



I did a rare thing recently. I went to a movie.

You may not hear me recommend another movie any time soon. However, this movie is of value to the Christian desiring to "understand the times in order to know what to do."

The documentary movie is called "Expelled" starring Ben Stein.

I went, in part, for the following reason:

The movie exposes the persecution against well-credentialed scientists, professors, educators, and students who dare to question Darwin's flawed theory of evolution and argue that life could not exist without "intelligent design."

This film is making the evolution proponents very upset because it tells the truth!

Some evolutionists have actually tried to sabotage the success of the film and prevent people from watching it!

Quoting from Dr. Ted Baehr's *Movieguide* as he reviewed the movie "Expelled":

"... Ben Stein starts out talking about the fact that the United States was built on freedom. He quotes the Founding Fathers and juxtaposes the freedom of the United States with the Communist Berlin Wall in Germany.

Carefully, Stein makes the case that the academic community has become as oppressive of freedom as that same community oppressed freedom in Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. He interviews Prof. Richard Sternberg who lost his long-term job at the Smithsonian Institute because he dared to publish a peer-reviewed article with two or three references to Intelligent Design.

... One by one, Stein introduces us to prestigious scientists at major universities who were expelled because they dared to mention Intelligent Design and open up the academic discussion to non-Darwinian viewpoints. He moves from there to questioning the institutions and the administrators who expelled these academics. The administrators squirm under his interrogation but eventually admit that the academic community has no room for freedom and intellectual inquiry. ...

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**From the desk of
Bill Johnson,
president**

By God's grace, He has led us along through many trials and tribulations. I'm seeing now some things more clearly than I ever did before. That's the way it is with living. God continually is showing us new things. Greater things. Deeper things. And yet, there is more - always more - to see and learn. I believe it will be this way until the day He shows us Himself in Glory.

When you look into the eyes of loved ones in their eighties and nineties, you see far more than just wrinkles and signs of age; you begin to recognize that these quiet, gentle displays of aging are evidences of experiencing the disappointments and sorrows of life, the obstacles and frustrations of living day after day in this world which is not our home.

We need to treasure those around us - young and old, but especially learn from the elders while they are with us and we are with them. Ask them to tell you about their lives. There is so much to learn, and once they are gone you will never have those opportunities again.

There is in so many aged ones a regard for life; for the preciousness of life; for the frailness of life; for protecting the young from wickedness and evil. There is a distaste for the pornographic and the inhumane. They have the capability to see, perhaps through their own errant ways in far earlier years, what things are degrading, injurious, destructive.

We need the grace of God to fall upon so many hardened hearts in our once great land. Until that time though, are we to say I'm tired of caring? We're not able to affect the change that we've been seeking, so therefore I'm going to focus my energies and efforts on things that make me feel good, happy, and fulfilled - as do many friends, family and acquaintances.

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Ben Stein - "Expelled" (continued from page one)

Ben by the way is not arguing for a particular point of view. He is arguing for academic freedom and rational scientific inquiry."

[Taken from Movieguide, Vol XXIII, March B/April A, 2008]

My thoughts in regard to the movie.

The movie is a documentary. It is not fluff. I would recommend it to anyone who is concerned about the continued degradation of America's Christian base. It is a reality check regarding the academic underpinnings of our culture that has been and is contributing to the ongoing establishment of the predominating worldview in America - secular humanism, godlessness.

The quashing of those holding to Intelligent Design brought recollections of my years as a teacher in the public schools. Being politically correct included being a member of the National Education Association (I was not a member of the NEA), keeping quiet about morality and spiritual concerns. You could get in trouble for speaking up for decency - for example.

I actually had two students removed from my classroom for specifically giving warning regarding two inappropriate television shows popular with some at that time - *Dallas* and *Benny Hill*.

Administration actually allowed the removal of a couple of students from my classroom despite the fact that I was a regarded teacher.

Already in 1983 in a small town community, the clear message was being conveyed to me as a teacher, it is best to keep your mouth shut regarding matters of right and wrong. If that was true then, I can't imagine what it must be like today - not only at the Smithsonian Institute and at the university level, but also at local public schools. Paranoid? Negative? Maybe you think so. I don't.

I'll be encouraging my college-aged son to go and see "Expelled" as well as other young Christian men and women. They need to understand the times in order to know what to do.

Madonna & Bay City ---



Bay City, MI mayor offers a key to the city to one time native resident, Madonna.

First let me articulate briefly my great concern and sadness. Madonna represents so much that is degraded and reprobate in America.

Madonna is widely known as a person who went into the depths of perversion via her music, lyrics, lifestyle, dress and books - knowing that perverse things draw American consumers. Pornography sells. Forget the damage that such "artistry" causes.

Madonna entitled her first book, not surprisingly, "Sex", which she marketed as a coffee table book. [i.e. Something made readily available for general viewing placed front and center in one's living room.]

Quoting from James Kilpatrick, nationally syndicated columnist, referencing Madonna's book entitled "Sex" released in 1992:

"Sex" is a rotten book -- rotten in ways that the the literati will never understand. In its own way, 'Sex' adds to the pollution of our rivers and and smog of our cities. The sexual conduct depicted in Madonna's fantasies suggesting lesbianism, sodomy, and bestiality is out of bounds."

Commenting further upon Madonna's "Sex" coffee table book the Flint Journal

wrote on December 6, 1992:

"... This book is much more than a very ugly portrayal of sex. It depicts -- through very graphic pictures and words -- violent sex, same-gender sex, group sex, sex with a young teen-age boy and even flirts with sex with a dog. And on most of the pages with words, the lurid ones are printed so that they really pop out.

So we are not talking about any literary or artistic work that contains a few artistic pictures of naked people and some erotic prose. We're talking about trash. ..."

[Taken from the Flint Journal, December 6, 1992]

Further quoting from a few newspaper articles:

"I have seen some of the photos from Madonna's Sex book, including some of the nude photos, thanks to one Madonna fan's site that has it posted. I saw one of Madonna's concerts on HBO (which is an American cable television station) in the late 1980s or early 1990s (I think it was The Blonde Ambition tour. It's the one where she simulates masturbation while laying on a big, red bed to the tune of Like a Virgin -

She also directed an insult at President Bush with a joke about oral sex. ..."

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/showbiz/showbiznews.html?in_article_id=387254&in_page_id=1773

The following is in regard to blasphemy - mocking the crucifixion of Jesus Christ:

"To crucify yourself in the city of the pope and the martyrs is an act of open hostility. It's a scandal created on purpose by astute merchants to attract publicity," said Cardinal Ersilio Tonino, shortly before Madonna's Rome performance. 'This concert is a blasphemous challenge to the faith and a profanation of the cross.' Cardinal Tonino said the pop star's actions warranted excommunication --Madonna is a non-practicing Roman Catholic.

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Madonna and Bay City - Continued from Page 2

A spokesman for the Moscow patriarch said, 'The US singer Madonna exploits Christian symbols--the cross, rosary beads and the crucifix--and tries to equate human passions, including her own personal passions, with something sacred,' reported Agence France-Presse...."

Mayor Charles Brunner has written a letter inviting Madonna, who grew up in Bay City and the Detroit suburb of Rochester Hills, to accept a key to the city.

'We have always been proud of your accomplishments but recently your induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame reminded us that we need to honor you with the highest honor that Bay City can offer,' the letter states. ...

City leadership?

What kind of leadership honors such trash? Telling young people - be like Madonna and you'll receive a key to the city one day. Or perhaps you'll have a statue made in your likeness to glorify and honor your promotion and glorification of perversion.

Lastly:

I received a telephone call from a friend of this ministry from the state capitol of Michigan. She called when she heard about this travesty. She and her family spend a lot of time at their summer cottage in Bay City. She was seeking my help.

Will the mayor hear from anybody that cares? He will hear from me. I hope I'm not the only one.



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Mail Bag



Dear Bill,

Isn't it interesting that Madonna does not allow her own children to watch television?

Here in New York State, we are still recovering from the Spitzer prostitution scandal. I am so concerned about the media message to young girls regarding the hooker involved. I have heard this prostitute referred to as a "high-class call girl". Let me tell you, just because something is high-priced does not make it high class! Because of her new found fame, the hooker is raking in hundreds of thousands now from people buying her previously unknown music. The message to young women: There are no negative consequences to renting your body to strange men. In fact, it is a great way to gain wealth, fame, power, and attention. Isn't prostitution illegal? Why isn't this woman in jail? Not to mention Spitzer...

I am young (26) but from what I can gather, our society used to lift up the best among us. Now we glorify the absolute worst among us. Our nation cannot remain great if it continues on its present path; something I don't hear any of the presidential candidates addressing.

K.G.

An email from a person from the Bay City Area

One more thought: The Bay City Mayor may not have the guts to retract his offer to Madonna, but if the Bay City Times gets wind that there is a grass roots uprising against this offer from Bay City and other Michigan Cities, Madonna will see that the Mayor's feelings are not mutual with the community and MAY CHOOSE NOT TO ACCEPT THE KEY. Mission accomplished. Her Grandmother still lives here and she stays in contact with her and knows what's going on. She has made statements in the past that "Bay City is a stinky little town" as well as other comments. Yes, that can be forgiven, but I tell you this to point out that she has NO fond feelings for Bay City, other than her Grandmother.

Thanks,



It is always a tragedy to read that an individual's spouse has been engaged in prostitution. Of course, one of the highest profile cases has been the former New York Governor Eliot Spitzer.

Many others have reported on the pained look on the Governor's wife as she stood near her husband at the podium as Gov. Spitzer admitted his transgressions. Our hearts truly go out to her.

Even more recently (April 2) you may have read the report of the moral falterings of Michigan U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow's husband Tom Athans -- a liberal radio talk-show executive. He acknowledged that he paid a prostitute \$150 for sex at a Residence Inn in Troy, a metro Detroit suburb.

Years ago I recall reading reports regarding Jimmy Swaggart and the shocking revelation that he was involved in prostitution. One commentator stated that he doubted that Swaggart had just suddenly happened into this lifestyle but rather that he came about it one little step at a time - incrementally - with one wrong decision after another.

I agree. In the case, too, of U.S. Senator Stabenow, I recall her years serving as State Representative and how she aligned herself with the pornography industry. I remember a committee hearing at the Lansing state capitol regarding our efforts to strengthen Michigan's obscenity legislation where then State Rep. Stabenow was regularly seen talking and laughing with the pornography lobbyists and pornographers. It was in my early years of pro-family activism and I was shocked that a woman

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Truth or the Lie? (Continued from Page 3)

could come down on the side of opposing legislation that would make it more difficult for pornographers to disseminate materials that are being used to degrade, addict, damage and destroy women, children and men.

Now U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow is in a very real sense paying a personal price. After holding her liberal stance that pornography is victimless, she herself has now been victimized.

My heart goes out to Senator Stabenow though I strongly oppose her liberal politics. She often is on the side of the lie and the ultimate liar - Satan: pro-gambling, pro-choice, pro-pornography.

Yet, there are many voters who support her liberal views. Otherwise how would she have been elected and re-elected over these years?

One of the great needs of our day is the need to walk in the Truth and not in a lie. As I continue serving in the ministry capacity God has given me, I desire to live my life in the pursuit of Truth and to oppose the multiple lies and the liars that confront us every day. There is never a shortage of work to do in this regard - that's for certain. First the fight for Truth begins right within our own lives as Satan is continually pressing the fight. The fight is within the home, the workplace, the highways and byways, the government, the church.

The Bible makes that abundantly clear. Sadly, there is also an ongoing and increasing battle against the Word of God in America's churches. It comes in a wide variety of ways - subtle and not so subtle - denominations making the Word say what it doesn't say thereby deceiving the flock. The ordaining of women within the church is one of the clearest examples of that today.

This undercuts the very authority of the Word of God, and it doesn't stop there. As leadership cleverly replaces the authority of the Word of God

with man's principles, people become increasingly adept at this practice of substituting man's thoughts for the very mind of Christ.

The Bible also tells us "Be ye not unequally yoked" with an unbeliever. Christians are not to marry unbelievers. Yet, there are many church leaders today who trample on this important truth. They rationalize "I hate to think where I'd be if my church held to that principle when I wanted to get married."

It's a slippery slope. I'm far from perfect, but I have seen and am seeing first hand that when individuals choose to walk in lies, falsehood and deception, there is a price to be paid. It may not be immediate, as in the case of the New York Governor, the Michigan U.S. Senator, or Jimmy Swaggart, but the chickens will come home to roost - either here in the days or years ahead or in eternity.

How I love to watch young lives become committed to Christ - I mean really committed - and then see them truly walking in His ways. May we all be sober-minded, knowing how easy it is to fall, desiring to keep from falling and to please our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Following Truth or the Lie?

In a recent study, the Barna Research Group revealed a stunning statistic that continues to reverberate throughout the evangelical world. Only 9 percent of professing Christians have a biblical worldview.

Because of this, today's believers live very similarly to non-believers. A personal sense of significance is rarely experienced, we spend our money and time on things that fail to satisfy and we begin to wonder what life's ultimate purpose really is. We are, in short, losing our bearings as a people and a nation.

To counter this slide within the body of Christ, Focus on the Family is launching one of the most ambitious projects in the history of their ministry—Focus on the Family's The Truth Project.

The Truth Project is a DVD-based small group curriculum comprised of 12 one-hour lessons taught by Dr. Del Tackett. This home study is the starting point for

looking at life from a biblical perspective. Each lesson discusses in great detail the relevance and importance of living the Christian worldview in daily life.

We believe this one project represents the possibility for exponential change within the body of Christ, as we expect that thousands will be transformed by this curriculum.

ADA will be serving as a host location for Focus on the Family's Truth Project LIVE Nationwide Simulcast Training Event on Saturday, September 27. This one day conference [9:30 - 4:30] will equip you to make a Christ-centered difference on our culture by applying God's principles to daily life.

ADA has a limited number of tickets available. If you are in the greater Grand Rapids, Michigan area and would like to join with us in this important ministry effort to lift up the Word and help Christians develop a stronger Biblical worldview, contact us here at 888-733-2326. ASAP!

If you live outside of West Michigan, see <http://www.thetruthproject.org/> for more information and for locations near you.

President's letter (Continued from page 1)

God has always used the small, the foolish to confound worldly wisdom. He has used the Gideon's band, the little shepherd boy against the giant. I believe God has called us in our weakness to continue to take a stand. If you have sensed God's working in us through these years, please covenant to help us be able to continue on "as a voice crying in the wilderness." Calling out to whoever has ears to hear: be careful what you place before your eyes. Seek God while He is to be found. Remember He has called us to be as He is. Holy!

We are in need of your financial help. There is much - often thankless - salt and light work that needs to be done. It may not seem important sometimes, but if there aren't those calling darkness dark we fear that the world's ways will advance all that much faster. We need your help.