Apostles, Revival
And
The Global Church
Revival and the Church – Commonly held Views

1) End Times Revival (Dominionism, Kingdom Now, Restorationism, Replacement Theology)

- Global revival to establish the church in unity (a unity of man), to take over the world prior to Jesus' return
- God has rejected Israel and the Church has replaced Israel
- Once the church has established it's global authority, Jesus will return.

2) Great Falling Away, End Times Apostasy

- False revival culminating in a global apostate church
- Jesus will establish His authority over all the world at the Second Coming.
- End of the time of the gentiles. (The church will refuse to accept this)
Revival and Apostasy – What Does Scripture Say?

**Church**
- True Revival will take place amongst the Jews - Romans 11:25-27; Rev. 7:4-8.
- The true church is persecuted – Rev 7:9-14; and divides from apostasy 2 Cor 11:18-19
- The organized church is impacted by revival of false teachings and rituals, goes into apostasy, based upon manmade unity and false teachings - 1 Tim 4:1-4; 2 Tim 4:3-4, Rev 17

**Israel and The Jews**
- God calls the Jews back to Him – Romans 11:25-27

**Return of Christ**
- Comes at a time of little faith on earth (church is a persecuted remnant) Luke 18:8
- Jesus establishes His Kingdom upon His return.
New Apostolic Reformation

Also Known as:
- World Christian Movement

What is it?
- The umbrella for the movements such as Toronto Blessing, Holy Laughter, Church Growth, Prophetic/Apostolic, Spiritual Warfare, etc.
- Dominionist / Restorationist Movement

Theologies Common Amongst the Movement
- Replacement Theology
- Restorationism
- Dominionism
- Moral Government of God Theology

Background:
- This movement, including the name is largely driven/influenced by the teachings of C. Peter Wagner.
- Encompasses the “Holy Laughter”/Vineyard/Charismatic movement, the Church Growth Movement and the Transformations/Spiritual Warfare movement (George Otis Jr and others).
New Apostolic Reformation

http://discern.athome.to

January, 2003
Apostolic Networks and Organizations (March 2003)
New Apostolic Reformation – Fundamental Assumptions

Six Fundamental Assumptions of the New Apostolic Reformation
(from C. Peter Wagner - ref: “Churchquake”)

1) **The Pastors Cast the Vision**
The Pastor makes the decision as to where the church is going. The congregation is required to accept what they say regarding the direction of the church or leave.

2) **Pastors Major in Leadership and Minor in Management**
The Pastor has the ultimate authority in the church and hire or appoint managers to manage it on their behalf.

3) **Pastors Make Top Drawer Policy Decisions and Delegate the Rest**
This follows from #2 – the pastors make the policy decisions and delegate the work.

4) **Pastors Build a Solid, Competent Management Team**
Staff members and leaders are there to support the pastor and are to be loyal to the pastor.

5) **Pastors are called for life.**
Once called, the pastor controls the church and is no longer accountable to the congregation or the denomination that called him into that ministry.

6) **Pastors Choose their Successors.**
The church has little or no say in who their next pastor will be.
Comparison of the N.A.R and the Great Apostasy

Unity of Man:
- Establishment of authority of “apostles”.

False Teachings (using 4 errors as a guide)

1) Exaltation of man:
- Establishing man's authority over the church as apostles
- Acceptance of false prophecy
- Man to establish the Kingdom on earth; require loyalty to the “apostle”.

2) Denial nature of God, bringing God to our level
- Man can inhibit or permit God to act on earth

3) Belief that man can do it on His own merit:

4) Denial of the Bible as the Sole Standard:
- Doctrine/Beliefs established by experience or through prophets and apostles in addition to, or instead of scripture.
Apostles and the Bible

Who were the Apostles and what were there qualifications?

- Called personally by Jesus (Luke 6:12-16)
- Personal witnesses of Jesus (Acts 1:21-23)
- Sent by God Luke 11:48-50
- Chosen by God Acts 1:1-3
- Established the foundation of the church Eph 2:19-22, Rev 21:14

Apostolic Authority

- Are they infallible? No, Peter was rebuked by Paul when he was in error. Gal 2:11-13
- Were they accountable to the church? Yes Acts 17:10-12
- Did they have sole decision making authority? No Acts 15:1-3

Do we have apostles today?

- Our Apostle and High Priest is Jesus Christ Heb 3:1-2

Does scripture speak of false apostles?

- False apostles are those who claim wrongly to be apostles (2 Cor 11:12-15) Rev 2:1-2
What is our Responsibility – As Christians?

- Know what you believe and why - 2 Tim 3:16, 2 Tim 4:1-4, Titus 2:1
- Be prepared to defend Sound Doctrine – Our foundation must be the sure, true Word of God alone. - 1 Peter 3:15-17, 2 Tim 3:16, Prov 30:5-6
- Test Every Spirit - John 4:1, Acts 17:10-11
- Speak the truth in Love to those who are lost and those who are in error - Ezekiel 33:1-6
- Be prepared to divide with those who deviate from doctrinal essentials - 1 Cor 2:18-19, Gal 4:15-16, Gal 2:11
- Paul named names - 1 Tim 1:19-20
- Place your trust in God's word and use it as your source to test doctrine - Prov 30:5-6
- Be aware of your responsibility before God as a Watchman - Ezekiel 33:1-6

What is our Responsibility – As Leaders?

- Leaders bear all the same responsibilities as all Christians
- Leaders, in addition to the above, bear a greater responsibility since they are in a position to guide, lead, warn, and protect the flock – Ezek 34:1-10, Isa 56:9-12