were taught was in plain contradiction to the New Testament (especially Paul, Peter, and John – who wouldn’t have had a clue what we were on about if they had been in “Carlton Days”, Russell St, or Maling Road)!

I could go on, but I won’t. I burn with fire in my bones while I write this. And when I think of the implications of such denial.... I do enough “truth deliverance” ministry in Southern Africa - which is choc-a-bloc with false teachings, mainly because of their poor quality in “correctly handing the Word of **TRUTH**”... (a la 2 Tim 2:15 etc) to know the devastation caused by false teaching through self-proclaimed “apostles” (a la Rev 2:2 - I know that you cannot tolerate wicked (= *depraved, or injurious*) men, that you have tested those **who claim to be apostles** but are not, and have found them false...). How true was (and still is) this in Immanuel/MCF/BCF under the Latter Rain spirit???

And we won't talk about a Bible College (probably the only one in Australia) that **had no library**, had no access to the writings of other "outsiders"; had no 'outside' lecturers, and that assumed a position of consummate arrogance when talking about the quality of other ministry / groups / people (including ministers who had left "us").

And lastly, the thing that really set some of us free was the fact that we **OWNED UP TO OUR OWN RESPONSIBILITY IN HELPING PERPETUATE SUCH A MORALLY AND DOCTRINALLY CORRUPT SYSTEM... I ACKNOWLEDGED THAT I USED IT AS MUCH AS THEY USED ME. That I was in essence no different from Vic Hall....**

I was **NOT** a victim, but a **participant** – for whatever reason (for me, my weakness / sin was lust of the worst kind – the lust for **recognition** so common in young men coming from a rejection background (like me, Robert Murdoch, Jeff, Tony, Richard Kaa, Ashleigh, Frank Van Netten, Hugh Bines, and most of the Bible College males that I knew). I had to acknowledge this and **repent of it** before there was any genuine release from the spirit of Immanuel.¹

I look back with deep regret at my own arrogance, my harsh, judgmental treatment of struggling Christians (including some whom I pastored over the years). Mercy was not my main game! Even writing this, I tremble again at God's mercy to me – not only forgiving me, but leading me, my wife, part of our Sydney congregation, and later, my family – **OUT!**

How easy it now is to demonise Vic, excuse Ray Jnr, and the other Melbourne leaders, find a scapegoat for what Jeff Harvey / Hammond describes as later deviations from the Word previously preached. Come on! Vic told me (and others) years beforehand that the (apostolic) mantle on Ray Snr would pass to him upon Ray's demise – and it did. In 1979 Eric Hall saw the (control) demon move like a giant snake up the Coast to Brisbane. But Vic never did anything original in his life; he merely developed the Move's incipient elitism (in doctrine and attitude), and the control that automatically flows from such a pride-filled conviction, to a more complex structure – one Ray, Cec, Richard, Ray Jnr, and others were too disorganised to ever more fully develop.

Innocent, unknowing leaders? Richard Kaa told me in 1976 (at the Mt Evelyn leadership conference) of a vision in which he saw Ray Snr turn away as an uncaring shepherd from those looking to him for help. Bob Holland told me in 1988, after Ray and Cec were exposed as predators of young women that included vulnerable Bible College students who had no fatherly protection, that he determined much earlier not to let his daughter (now Lisa Cudby) go to CBC because of what he thought of Ray and Cec. And yet he allowed, by his silence, other young women to be violated – some shepherd.... operating out of fear of "missing out", and not out of courage and love. Richard Holland was scared till the last time I spoke with him (two months before he died in 2008) of "missing out" on "making it" (i.e. in-house language for participating in the Day of Atonement) - but I do give him genuine credit for better ethics than most of the others. Granny Beruldsen was the only one I can recall who truly spoke out fearlessly – and the leaders cunningly marginalised her so none of us younger ones would listen to her. Even while she lectured at the Bible College.

This is sounding more like a Mark Driscoll "rant"!, so I better close off with a very appropriate quote from Alexander Solzhenitsyn in "From Under the Rubble", commenting on (Soviet) Russia... *The State system which exists in Russia is terrible, not because it is undemocratic, authoritarian, based on physical constraint – a man can live in such conditions without harm to his spiritual essence. Our present system is unique in world history because over and above its physical and economic constraints, it demands of us total surrender of our souls, continuous participation in the general conscious lie... When Caesar, having exacted what belongs to Caesar, demands still more insistently that we render to him what belongs to God – that is one sacrifice we dare not make. And no one who voluntarily runs with the hounds of falsehood or props it up, will ever be able to justify himself to the living, or to posterity or to his friends or his children.*

I too was culpable for years. All of us who ran with the hounds in any kind of leadership responsibility were. To say anything else is self-deception. We **all** helped prop up a rotten, corrupt system.

Then, after years of vacillating, in 1980 I refused to make that sacrifice any longer, and it cost my wife and I considerably. But we were **not** martyrs. I helped prop that system up for 15 years. My wife for 27. So did every other person involved in any way in leadership responsibility. As I grew through my own spirit of rejection, I didn't **need** to belong to "THE group" closer to Jesus than any other group. My competitive spirit was curbed, and my preparedness to go into battle was redirected against the works of the evil one. I am happy, fulfilled doing some small things in God's kingdom, away from the spotlight, sleep well at night, have a wonderful wife (even after over 40 years of driving her nuts with my brown sugar approach to life – *coarse and unrefined*), and love my church, and other ministers / brothers in my district...

¹ The former Administrator of Waverly CF told me the Holy Spirit spoke to him (in the shower!), "beware the Spirit of Immanuel!". Coming from overseas, he had no idea what this meant, until he asked Carolyn Boyd if it meant anything to her... He told me she burst out laughing. But he never explained to her why he was asking. He and his wife left soon afterwards and moved to Sydney.

As John Simmons said to me in Toowoomba years ago, "it took God seven days to get me out of the Salvation Army, and seven **years** to get the Salvation Army out of me!" It's a process journey that requires ongoing actions!

I think if anyone can be held less responsible than what I have written above, it would have to be those who started in it as children and were not there by their own choice. Some did leave (my wife included), but it was very difficult to do if that was all you had known, many of your relatives were there, and you had been raised to think life in Latter Rain was normative for Christians.

I have prayerfully decided now not to let this stuff occupy my thoughts or time too much. It's past history. Maybe there might be some who can repeat what you experienced in 1988, Jim – if they go looking for help, not knowing quite how to break free. Perhaps you and I and some others can assist their “long walk to freedom” Even us old fellas – as long as we keep walking – will arrive at the destination right on time and in the right condition to go in and enjoy eternity with everyone else!

Jim replied... When many people came to us after the blow up...the problem I had with them was that they were angry at Immanuel...but they still wanted to bring their doctrine with them... they just wanted to bring it to a nicer environment. I had more trouble re this than anything... most of them left quite early in the piece because I wouldn't receive their doctrine.

*I disagree with Jeff on this fact... I believe that the hierarchy deliberately come up with new doctrines about every 5 years... just so to keep their flock believing that they have the **NEW** truth.... and nobody else but them can understand this new truth. People get attracted to cults because they want to believe that they know more than anyone else does... Gnosticism?... So the leaders have to keep feeding new garbage to them.... this feeds the pride of being more knowledgeable than everybody else!!*

*When I was ministering to (one of the Immanuel leaders) in the early days I tried to tell him... forgive but totally renounce...and **ADMIT** you were part of it all... my problem was always... either you knew about all the immorality and turned a blind eye... or you didn't know, and were guilty of a gross lack of spiritual discernment... eventually I think (he) did face reality and finally got free from the demonic root.... and... yes, you can use what I have written.*

No argument with me on this, Jim. You are absolutely right. And (*that minister*) did get free, and has stayed free. So did Eric Hall, Greg Passmore, Keith and Deenie (*my brother and sister-in-law*), and possibly a few others (I am thinking of those who occupied a position somewhere in the leadership structure), but a lot who thought they did, didn't. They could not break the hold of the lie of the Gnostic root (we have something **deeper / better** than anyone else). As you preached up here years ago, you must **renounce** the point(s) of bondage, and **relinquish** ungodly **control** (which ultimately comes out of fear). Even Vic Hall is motivated by fear – that goes partly all the way back to his childhood when the whole family lived in Sydney in very poor circumstances (including in a garage) before moving to New Zealand, and the lack of decent secondary (and any tertiary) education he experienced in Auckland. He was bright enough to have gone to university and rounded out his rudimentary education, but it was not encouraged by his father. I think Vic has suffered from a strong sense of inferiority because of this all his life. We who had enjoyed the benefit of a quality education (my brothers and I went to Saint Kentigern College – a very pukka-sahib Presbyterian College in Auckland) used to laugh at his use of newly discovered theological words in the 70s – like *casuistic*. Neither he nor his hearers really had a clue what he was talking about, but to him it sounded impressive. And to us it was entertaining....

Interestingly, in my 4th annual pastors' and leaders' seminar in one high-density township in Zimbabwe, the leaders of the Ministers' Fellowship relayed a message to me at the end of the first day via the coordinator to ask me to dump what I was teaching, and do two days on the Colossian heresy – I had forgotten I promised them the year before that I would. I had been very slowly digesting Arnold's classic, weighty book on Colossian syncretism for **four years**, and had never taught on it. So (while the electricity was on for once, praise God!), I did a furious, grovelling-before-God search of my prior notes, plus some scanned quotes from the book, and threw together what turned out to be something that is very, very applicable to the spirit (and I mean the religious spirit, the high-level demon) behind Latter Rain / Immanuel. This stuff is rife all through Southern Africa and my years in Immanuel (under, can I say, God's permission / guidance???) all begins to now make sense – **BECAUSE I HATE THIS RELIGIOUS SPIRIT AND IT HATES ME! THERE IS A WAR TO THE DEATH THAT HAS NEARLY LITERALLY KILLED ME ON TWO OCCASIONS. IT IS GOD'S TRUTH THAT IS ITS SWORN ENEMY...**

Furthermore, they don't get deliverance (other than temporary) from the unclean demons which operate on the next level down under the religious spirit's authority. I absolutely agree with the critical need for **renouncing the teachings** before you even begin to try to eject the “flies”. (*I have added a couple of separate files on Steps to Release for anyone reading this who doesn't know what to do*). When Jesus hit the Pharisees' teachings (and abusive authority) head-on, He was opening the door as the “Breaker” of Micah 2:13, so the sheep could exit the abusive system. I just hope some get to this in the ongoing saga that is filling the Immanuel airwaves and blogsites at the moment.

Who knows, old fella, they might even wheel you out in your wheelchair and engage you again??? They got David McElhoes to come in back in 1988 too; I have spoken with him several times on these things and he is of the same opinion.

(Micah 2:10-13) Get up, go away! For this is not your resting place, because it is defiled, it is ruined, beyond all remedy. If a liar and deceiver comes and says, 'I will prophesy for you plenty of wine and beer,' he would be just the prophet for this people! "I will surely gather all of you, O Jacob; I will surely bring together the remnant of Israel. I will bring them together like sheep in a pen, like a flock in its pasture; the place will throng with people. [13] One

who breaks open the way will go up before them; they will break through the gate and go out. Their king will pass through before them, the LORD at their head."

Mat 4:16 1 Cor 15:55 Jesus broke through the shroud of the shadow of death at His resurrection, and all who believe in Him will "follow" at the Last Trumpet, Second Coming. see Isa 27:1 and 25:7 - the unseen hostile powers must be broken first for this to happen. **GO, JESUS!!!**

I want to correct something that email sometimes doesn't portray well... When I said that I think (that minister) got delivered... I don't mean I am not sure. The emphasis should be I (for one) think that he got delivered... in fact I know he did.... I was ministering to him at a men's camp with another counsellor and was there when the demon came out.... he yelled, "I LOVED it!!!!" (being part of it, and the leadership, and the self-esteem it brought him).

He was writhing on the floor and when it had come out (with a fair bit of resistance), he looked at me and said these exact words... "Well how do you like me now, Pastor?" I said, "I have never loved you more... that was a very courageous thing you just undertook and now you are free from all that crap". From that day forward I tried to get him to stop talking about the past and past hurts... this took a little while but eventually it stopped and he started to concentrate on the here and now.

Eric Hall correspondence excerpt

Eric said... This whole BCF/ MCF saga has certainly brought a few old friends out of the woodwork. I had a letter from Peter Thrift. He left the Sydney church (many years ago), and was promptly cut off. He also believes it's almost impossible to break the doctrinal hold on those who are deceived by that rotten spirit. Sadly as I see it, not many have left the BCF/MCF church.

Eric, we are there to help those who have truly made a decision to exit, but sadly not many will. An interesting anecdote comes from the Nazi regime. All those who wanted to join the "elite" (and there's that word again!) SS and serve Hitler, were assigned for the length of their two-year training, a German Shepherd pup. It had to sleep in the same room, and be a part of their life for the two years. Can you imagine the bond formed? Their last act of initiation into the SS (which they were not aware of until commanded to do it) was to strangle their own loved dog with their bare hands.

Moral is – get a man to act against his conscience once, and he yields something that makes him weaker to disobey the next time an unjust order is given – and if you do that often enough... then your "conscience will be seared as with a hot iron" and you lose your balls. You lose your spiritual (and moral) sensitivity, and become a weak-willed whinger – complaining like PB (*name withheld*), but never having the guts to **really** break free by renouncing the lies of the teaching (elitist and Nazi-like still), and telling the Vic Halls of this world and churches to piss off.

I have never forgotten your vivid description years ago of the visitation you had in New Zealand, and how the demon was wearing your father's face. In those days, most people didn't understand you, but certainly I would be useless in Zimbabwe if I didn't understand and teach on the issue of the Ancestral Spirits (*vadzimu* in Shona) – the lowest level and most common point of contact **every** family on earth has with the powers of darkness.... The **ONLY** place of safety on the planet is (Col 3:3) *For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God*. I trust you still teach on and minister to people in conflict with their own family (or 'familiar' - KJV) spirit....

Excerpt from correspondence with Tony Lyon

Tony, I have decided to minimise my own investment in the crap flying around the fans. Jeff (Hammond) must have spent hours on his blogsite... But sadly he is still avoiding the doctrinal issues at the very heart of the religious spirit behind all the more public social-controlling elements. I have had a quite enlightening e-correspondence with Jim McNeice on this aspect – he is remarkably clear-minded on this. I have enough other matters to chew up my energy.

Jeff has even blogged his analysis of what happened in the Sydney church, and to me, all those years ago – something I found somewhat amusing, seeing he has never once talked to me in a personal way since 1980, so he has not seen anything from inside the engine room of our church's "Red October 1980". I wasn't even aware of his excommunication 12 years ago until I read his blog a couple of weeks ago. Annette's analysis (kind soul that she is) of the early days of the Move (and she goes back to the 1950's, like my wife) still avoids the fact that Vic did **NOT** hijack a better-quality movement and bastardise it. He merely built on what Ray Snr had laid in the Move's foundations. **That's all**. They are still in denial. Vic never did anything original in his life. He enhanced and systematised the essentially corrupt principles and practices already in existence long before he ever got his hands on the levers of power.

I was at the critically important conferences at Mt Macedon and Mt Evelyn in the mid-70's where Ray Snr unfolded his 'revelation' on the power of the grace in the Melchizedek Priesthood "**FIVE**" to take those who were submitting to them on **UNTO PERFECTION**. Himself, Cec, Vic, Ray Jnr, and Keith Holt were declared the original "FIVE" (although poor old Keith didn't last long), and they traipsed off to America to spread the good word (with some moneyed contacts through the Shiflett's!). My point is that the "fatherhood" stuff now so strong in BCF is essentially no different from this seed teaching. Vic has merely developed Broer's "revelations" (including the "Ephesian Pattern", which he now claims he received by divine revelation - when in fact Ray published on it in the early 1970's).

I asked you this question about Jeff's essential doctrinal stance some years ago, and just recently, Jim reiterated the comments you made back then. You know my view of Jeff was not helped by his continuing to take financial support from our church for some two years after we were anathematised, but then refusing to come near us when they returned

on furlough in 1982. It seems like our money was still kosher even though the givers weren't! In my last real conversation with him then, I asked what he was doing in avoiding us and our (Indonesia-supporting) church; he replied that he was being faithful to "my father" (referring to Ray Jackson). I remember saying to him, that I too, had to be faithful to "my Father" (in Heaven).... It is with some irony that I recollect the story that he published his magnum opus just prior to Broer's exposure in Feb 1988, and that the lead page had a dedication to his "father in the Lord, Ray Jackson". And that the CBC students spent one of his teaching sessions whitening out this inscription soon afterwards, before they could be marketed!

There is no conclusive end to a story like this. We are trying to be constructive, coz at the end of the day, **faith** in God and His good purposes **must** be the central emphasis of any analysis of our past. I hope you can hear something of that behind these words.

I know this article is a bit of a pot-pourri. But if you want to contact us with comments, critiques, anecdotes, and promise to keep the vitriol down to a dull roar, you can find Elizabeth and me on rensford@hnlc.org.au

*There are some other articles on Release from Religious / Controlling Spirits filed separately on the **RESOURCE** section of our website ([Brian and Elizabeth Rensfords' website](#))*