Tommy Tenney, "The God Chasers": in the introduction to this book:

"God chasers have a lot in common. Primarily, they are not interested in camping out on some

dusty truth known to every one. They are after the fresh presence of the Almighty... The difference between the truth of God and revelation is very simple. Truth is where God's been. Revelation is where God is... A true God chaser is not happy with just past truth; God chasers don't want to just study from the moldy pages of what God has done; they're anxious to see what God is doing."

February 20, 1998:

The universe will assure that you get

This is Hindu karma. If everyone got just what they deserved, no one would be saved. I thank God that I won't get what I deserve!

That's not true, thank God! Without God the imagination of man is only Your mind has unlimited power.

March 6, 1998:

of God. Your ability to think reflects the Presence

Hitler had the ability to think. So does Satan. Think about it. With a capital "P" the Presence of God means the person of God. But

March 7/8, 1998:

aware of your Christhood. ability to think when you become Your mind is operating in its full

does Bernard Jordan. This is New Age philosophy. There is only one Christ-Jesus. I have no Christhood, and neither

March 10, 1998:

your physical hands. move things without the assistance of Your mind possesses the power to

Occultists are the only ones who claim this power, and the source is either Okay, Jordan, let's see you move something without using your hands.

March 12, 1998:

Your mind can start fires.

March 16, 1998: The mind is capable of bending

What are we to seek - a carnival act? What good comes from bending

April 14, 1998:

5 the state of consciousness you were The fruit of conception will reflect

> In other words (combined with other sayings preceding this one), your child will reflect the sum of your thoughts at the time he is conceived.

April 28, 1998:

which is other than God. the I am, connect your I am to that The devil cannot manifest until you,

Jesus is the "I am," not man

enemies as reflections of ourselves, Jordan leads into this one: Encouraging self-love and speaking of how we allegedly create our own

May 23/24, 1998: expression of your own selfhatred An enemy can only manifest as an

is also telling: the world would hate us if we followed after Him. Jordan's concept of hell Didn't Jesus have enemies? Was he filled with selfhatred? He told us that

July 9, 1998:

Your decisions will make your own

heaven or hell.

July 10, 1998: whereas hell is a perpetual state of Heaven is a state of satisfaction,

confusion.

July 18/19, 1998: in God. Hell is not outside of God, but hell is

August 8/9, 1998: God and the devil are one

and a dark side. This blasphemy reveals Jordan's god as the Force, possessing both a light

"prophet." Every month contains repeated instructions on certain days that prompt the person to send money. Of course, don't think that you can receive everything free from this

For example, each month has a "Special Offer":

over the next year! \$365.00 seed, and hear what God is saying about your family Are you concerned about your family's destiny?

Send in your Miracle Seed of \$98.00, your date of birth and One day each month offers the following opportunity

As Torn in Two

God is rending the vell of human control over His church today so we can come unhindered into His fullness.

BY JAMES H. RUTZ

AST OCTOBER, THE STURDY ACRYLIC PULPIT OF Christian Tabernacle in Houston broke in two.

It was Sunday morning, Oct. 20, during the 8:30 service. Pastor Richard Heard walked across the soft, padded red carpet, mounted the low platform, grasped the pulpit and read 2 Chronicles 7:14—"If My people who are called by My name..."-then added: "What the Holy Spirit is saying to us is that we should seek God's face, not His hand. We should not be seeking just His benefits, but seeking to know Him."

At that instant, a loud clap of noise hit the sanctuary, and Heard was thrown backward with explosive suddenness. The heavy cast-acrylic pulpit split in two, and the pieces were flung toward the congregation.

Heard was unhurt. But the half-inch thick pulpit did not fare as well. It lay in two pieces, with a jagged, lightning-bolt-like edge running at an angle from top to bottom—a break that materials experts would later say was impossible.

The congregation was stunned. Visiting evangelist Tommy Tenney gave seven altar calls, and people kept coming forward. The meeting continued until midnight. Although they didn't understand the message clearly that day, they knew God had spoken loudly.

The obvious parallel is to the splitting of the veil in the temple at Jerusalem. Only priests could go behind the veil into the Holy of Holies. But when Jesus died, God tore the veil from top to bottom to

signal the end of the separation of the common people from His pres-

Today the pulpit is the most obvious visible symbol of the separation of the laity from the place of ministry. If you're a layman in a typical church, you may never be allowed to stand behind it and give your friends a message from your heart or the Lord's-even if it's only 10 words-not once in your lifetime, no matter how urgent.

That morning in Houston, the hand of God threw back the pastor, silenced him temporarily and rendered the pulpit forever unusable. It was

not a blanket condemnation of Christian Tabernacle. Rather, as Tenney noted, it was a slap in the face of tight human control of the church across the country-a lesson for us all.

What are we to learn from this act of God? Three things-and they're doozies:

- Jesus wants His church back. He is pleased to be our guest of honor, but He really wants to be our emcee.
- He's starting to repossess and president of Open Church His church now.
- He is displeased and put Colorado. off by the excess of human con-

trol in the family gatherings of His people. Humans like to follow comfortable, predictable patterns of activity, but He is Lord; He wants to do whatever His pleasure dictates on a given day. The full glory of His presence will not coexist with human dominion, no matter how benign.

The problem is not so much clergy overcontrol as it is the sinful game played by the laity-treating pastors as the entertainers and "pack mules" of the church and dumping on them heavy burdens that no

> person should have to bear alone. Today God is demanding the full commitment and involvement of all believers-and an open sharing/worship/ministry time on Sundays when that involvement can happen.

God finally is establishing the "kingdom of priests" He has longed for since the Exodus (see Ex. 19:6). The wise leader will take an honest look at his church's body-life in light of 1 Corinthians 14, verses 26 and 30, and begin to make serious changes.



JAMES H. RUTZ is the author of The Open Church Ministries in Colorado Springs,

"JESUS WANTS His church back. He is pleased to be our guest of honor, but He really wants to be our emcee."

connected," Tomczak told Charisma. "I feel like the Lord has put me back out there in the body, and I love it." His departure from PDI and a hunger for personal revival are among factors Tomczak says God used to give him a newstart.

Tomczak celebrated his 25th year in ministry last July. He believes the first 25 years were simply a preparation for what. God has in store. "I felt like the Lord was saying." I want to humble you, break you, returne you, and then there's a new season ahead." Tomczak told

Tomczak was a key leader during the Jesus movement and then established PDI—a network of charismatic churches—with his ministry partner C.J. Mahaney in 1983. Last fall, in a move that was painful and emotionally draining, Tomczak left PDI.

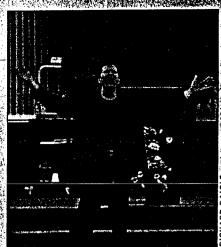
"The ministry was going in some different directions, and I basically felt I didn't fit in those directions," he said. "And also, God was moving in my life."

Tomczak began an earnest quest for personal revival. "God began to move in" my life in terms of merciful intervention and exposing areas of my life where there was pride and fear of man," he said.

Prior to revival comes repentance and dealings of God in brokenness, and I feel like that was what God was doing," he added a Although he's always had solid family relationships, Tomczak said God addressed "faulty foundations" in this home life:

During this time, Tomczak received a phone call from an old friend he hadn't heard from in seven years—Michael Brown, director of the Brownsville Revival School of Ministry. The school is an outgrowth of the revival that began at Brownsville Assembly of God in Pensacola in June 1995.

Brown asked Tomczak to visit Brownsville. "I'd read the reports; I've hungered for revival," said Tomczak. After his first trip to Pensacola, he says he was "profoundly impacted by the level of holiness, the evangelism, the scriptural order, the godly pastoral leadership."



Larry Tomczak: "I've read the ***
reports. I've hungered for revival;

Brown then asked Tomczak to teach at the school, which he has been doing since January, Tomczak also is planting Christ the King Church in north Atlanta. But he believes there is more for him on the horizon.

In April, his 87-year-old mother lay dying as Larry and his sister, Margaret, stood by her side. Tomczak then made a special request.

Tsaid, 'Mom, when you go into the presence of the Lord, I'd like you to sak Jesus to please give me favor for me, my wife, my family and the ministry that God's called me to," Tomorzak said. Ten minutes later, as he read in Psalm 91 about "angels bearing you up," Sophie Tomczak carried her son's request to the throne, of Jesus.

A week later, Tomczak spoke to a Brownsville Assembly's pastor, John Kil patrick, and his sister, Nita. Kilpatrick said he made the same request of their mother as she lay dying three years earlier. The Brownsville revival began a few weeks later.

Revival requires brokenness, but Tomczak learned this many years ago. After he burst on the scene with the success of his autobiography, Clap Your Hands, Tomczak made a slip of the tongue that proved costly.

At a meeting in Chico, Calif, in the late 1970s, Tomczak repeated an erroneous report circulating at that time that Thomas Harris, author of the popular book I'm OK, You're OK, had

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