A STONE CRYING OUT

Alan De Leon asks John Carter what he believes and why he thinks outside the box.

ADL: What is the single most important idea that has ever entered your mind?

JC: The awesome truth that the Creator became a human being, lived among us, died in *my place* on a Roman cross, arose from the dead, and is coming again. That amazing idea changed my life when I was 17 at Avondale College. It is still shaking me up.

ADL: What is so important about Jesus?

JC: He is not just a good man, He is the God man. Let me say it again, JESUS IS GOD. Buddha is not God, Confucius is not God, Mohammad is not God, and only Jesus can save us.

ADL: Do you think there is an urgent need for Gospel preaching?

JC: Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. That means only Jesus can save. Today we see an open warfare against Christianity in America, Australia, the U.K., and Europe. The fruitage of Atheism, Humanism, and Secularism is increasingly clear: a drug frenzy, a suicide epidemic, and an explosion of every kind of sexual perversion. Too often the Church seems paralyzed and intimidated. Powerful preaching has often been stifled by Church leaders but nothing can stop the preaching of the Gospel. Jesus said if the disciples remain silent, even the stones will cry out. (See Lk. 19:39,40) I am quite happy to be one of His crying out stones.

ADL: What is the state of Christianity in Great Britain?

JC: The fastest growing religion is Atheism, followed by the Muslim faith. The Church in England seems paralyzed by politics and complacency. On the other hand, the Muslims are roaring ahead. Europe one day will have a Muslim majority and Sharia will be the law of the land. There is no true freedom of religion in Muslim countries. Christians had better smarten up and wake-up.

ADL: What do you think of the article in The Review that says the Church in North America is "an endangered species?"

JC: The best days for God's Church are still ahead. A great multitude that no one can number will be saved in these last days. (See Rev. 7:9,14) The Church organization in its present form may well be an endangered species, but God will work in ways that will truly amaze us.

ADL: What makes Jesus Christ so different?

JC: He is God, end of case. He is the only person who can change the heart, and bring peace and joy to the troubled soul. The world, I tell you, does not need more religion with its boring platitudes and worn out clichés. It needs Jesus. And it needs a few good men (and women) who will preach Christ with power, love, compassion, emotion, and conviction. We don't need more "clergymen," but men of God with hearts on fire.

ADL: Should we not venerate the Church? Some tell us we have a "divinely inspired organization."

JC: We should respect and love God's Church which is composed of God's people. But we do not worship the Church or place its word before His Word, because the Church cannot save us. Christ alone saves. We do not preach the glories of the Church organization, but the glories of Christ our Blessed Lord. We proclaim Christ dying for our sins, Christ risen from the dead, Christ interceding for us, and Christ coming again in power and glory.

ADL: What advice would you give to a new believer?

JC: The same advice that I would give to an old believer: Read your Bible everyday. Get real and get disciplined. It is not easy to be a Christian, therefore you need, as Paul the Apostle said, to work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. That's not salvation by works, but salvation that works. Read and study especially the Four Gospels that are about Jesus. When you mature a little, get into the Book of Romans, and don't give up because it demands concentration. Weak Christians own Bibles but feed on TV. Attend and support a church where the true Gospel is preached and where God's Commandments are kept. Support evangelism, don't be a critic.

ADL: Why do so many young people leave the Church?

JC: Poor insipid preaching from the pulpit, the powerful pull of the world, the acceptance of false scientific ideas, and the hypocrisy they see among many religious leaders. Cardinal Pell is the third ranking member of the hierarchy in the Vatican and is on trial in Australia for pedophilia.

ADL: Does your preaching produce positive results? Do you get a lot of support?

JC: It's not up to me to judge my own work, I have One who judges me. But I have felt the anointing of the Holy Spirit, and seen tens of thousands of unbelievers come to Christ, especially in difficult countries like Russia, Ukraine, El Salvador, and Cuba, to mention but a few. Do I get a lot of support? Yes, I do, from the people who really count. I'm talking about "ordinary" people who love God and who are hungry to see Jesus come. I thank God for His true saints who are often unrecognized and unappreciated. These people are pretty much known only to God, do not usually hold high positions in the Church, but will one day shine like the stars forever.

ADL: Pastor Carter, with all due respect, you are no longer a young man. When do you plan to stop preaching?

JC: When I stop breathing. Christ means everything to me, He is my Lord and Savior.

PLEASE WRITE TO PASTOR JOHN CARTER AT PO Box 1900 • Thousand Oaks, CA 91358 USA. Australia: PO Box 861 • Terrigal, NSW 2260. When you send your gift of \$200.00 or more for soul-winning, request your copy of the famous GENEVA BIBLE, the powerhouse of the Protestant Reformation. This beautiful leather-bound Bible will thrill you and hold a place of pride in your home. Get yours while supplies last.



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