

Crimson & White Connection

A ministry of prayer and encouragement to "High School, College, & Singles" (& others, too)
Values & Character + Spiritual Life + Relationships + Fun stuff

The C&WC is produced and funded through **Crimson & White Ministries, Inc.**, a nonprofit corporation, supported only by tax deductible contributions.

100% of our funding is directly or indirectly spent on encouraging spiritual growth, holiness, and abstinence from drugs, sex outside of marriage, and alcohol among young people.

For a free subscription, update your address, feedback, comments or to submit an article, contact us at:
 4401 Wild Oak Lane, Greensboro, NC 27406
 Ph.: 336-674-7564;
 e-mail: RDymmel@AOL.com
 Editor: Dr. Rich Dymmel

Crisis, emergency, or to "just talk about something",
 call: Your Mom; Your Dad; Your Pastor, or
 Rich or Marie Dymmel
 (336/674-7564 or 336/908-3652)

Crimson & White? What's this?

... This letter is part of a ministry primarily to students and singles. It started with college students. Now about 50% of the mailing list is students, middle and high school and college, and 25% are age 22 to 30, and we'll just leave ages unsaid for the last 25% since, well, they're old. Articles are on character, values, spiritual life, relationships and more ... and some fun.

The theology position is "conservative," i.e. Jesus is God's Son, eternal, part of the single triune God, born of a virgin, sinless, crucified and risen, and is the *only* way to eternal life. We are free to choose Him. He has told us to be holy and that includes behaviors such as: sex outside of marriage is wrong.

Our goal is mail in your mail box about 15 times a year. We're trying to say that you are important enough for us to put this in your mailbox. We care about you and want to encourage your character growth and your spiritual walk. We also distribute a daily email devotional.

Another part of the ministry is prayer. We pray for those on our mailing list as the mail is prepared. When you get mail from us, you know someone prayed for you.

A college student reader chose the name **Crimson and White Connection** based on Isaiah 1:18 in the Bible "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." The cleansing of our nature and our sins is a universal need. If you base your trust for entrance into Heaven in Jesus, God's Son, and His death and resurrection on your behalf, then your crimson stains are made white as wool. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. There is no other way. If you admit that you can not reach God's standard, are repentant and sorry for your short fall (sin) and have asked Him to forgive you, then He has forgiven you. If you are truly repentant, then there will be evidence of that in your actions, your life. -- If the "religion police" were to arrest you, would you be turned loose for "lack of evidence"? Or would the evidence of your actions convict you of being a Christian?

If you have chosen to accept Jesus as Lord of your life, either the first time or again, we would like to know so that we can pray for you and encourage you. Write or call us.

You WILL BE and ARE a slave! But you can CHOOSE your master! CHOOSE God today. John 3:16 is true. Accept no substitute!

January 15, 2009

SEX

(c) Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D..

Now that I have your attention. - "Sex." Just the word generally grabs peoples attention. It is a strong little word. Some people don't want to talk about it. We're going to talk about it. More specifically, we're going to talk about why not-sex.

Dobson and Focus on the Family did a survey several years ago and asked teenagers, 'Do we talk about sex and abstinence too much?' and the reply was 'Not enough.' Instead of just, "Don't," we'll talk about "Why not to."

When similar, linking, related things are tossed in front of me multiple times, I think that is a signal that maybe I should write about it.

While we were on Christmas vacation in California, on the TV news one day, they mentioned a research item from the CDC (Center for Disease Control) on abstinence. The report was that 53% of teens that had made an abstinence pledge still had premarital sex while 58% of those that had not made a pledge have had premarital sex. Then a couple more things after that. - So, later in this issue is a long article about sex. - Just because I'm "old" doesn't mean I'm unaware. And it's a common topic in the Bible of how the misuse of sex has messed up people's lives. - You can find this as far back as Genesis 38 where he has sex with his daughter-in-law not knowing it's her and gets her pregnant... This is movie plot stuff - "Sex, Lies & Family."

Let's talk a few minutes about starting the new year.

New Year's resolutions are generally on a lot of people's minds. - Lose weight. - Exercise. - Find a better job. - Marie started us on a new diet. - I am going to learn the "new" publishing software for the C&WC, Adobe InDesign. It's actually been out a couple years, I didn't switch over because I didn't *have* to. But PageMaker won't work under Windows Vista. Maybe I should have waited a little longer... Microsoft just announced Windows 7 to replace Vista will be out soon... whatever soon means. They didn't admit there are problems with Vista.

We like to work the same way sometimes. We'll do something new or different or in a different way and never admit that the old way was not very good.

Some people do that in life. Get a new job and quit the old one. When it's voluntary, that's usually because the new job offers a better pay, better situation, more opportunities.

What about "life"? Are we willing to admit that the "old life" had serious downsides and choosing a new life in Christ has much better long term and short term benefits? It does. There is Eternity with God instead of Eternity in Hell. That's loooooong term. Short term we gain assurance that even when it *seems* like a disaster, we *know* that God *is* in control, and He is at work for our good. --> --> -->

But January is just another collection of the next 31 spins of the earth (actually just a bit more than 31 since we're also spinning around the Sun), that follows the group of spins we refer to as December. And January 1 is simply the next spin of about 361 degrees of rotation after December 31st.

And there is nothing "magical" about January 1st. It is quite arbitrary. Julius Caesar in 46BC - that's 46BC by our current counting - created a calendar and decided when he would start the year. And we've pretty much continued on that count since. Oh, as Caesar, he was worshipped, as a god. But guess what? As a god, he wasn't infallible, or immortal, or any of the other attributes we want in a god. - (1) Immortal?... he died, was buried, rotted, gone. (2) Infallible?... He made an error in the setting up the calendar. His calendar wasn't right for the number of earth-spins in a spin around the Sun. Or in his time, spins of the Sun around the earth. It wasn't until about 1600 years later that Pope Gregory had some astronomers recalculate and come up with a new formula for leap year that pretty much fixed it. They had to actually shorten October 1582 by ten days to get the calendar back in sync with the seasons and the Sun. (It's still off a tweak and in several hundred years somebody may have to "fix" it with a day's adjustment again.)

I prefer God. He's always right. He knows everything. Exactly. He knew the Earth went around the Sun before we did. He knew when you and I were conceived and started forming our brain cells and knew who would play musical instruments and who wouldn't (Marie doesn't even like how I play the radio sometimes). He knew we (people) were going to rebel and sin. (That's what sin is, rebelling against God and how He says to do things. We say "Self Interest Now" and not Your way.) But knowing that He put in place a plan to redeem us, to provide for us. He knew all about us, you, me, and loved us anyway.

We like to think of January as the start of a new year. And if that's how you feel, and you want to use that as your reason or excuse for a new start, go right ahead.

If you're looking for a different way to count the year, try a different calendar. For example. This week, Monday, as I'm writing this was Monday, January 12th, 2009, A.D. by the Gregorian calendar. According to a web site I found several years ago, <http://www.copi.org/craig/events/today.html>, (if professor Copi moves or dies or gets tired of having this run, the link may not work), this day is counted as...

Monday, January 12, 2009

Absolute date: 733,419

Day 12 of current year

347 shopping days until Christmas

Phase of moon: full Age of moon: 0 days (Full Moon)

Julian Day 2,454,843

Julian Calendar, December 30, 2008 (See?)

Want another counting? Try these...

ISO Calendar, Day 01 of Week 03 of Year 2009

World Calendar, Thursday, January 12, 2009

Hebrew Calendar, 16 Teves 5769

Islamic Calendar, Muharram 15, 1430

Mayan Calendars

Long Count: 12.19.15.17.19

Haab (Civil): 2 Muan

Tzolkin (Religious): 6 Cauac

French Revolutionary, Décade III, Tridi de Nivôse de l'Année 217 de la Révolution

Coptic, Tubah 04, 1725

Ethiopic, Ter 04, 2001

Persian, Dey 23, 1387

Baha'i, 13th day of Honour, B.E. 165

A brief description of the calendar information provided here is now available. (<http://www.copi.org/craig/events/calendar.html>)

Okay, I admit I'm weird... strange maybe... or maybe just different. I am amused to see correlations between things. ... In Copi's brief description of the Mayan Long Count Calendar is an "interesting" structure. "Each cycle contains 2,880,000 days (about 7885 solar years). At the end of each cycle the Universe is destroyed and recreated." - You see, I'm of the opinion that the Earth was created about 6,000 years ago with an appearance of age, in a period of six literal days. The Mayan's apparently felt the Earth had been recently created also. I don't agree with the rest of their theology of multiple creation cycles and also human sacrifice to the gods, but here we're only talking calendars here. It's like finding all the cultures with stories similar to Noah and the flood Genesis.

Back to "starting."

If you need an excuse, a "New Year," start of a new month, etc., there are enough calendars out there that if you need that excuse, there are 14 calendars in that list above. I'd even bet there are a few more around. Almost every other day on average is the start of a new month, or something, on some calendar. Pick a day as a new whatever. Make it the beginning of a "new you" and have a "birthday party." Lots of other people have started their own countings, so can you.

You don't need a new year or a new month. You just need to make a decision and a choice. Is it time to give up a friend that is taking you in a direction away from God? Is it time to decide that you are going to yield to God? Like Joshua (Joshua 24:15), "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" ... starting (or continuing) today.

In Christ, Rich

We earn a living by
what we get. We make
a life by what we give.

*Luke 6:38 NKJV): Give, and it will be given
to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken
together, and running over will be put into your
bosom. For with the same measure that you use,
it will be measured back to you.*

*(New Century Ver.) Give, and you will receive.
You will be given much. Pressed down, shaken
together, and running over, it will spill into your
lap. The way you give to others is the way God
will give to you."*

2 positions in prayer...

-1-

“Listen, God,
I’m speaking.”

-2-

“Speak, God,
I’m listening.”

Are you interested in making a pledge to yourself, your family, your future spouse, and God that “From this day forward, I will stay sexually pure”? You don’t have to tell anyone except yourself and God. If you’d like to feel accountable to someone, tell someone. One way to quietly make a statement is to wear a ring on your left ring finger. It’s a reminder to yourself and, someone may ask you about the ring. They you can say, “It’s a reminder of my promise to myself, my future spouse, and to God to keep myself for my future spouse.” If you’d like us to get you a ring and/or a pledge card for your wallet or the corner of your mirror, wherever, just contact us at RDymmel@aol.com, or write or call me at the C&WC addresses.

Feeling alone? Feel like God has abandoned you? Feel God isn’t “there”? Can’t find Him? Well, He’s always there. He doesn’t move or go away. It’s us who leave. Check out Hebrews 13:5. Paul wrote, He said “I will never leave you or forsake you.” Then go back and look at Isaiah 59:21.

“Forsake” is also translated forget in the New Century Version. Dictionary definitions include words like abandon, desert, deny, give up, reject, renounce, leave, “leave someone who needs or counts on you,” and withdraw.

God is with you. - Lost a friend? Lost your job? Someone close to you died? - God is right there. Ask Him. It’s even okay to get angry. ...

I like that song “Big Enough” by Chris Rice...

None of us knows and that makes it a mystery
If life is a comedy, then why all the tragedy
Three-and-a-half pounds of brain try to figure out
What this world is all about
And is there an eternity, is there an eternity?

God if You’re there I wish You’d show me
And God if You care then I need You to know me
I hope You don’t mind me askin’ the questions
But I figure You’re big enough
I figure You’re big enough

Lying on pillows we’re haunted and half-awake
Does anyone hear us pray, “If I die before I wake”
Then the morning comes and the mirror’s the other place
Where we wrestle face to face with the image of Deity
The image of Deity

God if You’re there I wish You’d show me
And God if You care then I need You to know me
I hope You don’t mind me askin’ the questions
But I figure You’re big enough
I figure You’re big enough

When I imagine the size of the universe
And I wonder what’s out past the edges
Then I discover inside me a space as big
And believe that I’m meant to be
Filled up with more than just questions

So, God if You’re there I wish You’d show me
And God if You care then I need You to know me
I hope You don’t mind me askin’ the questions
But I figure You’re big enough
I figure You’re big enough

January 2009

SEX

(c) Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D..

When similar, linking, relative things are tossed in front of me multiple times, I think that is a signal that maybe I should write about it.

While we were on vacation in California right after Christmas, on the TV news one day, they mentioned a research item from the CDC (Center for Disease Control) on abstinence. (I've looked online for the CDC report but couldn't find any recent related report.) The report was that 53% of teens that had made an abstinence pledge still had premarital sex while 58% of those that had not made a pledge had had premarital sex.

Well, how should we take such news? One way is to say, "Yes! It made a difference." Another view, "It only made a 5% difference." - I have a question: Why are 53% of kids that make a pledge to remain sexually pure, having sex anyway? When I was a teenager and in college there was one girl that got pregnant that I knew of. The statistics were not nearly what they are now. Why is that? - A few guesses... It was more "dangerous," pregnancy wise at least then, because contraceptives weren't readily available on the open shelves of every drug store. Marie and I still like to watch some of the "old" movies and there just wasn't the open sex and suggestion that there is now. - We watched "Andy Griffith Show" with Opey and Sheriff Taylor last night and TV "back then" just wasn't sexual.

Then we got home from vacation and we're watching the Lifetime channel movies to "Ring in the New Year with Romance." We like "romantic," "feel good" movies. But what is the content of a lot of movies and TV today? People today are *bombarded* with a message of "sex is normal, and for your fun and enjoyment, so participate."

Well sex IS fun and enjoyable... If it wasn't, it wouldn't be a temptation! But it is best when in the right circumstances. Like driving 150 mph... if you're on a city street it is foolish and potentially deadly. If you're in a race car designed to protect you and on a closed track with few hazards, I can imagine, and having talked with a couple who have done it, it is exhilarating, exciting, and fun! Sex is the same. The place is within marriage and the data says that when reserved to that, it is more fun and more satisfying than when done outside marriage.

Here's some of what we are bombarded with today. We're not talking about going to the R-rated movies, this is daytime, evening TV, the Lifetime and general network

TV. We are bombarded with the message "Sex outside of marriage is okay and normal."... (1) A divorced mom of two takes a birthday vacation paid for by her friends to Hawaii. She meets a surfing instructor, gets the last lesson of the day, and takes him to her hotel room and has sex. Back home she tells her friends, "No. It wasn't a one-night stand. It was two nights and two days." - Message: sex outside of marriage is okay and good. (2) It started off with her saying, "Why am I, a C-student giving the valedictorian speech at graduation? Because of the lessons I'd learned this year." So it started out sounding like this might be good. What had she learned? Before we saw the lessons she learned, we turned it off. The messages it showed: Teenager joining an escort service, incest with her stepfather. This went too far downhill fast. We found something else to watch. (3) Okay. We like the problem solving TV shows like CSI and Bones. On Bones last week, this is a new aspect added to the show, the "sub-plot story" was Bones has two boyfriends; one for cultural events and one for the bedroom. Will she, and she does, "sleep with" the cultural-boyfriend? Message: sex outside of marriage is normal, okay, expected.

Purity and monogamy are not predominant themes in TV and movies.

If we are told something often enough, we accept it. Hang with a group of friends that smoke, drink, whatever, or watch it on TV, in movies, in what we read or the music we listen to, and are "told" or "see" over and over that that is "normal," "everybody is doing it," and eventually you'll do it too. - I listened to a campus radio station one day to see what they played. The lyrics to one song included "It's warm in here; take your clothes off." - I know, you'll say, "Not me." Maybe, just maybe, you'll be one of those that don't "join the crowd." A high percentage will.

A percentage also change. They stop, look, and make a decision that what they are surrounded with or choices they have made are not good. And they make new choices for their lives. With sex, it has several names, like "secondary virginity." They say "I'm not doing that any more" and "I want better for me."

SO. Let's throw some more specific information in here. I got this from the internet. The first link in my Google search was to a great piece with a ton of referenced data. - I like "referenced data" rather than just someone's opinion, including mine. I really love it when secular sources support Biblical positions. I'm going to quote from them, and then also give you the sources they quote from. (http://www.rmfc.org/Marriage/RMFC-Abstinence_Brochurefull.pdf)

Not Everyone is "Doing It"

The youth of America are being lied to. They are being told through the media and by their peers that sex before

marriage is o.k. and that everyone is having sex. [That's the examples I stated earlier.] A recent study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) tells a different story. CDC reported that more than half of all high school students have never engaged in sexual activity and another 13.6 percent who are sexually experienced are currently abstinent. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Vol. 49, No. SS-5, 2001)

Teens want a strong abstinence message

In a national survey, 93 percent of youth ages 12 - 17 said that they want a stronger abstinence message from our society. (The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (NCPTP), Fact Sheet: The Cautious Generation? Teen Sexual Behavior and Attitudes, May 2000)

Most regret not waiting

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy surveyed a nationally representative sample of 501 teens ages 12 to 17 and found that 41 percent of them had had sexual intercourse. Among those who were sexually experienced, 63 percent reported wishing they had waited before becoming sexually active. (NCPTP, Not Just Another Thing To Do: Teens Talk About Sex, Regret, and the Influence of Their Parents, June 30, 2000)

Approximately 50 percent of all new HIV infections occur among people under 25, with the majority being infected sexually. (CDC, 2000, Sept. HIV Prevention Strategic Plan Through 2005)

“At what point in our nation's history was marriage taken out of discussions with our kids about sex? It was when parents forfeited their role as the primary educator of their kids and began to leave sex education up to the “professionals.” Today, many teachers and parents see nothing wrong with sharing the biology of sex outside the context of marriage. However, when we teach sex as primarily a biological function, we reduce this blessing of God to mere mechanics and ourselves to mere animals. While there are biological functions that we all can benefit from knowing, it is no wonder our young people are thought not to be able to control their so-called primal urges when we treat them like animals.” (The truth about abstinence, Rocky Mountain Family Council, www.rmfc.org)

“When abstinence education is presented to teens in a way that provides the knowledge and skills needed to abstain from sex before marriage, the results are staggering. A program in Washington D.C. called Best Friends is a shining example of effective abstinence education. Only

22 percent of Best Friends girls reported having sexual intercourse compared with 76 percent of those Washington D.C. high school girls overall. The Best Friends girls had a 1.1 percent pregnancy rate, in contrast to the 26 percent pregnancy rate among high school girls city-wide. (MISH, Sexual Health Update: A New Trend: Abstinence Is In. Vol. 6, No. 3.) “According to The Medical Institute for Sexual Health (MISH), the Best Friends program shows “that a ... comprehensive, character-based abstinence program can have a significant impact on teens.” (Ibid.)

Let me throw in here some data from Planned Parenthood's own published research. You know those folks. They are the ones who brought you “safe sex.” “Do it, just use a condom.” According to their own data, under 18 year olds using condoms have an 18.4% pregnancy rate, for 18-19 year olds it's 16.3%, and for 20-24 year olds it's 12.3%. (*Family Planning Perspectives*, v.18n.5) That's pregnancy rate, not “10% condom failure rate” as is told and then that is reduced by the percentage of fertility days a month. - If you don't want to get pregnant, don't do the thing that causes pregnancy! - They pass out and encourage sex using condoms; then they provide a multi-billion dollar profitable service of doing the abortion. That's like a dentist passing out sticky candy and encouraging you not to brush. My dentist passes out tooth brushes and floss.

More likely to divorce

[I've seen other research that also supports this one.] “A study by the National Center for Health Statistics and the University of Maryland showed that those who are sexually active before marriage are 71 percent more likely to divorce than those who are virgins on their wedding night. (McManus, M.J., Veil of Tears, Policy Review. Winter 1994, 50-54)

So it comes around to making choices. It's “now OR later,” not like the candy “Now & Later.” You can have your “fun” now and pay later, or you can delay the “fun” and have more fun and satisfaction later. The Biblical way of sex IN marriage is better. There is research that says there is more marital satisfaction among those who waited.

So it's all about choices.

And one way to make the better choice is to be aware of it and talk about it. Don't be afraid to say “I'm a virgin.” Or say “I'm not doing that. I want better.” - Done it? You can still say, “Been there, done that. I'm waiting. I want better.” You can leave off the “Been there, done that” if you want. If they say, “I know you do it.” You say, “And I've learned that I want better. I don't do that any more.”

In Christ, Rich

(The daily email thought from a few days ago. Are you on our daily email list?)

Tu., 01/06/09 – “Moving Through Eternity”

I often like the mental challenge of the words from Ravi Zacharias (or from other staff members at RZIM). This Slice of Infinity had that challenge. - This new year is just a continuation of one day following another. There is nothing “magical” about January 1. ... (“...” means I omitted some)

What is, is we are on a continuum moving through eternity as we count off revolutions on this spinning globe, as it spins around the Sun, as it spins through space in the Milky Way galaxy as that moves... I don't think I've read how the galaxies swirl or move. - It's not like I park my van in the garage for the night to start it in the morning to go out on a new quest in the morning. We are moving through eternity... continuously... now.

Have a great day and a fantastic forever.

Rich

Slice of Infinity -Ravi Zacharias Ministries [Slice 1848] Moving Through Eternity (January 6, 2009) **Moving Through Eternity**

It is the time of the year for “to do” lists and goal sheets, for personal resolutions and new commitments. Even if we scorn the idea of the New Year's resolution, we cannot help but at the turn of each year to take stock of all that has been and reflect on what might be.

The approach of this New Year has been a time of deep introspection for me. I am marking the change of the year with a move across the country. The move has begun to serve as a metaphor for my own journey of reflection during this season. I have certainly been thinking about all that I leave behind: friends, family, comfort and routine, a familiar place to call home. I've also been speculating about all that I am going toward: a new city, new friends, and a new home. While my work will remain the same, it will be very different because I won't be in the same place or among the same faces.

But the move represents far more to me than simply ending one part of the journey in order to begin another. I have made a point to focus on thoughts of my own personal movement and growth. Who am I becoming? I ask this not just as a result of this move, but as I navigate the choices, responsibilities, and challenges of my life. Do I see my life from the mundane to the extraordinary, like the potter's wheel in which I am thrown, spun, shaped, and re-shaped into the person God desires me to be?

Our move to a new place has been the catalyst for reflection, a necessary disruption, and an opportunity to pause and take stock of who I am in light of my life moves. Change has a way of doing this for us as it foists [imposes] itself upon our lives. As we react to change, we perhaps see parts of ourselves we do not like, aspects not in keeping with the character of Christ or being remade in his image. Or perhaps change reveals how far we have come, and how much more equipped we are as we

go deeper and deeper into our walk with the Lord. Whatever the case may be--moving across the country or simply moving into the next year--consideration is in order. Do we take the time to reflect not simply on what we are doing, but on what kind of person we are moving towards as we journey through eternity?

Notice that I did not say “journey towards eternity,” as if eternity doesn't begin until after we die. As Christians, when we enter into relationship with God through Jesus Christ, we move into his kingdom rule and reign here and now, so that the person we will be for all eternity begins to take shape with our lives today. Indeed, when Jesus is speaking with his disciples, as recorded in John's Gospel, and he is beginning to share the news that he is going away, moving, as it were, to prepare a place for them, Thomas asks, “Lord, we do not know where you are going, how do we know the way?” Jesus responds to this specific question: “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also; from now on you know Him and have seen Him” (John 14:5-7). Jesus doesn't answer Thomas by literally giving him directions or a road map to his kingdom. Instead, he implies that in his very person the way, truth, and life of the kingdom will be found. As Malcolm Muggeridge concludes, “Jesus's good news, then, was that the Kingdom of God had come, and that he, Jesus, was its herald and expounder to men. More than that, in some special, mysterious way, he was the Kingdom.”(1)

As we live out our lives at the end of one year and the beginning of a new year--with all the moves, twists, and turns of our journey, with all the disappointments, and with all the joys and opportunities--we have the choice each and every day to find our home, more and more, in the kingdom we have entered through Christ Jesus. More importantly, we have the opportunity to evaluate who we are becoming as Christ's followers as we live in light of the fact that eternity begins now. We may not all be moving across the country, but we are certainly moving. The question for all of us is whether or not we respond to the “moves” of our lives as kingdom dwellers. As it has been wisely said by another: “Jesus offers himself as God's doorway into the life that is truly life. Confidence in him leads us to become his apprentices in eternal living.”(2) As the doorway to freedom, Jesus invites us to move further into the kingdom here, now, and today.

Margaret Manning is a member of the speaking and writing team at Ravi Zacharias International Ministries in Seattle, Washington.

(1) Malcolm Muggeridge, *Jesus: The Man Who Lives* (New York: Harper and Row, 1975).

(2) Dallas Willard, *The Divine Conspiracy* (San Francisco: Harper, 1998), 12.

Copyright notice: “A Slice of Infinity” may be copied and re-transmitted by electronic mail, and individual copies of a particular “A Slice of Infinity” may be printed, provided that such copying, re-transmission, printing, or other use is not for profit or other commercial purpose.
Copyright(c) 2008 Ravi Zacharias International Ministries (RZIM).



Just for the fun of it...

I love the outdoors, and because of my passion for hunting and fishing, my family eats a considerable amount of wild game.

I guess they eat so much, in fact, that one evening as I set a platter of broiled venison steaks on the dinner table, my ten-year-old daughter looked up and said, "Boy, it sure would be nice if pizzas lived in the woods."

"Being in therapy is great. I spend an hour just talking about myself. It's kind of like being the guy on a date."--Caroline Rhea

As a child my mother would always tell me not to sit so close to the TV, that it was bad for my eyes. Now, as an adult I spend 8+ hours a day within 2 feet of a computer screen.

"I was stopped once for going fifty-three in a thirty-five mile zone, but I told them I had dyslexia." --Spanky

"'Britney Spears' were the most-searched words of the year on Yahoo!, followed by 'World Wrestling Federation,' and in third place, 'Barack Obama.' I think the lesson here is that Americans are not responsible enough to be using computers."-Jimmy Kimmel

----- Guaranteed to Roll Your Eyes -----

When she got flowers from her husband on Valentine's Day, my daughter's friend quickly opened the card. All it said was "No." What did that mean?

She called her husband, who said, "I didn't attach any message. The florist asked if I had a message and I said, 'No.'"

BIZARRE NEWS - Saturday, December 27, 2008
"Spanning the globe for the weird...strange...and stupid."

----- 16-foot snowman declared safety hazard -----

ANCHORAGE, Alaska - City officials in Anchorage, Alaska, have deemed a family's annual tradition of building a 16-foot-tall snowman a safety hazard. The Powers family, who have been building the snowman -- known as Snowzilla -- in their Airport Heights neighborhood yard since 2005, said city code enforcers left cease-and-desist signs at the giant snowball that was to have formed the sculpture's base, the Anchorage Daily News reported Monday. The family's patriarch, Billy Powers, said only the base of the snowman had been built before the signs were posted, but he said his children and some neighbors had already "spent hours and hours of work on it." The declaration of Snowzilla as a public nuisance and safety hazard comes after neighbors complained about the attention it brought to the neighborhood from sight-seers and camera crews from as far away as Russia and Japan. City officials told the Airport Heights community council Dec. 11 that the structure of the massive snowman was unsafe and the spectacle increased local traffic to the point of endangerment.

Share with someone

Giving a friend a copy of this letter and asking them if they would like to get it too, is an easy way of witnessing and starting a conversation about God.

If you'd like to be on our mail/prayer list, and have the Crimson & White Connection mailed free to you, fill this out and mail it to:

4401 Wild Oak Lane, Greensboro, NC 27406-8306

*** or email to Rdymmel@AOL.com ***

Under 18 requires a parental approval SIGNATURE please.

- No thank you, remove my name
- Please send TWO sample issues to evaluate (or check www.CrimsonWhite.org to view several back issues)

To subscribe, check 'Yes' below and fill in completely.

- Yes. Please send me the C&WC * (signature) _____
- Check here to get the C&WC by e-mail attachment and not by snail-mail.
- Check here to try the e-mail daily devotionals * for 2 weeks

***Under 18? Parental permission* : _____**

I've read the _____ issue, send the next one, please.

Please tell us how you found out about the C&WC. _____

Name _____

Home address _____

City, St. ZIP _____

Phone (_____) _____

Home e-mail address _____

Birthdate _____

School: _____

____ in the Fall or ____ now, I am in (what grade/year) ...

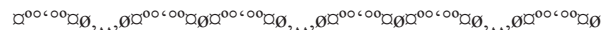
8 9 10 11 12 HSgrad. F S J S Col.grad. GrdSch PGR

'at-school' address, if different _____

City, St. ZIP _____

Phone (_____) _____

School e-mail address _____



Becoming a Christian: A-B-C's

A - Admit that you're a sinner. You just can't meet God's standard. The Bible says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23 (also see 1 John 1:8).

B - Believe that Jesus was the Son of God and died in your place, took the punishment for you. The Bible says, "For God so loved the world (that includes you) that he gave His only begotten son (that's Jesus) that whosoever (that's you again) believes in Him should not perish (that's saved from eternal death, Hell) but have eternal life (given eternal life with God, that's "salvation" or to "be saved")." John 3:16

C - Confess your sin to God. - The Bible says, "If we confess (own up to) our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleans us..." 1John 1:9.

S - Submit yourself to His commands and control.

Want Jesus in your life? Pray this prayer: "Lord Jesus, I confess to You my sin and need to be saved. I turn away from my old sin and place my trust and faith in You as the only way to be saved." Now contact your pastor, or contact us at 1-336-674-7564, or call 1-888-NEED-HIM, and say, "I just asked Jesus to be my Lord."

Crimson & White Connection

Dr. Rich Dymmel, Editor
4401 Wild Oak Lane
Greensboro, NC 27406-8306

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

U.S.Postage

If you are forwarding or mailing this, it needs a 1st class stamp for 1 ounce.

For a FREE subscription, see pg. 7, or write to the address above or email to RDymmel@AOL.com
Moved or going to move or address correction?
PLEASE contact us.

The C&WC may be copied and redistributed ONLY if distributed FREE. We'd like to know if you are doing that, just so we know.

Jan. 15, 2009

Starting a new year
Feeling alone?
SEX
Moving through eternity
Just for fun

You can't be good enough to deserve heaven. And you can't be bad enough to be beyond God's forgiveness.

Someone PRAYED for YOU and mentioned YOU before God's throne as this was prepared for mailing. God bless and watch over you today.

A publication so dangerous it now comes with it's own warning label.

Yes! This is a subversive, challenging, counter-culture publication. That's what Christianity is - a counter-culture. This should have a warning label.

WARNING

Do not read the Crimson & White Connection unless you want your HEART ENCOURAGED and your MIND CHALLENGED and

"He would rather die than to ever live without you."

If I take care of my Character, my reputation will take care of itself.

LB