

THE COUNTERFEIT LOVE MOVEMENT IS EXPOSED

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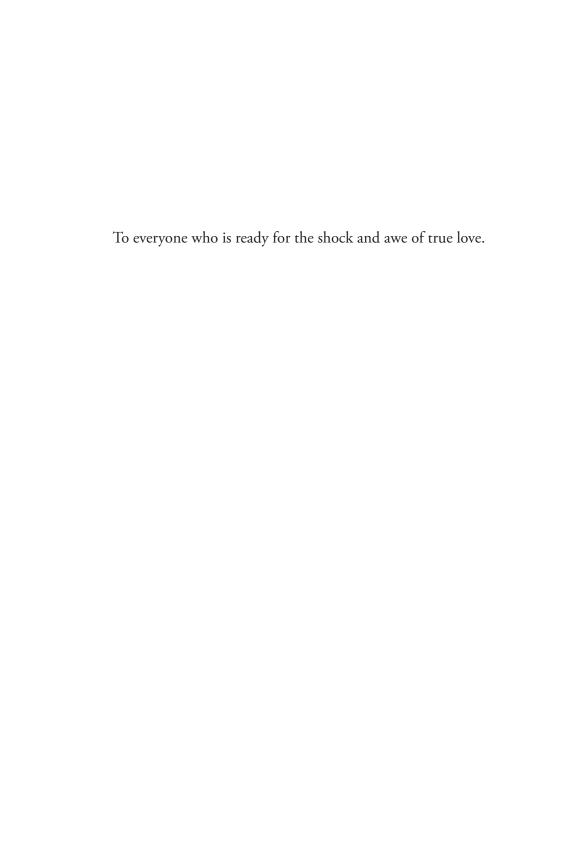
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John's ministry style could be described as wildly passionate, engaging, humorous and loaded with the flow and power of the Holy Spirit.

The prevailing theme of the ministry God has given John revolves around the topic of encountering God. Where God is, things happen. In His presence, the place where He is, is the fullness of joy. As we discover the wonderful mystery of walking in the Spirit, praying always and making aggressive strides in faith, life

becomes incredible!

It truly is an experience in the invisible realm. As we tangibly experience God through deep and active prayer we are interacting *in the Spirit*. As we walk by faith and understand how amazing a Holy Spirit driven life is, being a Christian believer quickly becomes the greatest adventure on earth!

John is currently focused on teaching, consulting, writing and ministering to churches.

If you would like to invite John to speak at your church, conference, camp or other event, please visit johnburton.net.





THE GREAT LOVE DECEPTION

his ebook was derived from my book *The Coming Church*. A deeper, weightier revelation of God's love is coming—and it will look much different than we realize. The coming Church will be marked by burning love, but before we can experience that, we must allow God to deconstruct any false image, any false idea of what love really is.

Are you ready for a deep, heavy, absolutely overwhelming revelation of God's love? So many are, and God is listening to their cries.

As I write this chapter, I'm sitting in a powerful session with Barbara Yoder, Cindy Williams and a ministry team from Catch the Fire (Toronto) at Shekinah Church in Ann Arbor. It's all about encountering the love of God, soaking in his presence and preparing to

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serve in love in a revival atmosphere. I'm yearning for more of this presence!

There is a massive increase in revelation of the love of God, the experience of his presence coming and much of it will fulfill the yearnings of our heart. I'm convinced that much of it will also be quite surprising to us regarding how it manifests. Just as the raging fire of God's power and love in the crater in my vision was both threatening and compelling, God's love will alert us, provoke us and woo us closer.

In order for there to be a false representation of anything, there must be a true, pure reality. Those of you who are longing for a pure, love-driven move of God, get ready! We are about to have the opportunity to go deeper than we ever have. True love will change the world. The burning, churning crater is filled with molten, liquid love!

We could spend trillions of years learning about and discovering and encountering the love of God. In fact, we will do so throughout all eternity. The Bible itself exhorts us to learn about love:

So this is my prayer: that your love will flourish and that you will not only love much but well. Learn to love appropriately. You need to use your head and test your feelings so that your love is sincere and intelligent, not sentimental gush. Live a lover's life, circumspect and exemplary, a life Jesus will be proud of... Philippians 1:9-10 (MSG)

We are to learn to love appropriately. This Scripture is a critical exhortation! Why? It means there are inappropriate ways to love. There are deceptions that feel right but are poor representations or even counterfeits of truth.

As God's love begins to manifest in such amazing, deeper ways at the end of the age, we have to be aware that the enemy will work

hard to redefine, misrepresent and twist true love. He has a castrated version to offer us.

The enemy is so terrified of pure love being revealed that he is willing to promote and endorse a compromised, lesser version of it. Love defined by human emotion instead of the Word is his plan.

Free Love

In the 1960s and 1970s we saw the emergence of free love.

From Wikipedia:

Free love is a social movement that rejects marriage, which is seen as a form of social and financial bondage. The Free Love movement's initial goal was to separate the state from sexual matters such as marriage, birth control, and adultery. It claimed that such issues were the concern of the people involved, and no one else.

Much of the free-love tradition is an offshoot of anarchism, and reflects a libertarian philosophy that seeks freedom from state regulation and church interference in personal relationships.

The free love movement was not a love movement at all. It was focused on self-satisfaction, personal experience and relational connections. The intimacy they sought after was never found. Sexual promiscuity served as a destructive, unfulfilling counterfeit.

I believe we are experiencing a similar free love movement in the Church today:

Rejecting marriage: This speaks to a resistance to covenant.
 The desire is to control the love connection, the experience.
 When the emotional rush is gone and relational intimacy is disappointing, so many of today's Christians sever that connection and move on to more satisfying relationships. They move

from partner to partner, driven by selfish ambition, seeking to be served instead of to serve.

- Social and financial bondage: Free love seeks after social and relational euphoria, and if this is not experienced, people tend to flee from the threat of bondage. True investment into others is resisted unless there is an exchange, unless what they are seeking after is given to them. The problem? This is relational prostitution. Many Christians will invest into others only if friendship is given in return.
- Separation from the state: Just as those in the free love movement several decades ago sought after liberation from governmental control, many Christians today reject biblical government. Government requires submission, and submission doesn't feel like love—though it is. Kingdom order requires submission, respect of boundaries and a surrender of personal rights. This is love! We hear so much about human rights today, as if it's the purest manifestation of love. It is not! The homosexual movement demands the government stays out of their intimate pursuits. The pro-choice movement demands the government stays out of their wombs. 1 Corinthians 13 reveals that love is not self-seeking! It's not about human rights. It's about serving God's government, his purposes and his people.

False-Love Myths & Deceptions

Keep in mind that false or tainted love doesn't flow mostly from an evil, debased heart. It also doesn't mean that there is nothing about the argument or viewpoint that is true. A person who craves pure love can, in their zeal or in their weakness, allow impurities into their expression of love that twists and compromises it. The reason I needed to say this is to encourage you if you've been hit by the false-love spirit.

Your desire for manifested love is probably true, yet the enemy can come in and confuse the process.

The coming Church will be introducing pure, true love and it's important that we are ready for this shift.

With that in mind, here are some false-love (or tainted love) myths and deceptions that have hit the Church:

Expecting or demanding love from others

Remember, love is not self-seeking. Have you ever been wounded by someone who didn't act in love toward you? It is normal to desire to be loved, but true love doesn't expect or demand others to be the one to fulfill that desire. Pointing our fingers at others who aren't acting in love is evidence that we ourselves do not love.

If someone isn't acting in love toward you, isn't relationally close to you, won't befriend you, how will you react? Will you refuse to invest into them unless you get something in return? You have actually fallen into relational prostitution. Jesus laid down his life for those who hated him and we must do the same.

Focusing on God's love is all we need

This is a disturbing trend in the Church, but it's actually not mostly incorrect. It's mostly right! The argument is that when we focus on experiencing the pure, true love of Jesus, everything else in life just falls into place. If we focus on love, sin won't be an issue. Maturity will just happen. Not so. What is mostly right? Well, the greater the revelation of God's love for us, the more we want to be holy, respond in obedience and mature. Love is a great motivator! However, experiencing love is not all we need! The Bible is filled with instructions and man-

dates and focuses that we are responsible to respond to even if the love connection isn't there one day.

Additionally, the Bible is filled with stories of people who loved God, and who sinned. Being with Jesus, loving Jesus, being intimate with Jesus is worthy of most of our energy and focus. However, even in a deep, intimate place with Jesus, obedience can be hard. Flesh can rise up. Satan can tempt. We can be deceived. Our theologies can be off. This is why we must continually let God search our hearts for any wicked way in us. We must be in the Word! We must be submitted to authorities who watch out for our souls. We can't just enjoy God and presume our job is done.

Love initiated pride

There seems to be a rapid emergence of those who are going after the love of Jesus and who are resisting discipline and discipleship. The reason? Pride. The presumption is that their encounter with the love of God has elevated them to a point where they no longer need to be a student of the Word, to focus on the sin potential in their lives or submit to others. They wouldn't say that they are above others, but their arguments reveal their hearts more than not. When the call for holiness, brokenness, study, obedience, etc. is presented to them, they become puffed up and in turn, while rejecting your "inferior focuses", call you to come up higher and just focus on love. Their response very often is, "If you really understood the Father's love, you would see what I mean." It's arrogance masquerading as spirituality. The very fact that this is happening is a revelation that they have not truly experienced love the way they claim.

Love must always manifest a certain way

In Scripture, we do have a great definition of love in 1 Corinthians 13. So, it is true that, for example, love is always patient. If you aren't patient, then that is a specific issue that you can

analyze in yourself. However, there is a spirit of accusation in the camp that moves outside of this scriptural definition and declares that if you don't function a certain way, then you don't love the way God loves. For example, someone might say to an intercessor, "If you truly loved people, you would move out of your prayer closet and hit the streets and feed the homeless!" It's an accusation against a child of God that they don't love, because they don't fit into an imperfect definition of what love really is. Can you really imagine someone looking at a sweet, passionate grandma who prays with tears every day that she that doesn't love people because she isn't street witnessing? On the flip side, an intercessor might say, "If you truly loved people, you would spend hours a day praying for them!"

Additionally, love will manifest through the different offices. Love looks different when delivered through a pastor than it does when delivered through a prophet. As a church leader, I have had to expend a lot of energy explaining to people what type of love and connection they might expect from someone like me. Most people think I'm a pastor when they first meet me (because church leaders in America are almost always called "Pastor"). If people presume that I will express love like a pastor, they can actually get very offended when that doesn't happen.

Accusations can fly. But, if we simply understood that, in addition to the 1 Corinthians 13 definition, different people, different offices and different cultures will express love very, very differently, it will be easy to honor and love them instead of making demands of them.

Love always feels good

Oh boy, this one is big. When we encounter love, we will be presented with a view of God that is quite different than what we previously understood to be true. God's love can be expressed in a very direct, uncomfortable way that breaks you,

and you may even make you wonder how a loving God could act that way. God's expression of love will often put you at risk, threaten you and trouble you. Jesus' expression of love on the cross put Peter at risk of the same grisly death! How could Jesus do this? Peter was confused as he was presented with a side of Jesus he never saw—and he denied that expression of Jesus and his love for the world! I guarantee that Peter did not feel good as Jesus loved him by rescuing him from Hell by dying on the cross.

Today, sharp, provoking preaching is rejected, because it doesn't feel good. They might say in their disturbed state, "That's not the Jesus I know." The risk is, like with Peter, rejection of God when the feelings aren't warm and intimate. This is one reason why being people of the Word is non-negotiable. We can't afford to call good evil and evil good. We must learn about Jesus and how he functions so that our emotions don't lead us astray. Remember, God is love. All of him, not just the parts that feel nice.

God is always in a good mood

Not true. Period. I've said it this way: If God is always in a good mood, he would be a monster, laughing and doing a happy dance as he casts people he loves into Hell.

If we believe God is always in a good mood, we will reject messages and revelations that don't result in us being in a good mood. We will associate the love of God with the hate of Satan. We know that God is still wrathful. He still gets angry. He is saddened. He is joyful. He is happy. He has moods, and the deepest place of love exists when we partner with God in his emotions. What is on God's heart? How can we serve him and minister to him?

For the sake of qualifying this point, there are some who might say that God isn't moody—meaning, God isn't tossed around emotionally, having mood swings like those so common to humans. However, he does have moods, he does have emotions, and they often change based on what is going on in the world and in his heart.

God has joy when someone worships and he experiences anger when someone blasphemes his name. He can both rejoice and be grieved.

Love requires that you are emotionally connected

Again, not true. Humans have the ability to love many but can only befriend a few. Different people have different capacities, but the principle remains the same. Don't presume someone doesn't love you if they don't get close to you at a heart level. In fact, may I be so bold as to say, they might not like you! To love someone does not require that we like them. So we can love the masses and only connect at a close, friendship level with a few. Think about it. Do you want to be friends with everybody? Nope. Why would you expect the same from another? A rejection complex has really done a lot of damage to people—and they look for their healing to come from others loving them the way they want instead of dying to self and refusing to place that burden on them.

I remember a mega-church pastor who was extremely popular. He felt like your best friend though you really didn't have a real personal relationship with him. People often wanted to get close to him, and they actually had a bit of a system in place to handle that! An associate would approach those who were a bit overzealous in their attempts to befriend the pastor. He'd say, "The Pastor will serve you well and express love by leading you, teaching you and helping you connect with Jesus. However, don't expect him to be a personal friend of yours." The same scenario is true for small churches. The pastor may be an introvert, may have limited emotional energy or simply may be called to focus on different things! Don't presume that someone doesn't love

you just because they aren't serving you the way you want. How potentially offensive and seemingly arrogant is this passage?

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." Acts 6:1-4

They were saying that they would not be connecting to people who needed help! They would focus on connecting to God and their very specific tasks! And, my good friends, that is love! They weren't to feed the widows. They weren't to make hospital visits. They weren't to answer their phones every time someone needed them. They were to pray and preach, and that was deep, fiery love!

You have to convince people that you love them

We are to be kind, without question. However, we aren't to modify our messages, to soften our speech or to attempt to convince people that we love them. We should simply love them! How's this statement of love:

Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— This Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and

killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. Acts 2:22-24

"You killed him!" He was in their grill! He was bringing correction with a bold, fiery spirit! He wasn't worried about hurting their feelings—he was proclaiming the power of Jesus! His goal wasn't to sit down and ask how their heart was, how they were feeling, or if they feel OK. He was in another mode, functioning in love, rocking their world and exposing their thinking that would lead them to Hell! I'm sure they didn't feel loved, but if they responded to Peter's message, they would have been flooded with the experiential, burning love of Jesus!

Hard messages aren't driven by love

This is attached to the above point, but it's worthy of some extra attention. Jonathan Edwards' message "Sinners in the hands of an angry God" is largely dismissed by today's ultrasensitive, thin-skinned culture as unloving. I've heard it said that he didn't have a revelation of the Father's love. This is not only wrong, it's a violation of scriptural truth! We cannot avoid the hard messages of sin, Hell and repentance out of fear that we'll be rejected by those who are offended. We can't modify our messages to sound loving—we must trust that the Word of God is a message of love! Truth delivered in love doesn't always feel great, and it will offend many, but those who receive it are changed forever!

We could go on and on for quite a while discussing myths and deceptions regarding love. The enemy is terrified of the manifestation of true love, and he's offering a castrated version of it to those who are seeking after good, happy feelings. Castrated love feels good, but it has no ability to bring forth life!

It's time for us to trust God as he is, not as we want him to be. It's time to dive into the Word, and embrace Jesus as he manifests a variety of emotions which are all rooted in love. The coming Church will be literally burning in liquid love—and we cannot fall for any lesser or counterfeit expression of it!

Almost Homosexual: A Crisis in the Church

The false-love movement is in full force, and we see arguments for it coming from several camps, including the homosexual camp. However, allow me to offer a deeper viewpoint regarding this. There is a crisis in the Church, and it might surprise us how it's manifesting.

After I woke up from a significant dream about Ellen DeGeneres, I read my verse of the day... here it is:

Be wise when you engage with those outside the faith community; make the most of every moment and every encounter. Colossians 4:5

I felt God had a message of love for Ellen that I should try to get to her.

I decided to email Ellen. I have no idea if she will ever get it, but I pray she does.

Here's what I sent to Ellen DeGeneres:

Here's a strange story for ya! I'm a pastor & author, and I had a dream about you last night. It was crazy long and detailed and the first two part dream I've had (I got up to go to the bathroom in the middle and the dream continued after I went back to sleep).

You aren't someone I think about often at all (sorry!), so I have a feeling God may have dropped that dream on me. It started with you at the Academy Awards (or something

similar) and you called me on stage from the audience. I was overwhelmed with grief and whispered to you, "Please forgive me for judging you."

Later, you went on to share with me from your heart about some pain and you talked about your mom. Later on I met your mom and your brother at their home. (I didn't realize you had a brother until I googled it just a moment ago.)

There were other pieces to the dream, but I thought I'd leave it at that for now.

A little about me; I may appear to fit the stereotype as I do believe any lifestyle that embraces activities that God, in his wisdom, deems unhealthy must be avoided. Homosexuality included. However, what's also included is pride, which the Christian Church is often steeped in. So is selfish ambition and having cold love. All deadly, all have hit the Church at large. Again, please forgive me.

After the dream I decided to preach tonight on a crazy controversial message calling the Church to repentance titled, "Almost Homosexual: The Church in Crisis."

God likes you, he loves you. Me too.

As I share this particular urgent and troubling prophetic message, I must do my best to make several points extremely clear.

God is passionately jealous and zealous for his beautiful bride, the Church. His emotions are extreme and deep as he yearns for love-fueled intimacy with those he laid down his life for. His affection cannot be described by even the most romantic or poetic language.

When I mention the Church in this message, I am referring to the global body of Christ. The global bride of Christ. I'm fully aware and thankful that there are many local expressions of the Church that are radically surrendered and given to the lover of their souls—Jesus Christ.

The primary points I will expound on have little to do with sexuality, or sexual sin. You will have to intentionally keep this in mind so as to ensure you understand the issues when I deal with the spirits behind homosexuality and how these spirits are being embraced in the Church (again, the global Church or the Church in general). It's also

important to understand that demonic strategies can manifest differently depending on the setting. The thought of a homosexual spirit infiltrating the church is a potentially offensive suggestion. However, if we understand that demonic attacks can manifest in very different ways depending on who is being attacked, this session will be easier to understand.

A spirit of anger can cause one to murder and another to simply be angry. It's the same spirit with different manifestations. Jesus was communicating this truth when he compared murder to anger:

"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. Matthew 5:21-22

Massive Repentance

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? "I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds." Jeremiah 17:9-10

This is a powerful verse, and the more time we spend on our face in the presence of God, the more we realize how true it is.

Before we can go any further, we have to all agree on the above point that is found in Jeremiah 17: *Our hearts are both deceitful and wicked.* What does this mean? Very simply, it's possible and common for impure motives to be rooted deeply in us even though we may be devoted followers of Christ.

The more time I spend in prayer the easier it is for the Lord to dig deep and bring to the surface issues that wouldn't normally be

evident. My heart has harbored pride at times though at the surface I felt meek. Other times I've verbally forgiven people, but then the Holy Spirit revealed to me a deeper reality—that I hadn't truly done so.

This is why we must not only be OK with messages like this one, but we have to eagerly invite God to shine his burning light into every part of our lives.

And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Isaiah 6:5

When God is in our midst, a revelation of our own sin and issues are made known. A key problem today is that God's manifest presence isn't with us as He should be! Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy. He is the Revelation. He is the Word. Where God is, revelation is. You can't separate the two.

As God, in his burning love for us, reveals our hearts to us, we will find ourselves falling to our knees.

God is calling the Church to massive repentance.

Almost Homosexual?

God has suddenly revisited me with a prophetic word that shocked me and those I shared it with a few years ago—and he's added to the revelation.

Trust me, I've waited several days before deciding to write this (I usually write prophetic words the moment I receive them). I have considered the trouble it may bring. I've also considered God's thoughts about the matter and I've chosen to trust his wisdom that this

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revelation will free many more people than it will disturb. God's word and his wisdom must return to the pulpits again.

"If Jesus had preached the same message that ministers preach today, He would never have been crucified." — Leonard Ravenhill

Take care, lest you forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make a carved image, the form of anything that the LORD your God has forbidden you. For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God. Deuteronomy 4:23-24

God is jealous of his Church—and the spirits that have not only invaded the Church but have been embraced by the Church have made him jealous indeed.

As I was on the airplane flying into Colorado a few years ago, the Lord surprised me with a strong and striking word for the Church. I was shaking.

The Church is almost homosexual.

This is a word that I'm confident is tearing at the heart of God...he's watching his bride become bewitched.

The massive collision of a spiritual asteroid will bring correction to the current Church, and the resulting fire-filled crater will bring

purity. The coming Church will be a pure Church that's eager for God's loving judgment.

With that in mind, here's a question—is it possible that we in the Church are close to embracing the same spirits that fuel the homosexual agenda? Is it possible we, at least in part, already are?

As I was watching the mountains of Colorado draw closer during the final approach to the airport that day, the Lord revealed three drivers of the homosexual agenda:

Pride Identity Lust

Understand—the primary driver of the homosexual agenda is not same-sex attraction, but rather strong deceiving spirits of pride, self-promotion and identity, and lust.

I was on a train where I saw two homosexual girls very visibly hanging on each other, making it very clear that they were together. Their actions were not a result of raging hormones, but rather, they were making a bold declaration, a prideful pronouncement of their chosen identity as lesbians.

They wanted to force affirmation, be noticed and demand acceptance and equality.

The Church has been bewitched by the same spirits that give fuel to the homosexual agenda—and this is a primary reason we have not had success in winning homosexuals to Jesus. We can't cast out the same demonic spirits we embrace.

Pride

We've all heard of gay pride. Pride is a hallmark of the homosexual movement and all too often, it's a driver of the Church as well.

I hear continually that it's rare to find a church where the tangible, manifest presence of God can be experienced. I believe, sadly,

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there are more Ichabod churches than we realize. An Ichabod church is simply a church that is devoid of God's glory. The ark of God's presence has been captured. It doesn't mean God hates that church. Quite the opposite—He is grieved that he must be removed from his lover, his bride.

And she named the child Ichabod, saying, "The glory has departed from Israel!" because the ark of God had been captured and because of her father-in-law and her husband. And she said, "The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured." 1 Samuel 4:21-22

...Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." 1 Peter 5:5

You may not have thought about it this way, but God, though he loves so deeply, actually opposes or resists those who are proud. God's glory departs.

We live in a culture where we fight for success, we jockey for position, and we can't imagine being hidden or failing. Compromise has consumed the Church as it seeks success, a larger building, more people, more influence, more money and other demands. Pride has resulted in worship of images made of gold. Humility demands the gold is given as worship to God. Pride has resulted in worshiping a packed house. Humility calls for laying down our lives for even one.

We wonder why the Church isn't having more success in the culture.

I believe a key reason is that we are attempting to attack worldly pride with religious pride. We are actually retaining the services of the very same demons that we are attempting to battle! A spirit of pride! God resists the proud! Is it possible that we are attempting to change

culture from a position of religious pride all while God is not standing with us?

When humility reigns, the Church will have the grace that God promises in 1 Peter 5.

Identity

This point is the most burning issue in my spirit right now.

I am fully given to seeing people step into their destinies, discover their true identity in Christ and discover freedom from lies and emotional scars that the enemy has given them. It's a significant focus of my own ministry.

However, we have a growing problem.

Focus is on self more often than it is on God. Focus is on living more than it is on dying daily.

We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are poorly dressed and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we entreat. We have become, and are still, like the scum of the world, the refuse of all things. 1 Corinthians 4:10-13

Please understand, I believe we are seated in heavenly places with Christ Jesus. We are kings and priests. We have great authority. We have overcome. We are the head and not the tail, above and not beneath.

But, our identities, when rightfully understood, don't lead us to focusing mostly on personal benefit. When we embrace the cross of Christ, which is where our identities originate, we are now focused on going low, humbling ourselves, serving with passion, and identifying with the scum of the world—so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.

A focus on our own benefits, our own healings, our own identities as it relates to personal gain, has actually resulted in us aligning with a key spirit that drives the homosexual movement.

Just as with homosexuals, God loves them and us too deeply to affirm a false identity—no matter how desirable and convincing that identity may be! God's wisdom is much higher than ours, and it takes humility to admit that.

This is a huge, huge point!

When we fight for a false identity that feels so overwhelmingly a part of us, and when our focus is on acceptance, affirmation and human rights, we give up the call to die to our own desires. Suddenly securing our own identity is more important than serving the masses.

The goal is not to be affirmed, accepted, liked, or honored. We aren't to look for equality. We don't compare ourselves with others. We can't make demands when life is unfair. The Church is to die so that others may live. Our identity is to be fully and entirely in Christ.

An improper attention given to the pursuit of identity (acceptance, affirmation, etc.) causes us to forsake the call to focus on our mission, for the sake of devotion to narcissism. This is where the temptation to disobey God and submit to the demands of man can happen.

For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. James 3:16

Lust

Lust is oozing through the Church today. Yes, it's true that sexual lust is rampant. Some reports reveal pornography has been viewed by as many as 50% of Christian men recently while others state as many as 95% of Christian men are involved.

However, lust is not limited to the sexual variety.

Simply ask the question, "What causes you to get excited, to come alive?"

Many honest Christians would admit that everything from money, to fame, to popularity, to sex, could be the answers.

But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. James 1:14-15

Lust results in death. It really is that simple. The life is sucked right out of people. Suicide is on the rise. Eternal death is another threat as well.

This is a tragic reality in the Church today—we've lost our first love! False intimacy in the form of lust has taken the place of a deep, satisfying, truly intimate and never ending encounter with Jesus! He yearns for us while his beautiful bride is yearning for other lovers!

The Church has lost its desire for intimacy with Jesus. Many Christians don't even know what it is to be overwhelmed by his deep, burning love. Jesus is more of a principle or a foreign character in a book than he is a real, tangible, literal person you can feel.

This lack of revelation and encounter in a very intimate, lifegiving way with Jesus has resulted in one more comparison with the homosexual movement:

The bride is becoming intimate with the bride.

What does that mean? Does it mean we can't have close relationships with other people? No, not at all. In fact, closer, deeper friendships with people are coming—but they can never be a substitute for our jealous Bridegroom.

The problem? We have become more interested in reproducing after our own kind than in receiving a fresh impartation directly from God himself. How does this play out? Several ways:

We become enthralled with a certain stream in the body (Word of Faith, House of Prayer, etc.) and want to have a relationship with that stream hoping that it produces life.

We turn to other people in the Church instead of to God through prayer and study of the Word, in the hopes that the union can result in the outcome we are looking for.

We are more connected socially to people than we are spiritually to God.

We believe our church growth comes through people, so we compromise the mission, cancel prayer, water down the message and get intimate with the body!

An intimate union with God will result in a fresh stream birthing through your ministry!

A deep encounter with Jesus will bring the results that a million human counselors never could!

"You can have all of your doctrines right—yet still not have the presence of God." — Leonard Ravenhill

The Solution

Intimacy. Repentance. Falling in love with Jesus. Humility.

"A sinning man stops praying, a praying man stops sinning"

— Leonard Ravenhill

Yes, fervent, zealous prayer must return to our churches again!

if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place. For now I have chosen and consecrated this house that my name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will be there for all time. 2 Chronicles 7:14-16

We cannot anymore develop systems that enhance our own identities, stroke our pride or fuel our lust for power, recognition or anything else. The coming Church will be a humble Church.

It's time again to declare the cross, holiness, humility and passion from our pulpits and on our faces!

The core call is for a movement of humility and holiness.

It's a call to become broken and undone, desperate and deeply intimate with Jesus.

It's a call to a fasted lifestyle, to full surrender and complete saturation in the advance of the Kingdom.

It's a call to the deeply humble, yet powerfully bold life of John the Baptist.

Are we ready to let the lover of our souls invade the deepest parts of our inner man? He is wooing his glorious bride back to him... will we respond?

Draw me after you; let us run. The king has brought me into his chambers. Song of Songs 1:4

Shock Christianity

You might be of the opinion that the previous section was quite provocative, that it went too far. The times are far too urgent to remain passive, silent and to deliver moderated messages that feel good but do little.

A prophetic alarm is sounding as a code blue Church is under the shock paddles of the great Physician.

I'm going to take the opportunity to lay some very important things out on the table—in the hopes that God will bring clarity to what is expected in this end-of-the-age season that we are in.

I will also share very important information about why I personally focus on such a narrow, offensive, troubling message. It's important that you hear my heart on this.

I had planned on writing an article dealing with the issue of love as it's revealed through prophetic voices for the last week, and since then I've had at least a few key unexpected discussions regarding what one called "Shock Christianity."

I believe this is evidence that it's time to both humbly ask God to inspect our hearts (as I always do when I find myself in such active and controversial seasons) and clearly communicate what is truly to be expected.

It's extremely easy to point out self-defined lack in another's life with the accusation that they are not acting in love. This is an accusation that I and many other aggressive and prophetic leaders, who shock, rock, tear down idols and altars, have received more than once.

The problem? There's confusion about what love is, and also about how to react when someone isn't manifesting love in the way we think they should. Remember, the coming Church will be burning in supernatural love that is so pure that it will transform us for eternity. It's all about love! Or better said, it's all about true love.

Friendship & Emotional Intimacy

For many, especially those with a high mercy gift, the seemingly obvious, non-negotiable manifestation of love is close friendship

and deep, emotional intimacy.

This isn't an inappropriate desire—it's the way many are wired. But, it is inappropriate to presume that a lack of emotional intimacy is evidence of a lack of love.

It's too easy to point a finger at someone who has established healthy boundaries and accuse them of not loving you. The accurate analysis would actually be that they most probably do love you, but they don't desire emotional intimacy with you.

In fact, it may hurt, but we have to understand that not every-body wants to be our friend! That doesn't mean they don't love us, it just means that they don't feel impressed to develop that type of relationship with us. They are limited in their ability or desire to befriend certain people, and that's OK. It's normal.

I personally know that not everybody will like me, and not everybody will want to be my friend. It would actually be really bizarre if that weren't true!

Additionally, for many leaders, their primary goal isn't to connect with everybody, but rather it's to connect everybody to God. That is a valid and important ministry.

I think of Mike Bickle who isn't going to just befriend anybody who walks into IHOP, but he absolutely will invest every ounce of his energy to help you connect to Jesus. What love that is!

What is Inve?

That's a loaded question. I feel all of us would agree that the answer is wildly expansive and multifaceted.

And that it is. If the definition of biblical love is so deep and wide, why is it that we get offended when someone doesn't fit our shal-

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low and narrow definition of love?

If you search for "God's Love" on Amazon, it returns 311,863 available books. It's an inexhaustible topic!

When you read Scripture, it is again, inexhaustible. Of course, we do have quite a wonderful definition here:

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 1 Corinthians 13:1-7

I personally consider this passage often. Really, I do so continually. For me, loving with God's love is non-negotiable, though it is so easy to fail. The fear of the Lord is on me regarding the issue as this passage reveals a sharp warning to those who minister without loving. For someone with a "shock Christianity" mandate, this is all the more sobering. I must love without fail while shaking the sleepers. If love doesn't drive the shaking, if it's selfish ambition or greed that does it, I am in big trouble.

Now, this passage isn't to be used as ammunition against others who don't measure up, but instead it's to be a sword to our own hearts. We need to let God break us. Don't look to others who seem to be failing in love and accuse them of failure. You love them without reserve!

Cover them as Noah was covered by two of his three sons. Don't be the son that exposed his father's nakedness! That results in a curse!

Noah began to be a man of the soil, and he planted a vineyard. He drank of the wine and became drunk and lay uncovered in his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside. Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned backward, and they did not see their father's nakedness.

When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, he said, "Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be to his brothers." He also said, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem; and let Canaan be his servant. May God enlarge Japheth, and let him dwell in the tents of Shem, and let Canaan be his servant." Genesis 9:20-27

Love According To The Bible

There are questions we have to ask ourselves to ensure we are personally living in the love of God:

- Am I patient? This doesn't mean we aren't bold or that we don't challenge people to pick up the pace. This is a heart issue. Can we advance with determination while also honoring people who are slower than us?
- Am I kind? This is also an attitude of the heart. It doesn't mean
 we are passive or soft spoken. It just means we are looking out
 for the needs of others.
- Do I envy others? Jealousy divides. Enough said.
- Do I boast? Do I have pride that results in attempting to outshine others?
- Am I arrogant? Boldness and arrogance are closely related.
 One is Holy Spirit driven, the other is not. I'm sure people might accuse me of arrogance due to my aggressive, urgent fo-

cus on life, and my unwillingness to entertain lukewarm theologies, but I am consistently asking God to search my heart on this. I desire to be bold without reservation, even if it looks like arrogance. I'm not out to prove I love people. I'm to love them, and sometimes it can get testy as I promote God's messages that irritate the resisters.

- Am I rude? I post a lot on Facebook and Twitter. My goal is to be extremely provocative (to shock!), and I'll talk about that more in a bit. But it is always extremely important for me to not be rude. It's critical that, while I provoke, I also honor and refuse to react in a rude or condescending manner.
- **Do I insist on my own way?** This is about selfishness. Am I self-centered and demanding? Or, do I prefer others above myself?
- Am I irritable? I will admit that I wrestle with this one at times! It's usually because of small but nonetheless meaningful issues. I have to be sensitive to my family by not getting irritated when they aren't in the car ready to go on time or when the kids' chores aren't done. I have improved greatly, but I must remain sensitive to this.
- Am I resentful? When life doesn't go as planned, do I resent God or other people who didn't live up to my expectations?
- **Do I rejoice at wrongdoing?** Or do I do the opposite as revealed in Ephesians 5 by exposing the fruitless deeds of darkness? Even when accusations of lacking love fly, we can humbly go to prayer, let God search our hearts and review the above scriptural revelation of what love looks like.

So, if someone is aggressive, bold, focused, not easily approachable, confrontational, controversial, troubling or intent on tearing down false ideologies that people hold dear, does that reveal a lack of love? Not according to the Bible. In fact, they may love with such a pas-

sion that they are more focused on loving than on convincing people they love.

False Expectations

In our culture, love is defined in a way that is often different than what we see in Scripture. For example, there is a false-love movement on the rise that presumes that relational friendship is a required manifestation of true love. I disagree. That false expectation will leave many wounded when someone who does truly love doesn't show it the way they would prefer. Offense will follow, and division, hard hearts and cold love are next.

This is an eternal issue! We cannot allow false expectations to result in cold love! If others don't love us the way we want, do we ourselves lose our love for them?

And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. Matthew 24:10-13

I'll say it again—true love doesn't demand that others respond lovingly. True love is seen on the cross where Jesus didn't demand any affirmation, friendship, encouragement or any outward manifestation of affection. We know from the encounter in the garden just prior to his arrest that he desired relational closeness, but he didn't get offended when his friends slept while he sweat and bled.

True maturity comes from our garden experiences. If we can't escape the lonely bleeding in the garden without offense toward the unconcerned selfish sleepers rising up in our hearts, how can we expect

to take up our cross for them? Do we demand that they manifest love toward us, or do we simply love them unto death?

People who struggle with fear and rejection are often hit by the enemy regarding this. They so crave affirmation (which feels like love), that when they don't get it, it's easy to accuse the person of not loving them. The problem? Affirmation and love are not the same. You can love someone without affirming them, befriending them or even talking to them!

John Doesn't Love People

I told you I was going to lay it on the table! This one hurts so deeply!

There was a situation in Colorado many years ago that resulted in an underground "spirit of Absalom" situation (when someone close to us stole the hearts of those under our care; 2 Samuel 15) that was fueled by offense. I started to hear the rumors: John doesn't love people. Amy and I felt like we were hit by a train.

Someone on my staff had a false expectation about something I considered to be incredibly minor. I was unable to meet that specific request due to needing to be somewhere later that night. It wasn't until months later that I put two and two together and realized that an underground movement of gossip was setting some on my staff and team against me. The accusation? I don't love people because I wasn't there for them that day. Further, since that situation, according to their analysis, revealed my true, unloving heart, and my motives in ministry were now compromised, there must be an effort to resist the ministry—and, for them, it was in the name of *love!*

My initial split-second reaction when I received knowledge of the situation was this: *That doesn't make sense! I love that person and the others so much. Of all things how could that be the accusation?*

I was really saddened that those who I expressed love to by welcoming them onto our team, supporting them in their ministries,

encouraging them to be free to lead with passion, etc. were rejecting my expression of love! Wow! Isn't it interesting how it all works together—how the enemy can twist and turn things in such a dastardly way!

This was the same individual that had come to me previously with a dilemma. She had to deal with a situation in the church, but she didn't want to make waves. She asked, "John, how in the world can I handle this explosive situation and convince the person that I love them?" I simply responded, "Why are you trying to attempt to convince them you love them? Simply love them."

If we try to convince people we love them, we won't actually love them when administering true tough love, biblical discipline and other challenges are called for. True biblical love at times does not feel like the love our culture has defined.

This is the power of love languages at work. We can't expect someone to respond in love according to our love language. They will naturally respond according to their love language.

Of course, we can try to reach out to people according to their love language, but, here's the point I'm trying to make—a failure to manifest love according to another's language doesn't mean they don't love—it means they aren't expressing or manifesting love the way that seems obvious to us. That accusation must come to an end.

Can an introverted recluse so deeply love people he has never even met by writing checks for millions of dollars to charities? Yes! That is love though he would never hug you, seek friendship or even smile when you enter the room!

My heart breaks over situations like this. Can I love better? Oh man, YES! But, I also need to help bring this issue to the surface. Too many leaders are not living according to their calling, because they are

so busy modifying their personality and mandate to match what others expect!

We must love according to how God designed us. The cross wasn't welcomed, but it was the method Jesus was mandated to use. It didn't feel like love then, but boy was it.

The Test

I will never get over how God works. He is beyond amazing. Both my wife and I will admit that we were deeply wounded when this individual rose up against us. We instantly had to humble ourselves and allow God to work on our hearts. Though we feel we handled it well, God will always test us. That test is not for God, but for us—it will clearly show where we really are with a situation.

The coming Church is going to be jealously guarded by God, a loving Bridegroom. There won't be room for bitter, unforgiving leaders, and we have to be willing to be continually tested by God. We must crave his involvement!

Our staff member finally decided to move from Colorado to another far away state. We thanked Jesus! What a wonderful moment that was! Though we had forgiven her, it felt good that the drama was over.

A year or so later, Amy and I were called to leave Colorado and move to Kansas City to join the staff of the International House of Prayer. Though we loved Colorado and the ministry there, we couldn't deny that God was opening doors to Missouri, and we also couldn't deny that a fresh new season was quite welcome.

We thought we'd only be there for the three month internship, but ended up staying for two years as we gave leadership to that very same internship as Directors. It was a very exciting time for our family—until...

...the crisis. I won't go into the entire dramatic story, but please understand we were suddenly blindsided and the pain was real.

We lost an unborn baby (we've lost a total of seven) and were replaced as Directors of the internship in the same week. Suddenly, a lot of life and joy was replaced by very real, unexpected and confusing pain. Now, understand, though we were in another trial, we were processing very well. Being replaced in the internship did make sense, even though we enjoyed serving in that ministry so much! That role called for a very different personality type and gift mix, and I didn't realize this when Mike Bickle offered me the position. They were so gracious in the entire process, and we love that ministry deeply!

However, again, the pain was legitimate. You might wonder how this story connects with the story of pain in Colorado. Get ready for this.

Remember, God will go to great lengths to ensure we are operating in love, and that we are humble and teachable.

At this time, God began opening doors for ministry in Detroit, Michigan. In those meetings he began to move in a very dramatic and powerful way, confirming his Word with signs following. So after much prayer, we felt led that we should move to Detroit. Now in the natural, this was not the best time to sell our house in Kansas City. The economy was bad and Forbes Magazine had recently called our city the eighth fastest dying city in America! So my wife put out a fleece: if God wants us to move to Detroit, he will have our house sell for our full asking price within seven days of placing it on the market.

Miraculously, God sold our home after being on the market for only six days!

Glory to God! We were in another exciting, miraculous season!

About thirty days before we were to move from Kansas City to Detroit I sat in my last all-staff meeting at IHOP. There was over a thousand people in that meeting, and I sat in the very back, on the

floor, kind of bored and ready to get on with my day. Then it happened. The impossible happened.

From the platform I heard the leader of the meeting say something like, "We would like to introduce a new staff member who will be giving leadership to a new ministry on our base. Everybody welcome..."

No way! No way! No way!

It was impossible! When I heard her very distinct, unusual name, and saw her welcomed onto the team, I was speechless. I think my jaw hung down for quite a long time. My head was spinning as I was witnessing an invasion into our fragile world.

There was simply no way that this person, who had done so much damage to our ministry in Colorado, who had moved to a far away state, could suddenly converge with our life in Kansas City!

I stepped outside and called my wife. I'll never forget her response to my news. After I told her who was now on staff, all I heard her say, with defeat in her tone, was, "No."

Do you realize what happened? God set up this encounter, this trial, to test our hearts.

When I got home that afternoon, we talked and resolved that it was indeed a test, and we endeavored to pray for this person and to ask God to bless her deeply!

I never did see her over the next month. Amy, however, had a very important chance encounter with her. The very last day we lived in Kansas City, as the moving truck was being loaded in the driveway, Amy went to the bank to close our account. You guessed it. Standing in line right in front of her was our former staff member.

My wife smiled big and gave her a huge hug! Amy felt so good that it was so easy to love this person!

That was the last time we ever saw her, and to this day we pray for her to be wildly blessed!

Love will certainly manifest in many different ways, but for those who are called of God, that love will be tested. The coming Church will be a love-bathed Church, and we must welcome the testing, no matter how painful it is. My wife would say the freedom and abundant life she feels regarding the Colorado/Kansas City crisis is well worth the trial she and I went through.

True Expectations: Same Love, Different Manifestations

I once considered that it would be powerful to have a resource that explained how we can relate to various personality types, giftings and offices. What type of manifestation of love is typical in a pastor? What about a prophet? How will an apostle and a teacher relate to others, taking into account their different emotional expressions? I was hoping someone would write this book on interactive Christian love, but maybe I'll have to tackle that at some point!

For example, I often hear people slander the prayer movement by shouting that those who lock themselves in the prayer room for hours a day don't love people. If they did, they would be out on the streets feeding the homeless or doing something else that's relational and meets an immediate need. This couldn't be further from the truth. While certainly some people who pray all day might struggle with issues of love, the same is true across the board. It has nothing to do with the manifestation (intercession, serving the homeless), but rather it has to do with the condition of the heart.

So, what should we really expect from others? Here's a short, extremely simplified explanation that should set you free. If you don't expect someone to express love in a certain way, you won't be offended when they don't! The coming Church will be a church of governmental order, and we will learn how to relate to various expressions of love:

Pastor

In America, church leaders are almost always called "Pastor." We need to fix this. Why? There are expectations associated with the offices, and if someone is not truly a pastor, when you

call them pastor you are putting a burden on them they can't bear.

In a true pastor, you might expect someone who loves to listen to your story and is ready to encourage you in it. They may be very relational, conversational and invested in people one-onone.

Teacher

A teacher might spend most of his time behind closed doors in study, and might not have a relational bone in his body—but he loves people by rightly dividing the Word. His love is manifested not through smiles and handshakes but through hours of investment in you through study and prayer.

Evangelist

An evangelist will show love by leading people to Jesus. This can get confusing for some who get saved, and then don't understand why the evangelist isn't his best friend. After all, they shared a life-changing moment together! The reason? The evangelist is off loving the next person!

Prophet

A prophet will show love through irritating you! I'm a prophetic Apostle, so this is my area of expertise. Prophets may have tears in their eyes and fire in their veins in the place of prayer that results in an uninvited confrontation. In fact, you can consider a prophet an uninvited teacher. He delivers what is not desired to a people who are asleep. Whenever you awaken someone from their sleep, you can expect them to be irritated—yet this irritation is a result of a man or woman of God who loves you so much that they can't leave you in your condition.

So, you can expect sharp words of warning that are love-fueled alarms designed just for you. You probably wouldn't expect a prophet to be ultra-relational (they make too many enemies for this to work!). They make horrible counselors most of the time.

They love you much as the teacher does—through prayer-driven messages from God.

Apostle

Apostles are always on the move. They show love by inviting you on the journey. However, they usually don't wait too long for you to catch up. For some, that feels unloving, but the opposite is true. Their love compels them to move and build and advance into new territory so that many can be saved! While an apostle may not wait long for you, he will always be there to pick you up on his next loop through!

Don't expect apostles to be locally minded. If you need someone to help with your current life situation, an apostle will show you his love by inviting you on a journey regardless of your current situation! You may need to find a pastor if you aren't looking for that quite yet!

A One-String Banjo

As someone who's not a pastor, I find myself, by design, extremely limited in my message. I'm a one-string banjo. Maybe two-string.

If I asked you what a particular pastor's life message is, you probably wouldn't be able to answer. He will usually teach on many different topics.

But, if I were to ask you what John the Baptist's message was, you'd have an answer—REPENT! PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD! Like John the Baptist, prophetic leaders are one string banjo players.

For me, everything I do in ministry stems from one experience and one message. After an encounter in the early 1990's of being

dragged toward Hell, God spoke this to me: *John, many Christians will* be shocked to find themselves in Hell one day.

My love for mostly nameless, faceless people burns so hot that I simply cannot deviate from my message of warning. I am loving through provoking people into safety. I am, as has been suggested, a shock Christian. I'm a prophetic messenger that sees time running out.

The horrific confusion regarding the issue of salvation in the Western Church is the key reason why I am so intense. I am intentionally extremely off balance as a heavy counterweight due to current off-balance theologies. People are going to Hell. They think they are saved.

Just so you know how I see things, due to this encounter that I had 22 years ago: when I'm in a vibrant, Spirit-filled church of, lets say, one thousand people—people who are lifting their hands, worshiping Jesus and paying their tithes—I see maybe 100 of them, on average, ending up in Heaven. That's not a judgmental statement, as I have no way of truly judging that on a person-by-person basis. It's simply a statistical, analytical reality for me based on my encounter with Hell. How can I stay silent even for a day if billions of unsaved people are going to Hell—not to mention many others in churches who are following Jesus in an unsaved condition?

In fact, I've often said that I give myself only an 80% chance of making Heaven. If I were to die today, I'm about 99.9% sure I'd be there. However, the Bible is clear that there will be a great falling away. Even the elect will be deceived. If I presume myself to be exempt from that, I am presuming myself to be among the elect—and I am surely deceived. I absolutely can fall away from Jesus, and I don't take that lightly.

My mandate is simple—love people by communicating truth, sounding alarms and tearing down doctrines of demons and humanistic religious idols.

Additionally, as a prophetic Apostle, those warnings come with an invitation—to get equipped to do the same, and to run with me as

I charge ahead. I'm looking for modern day reformers who will love people through shocking and shaking deadly systems!

Running with me will be a joy if you want to be rocked and challenged as your destiny is called out of you.

The label of *shock Christian* fits the movement I'm a part of. I'd rather you be shocked with truth now than shocked to find yourself in Hell one day.

I am extremely thoughtful, prayerful and boldly intentional with what I communicate. Do I always do it perfectly? No way. But I try. But you can know that I love you deeply and will be in prayer continually as I get the *now message* of the Lord. The message will probably trouble you at times. It is supposed to. The paddles must be placed on all of us at times to shock to life a dying part of our hearts.

You may wonder why I don't deviate from this approach. I hope you now know why. The coming Church will consist of a remnant that has tears in their eyes and fire in their mouths as they prepare the way of the Lord in these end days.

And, I'll add one last thought. It's an indictment on our passive, timid culture when what I consider to be mildly jarring truths seem to be so extreme and impacting. It's an indictment on the church when truth is shunned as hatred when it troubles or causes discomfort. What I write—honestly—is simple, old school Christianity. I'm saddened that people find it drastic—but so be it. I will continue preaching it until drastic becomes normal again.





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Just finished reading the two books you gave me...and I am buzzing in the Holy Spirit!

My wife and I had an hour conversation about the depth of their implications. You have nailed it my friend. I have met few people who have put all this together....

and I am in awe and grateful. - Tim

BOOKING INFORMATION

JOHN BURTON is available to minister in your church or at your conference or event. John has been developing and leading ministries for over 20 years and is a sought out teacher, prophetic messenger and revivalist. John has authored ten books, has appeared on Christian television and radio and directed one of the primary internships at the International House of Prayer (IHOP) in Kansas City.

Additionally, he has planted two churches (<u>www.thefurnace.tv</u>), initiated two city prayer movements and developed a school of ministry (<u>www.thelabuniversity.com</u>).

John also has a web and graphic design business (www.burton.tv) and is continually developing new and exciting ventures. He and his beautiful wife Amy have five children and currently live next to an apple orchard in the beautiful northern Detroit region.

Some of the topics that John can minister on include: The Coming Church, 20 Elements of Revival, Carrying the Fire, Breaking a Spirit of Insignificance, Becoming Unoffendable, Covens in the Church and many more.

Regardless of the topic, John will bring the fire of revival, healing and supernatural encounter. His mission is the freedom of the masses and he would be honored to serve you and your church.

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No minimum honorarium, no minimum crowd, I'll sleep on the floor...
I'm burning to bring revival to your city! - John Burton

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