

JOHN C. HAGEE

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March 12, 2006

Representative Scott Beason
and the Members of the Alabama Legislature
P.O. Box 31
Gardendale, Alabama 35071

Dear Representative Beason,

The purpose of this letter is to present to the members of the Alabama Legislature the merits or lack thereof of the book, "The Bible and Its Influence" presently being considered by the Alabama Legislature for the public school systems in your great state.

First, let me present my credentials. I hold three Doctorates in the following fields. I have a Doctorate of Letters from Oral Roberts University, I have a Doctorate in Theology from the Canadian Christian College and a Doctorate in Humanities from Netanya University in Israel.

Presently, I serve as the Senior Pastor of Cornerstone Church in San Antonio, Texas, a non-denominational evangelical church with 18,000 active members.

I have pastored in this city for 40 years. My television program is seen across America and around the world twice everyday. It reaches 90-million homes in the U.S. and countless millions around the world.

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Concerning the book, "The Bible and Its Influence." I have read the book in question and give the following overview, which will be supported by page and paragraph documentation.

My overview of "The Bible and Its Influence" is that this is a masterful work of deception, distortion and outright falsehoods.

This book in the hands of children in public schools, whose intellect has not matured sufficiently to decipher the clever distortion of this book, would be greatly damaged.

I believe this book would be of great value for advanced study in America's theological schools as an example of literary "wolves in sheep's clothing."

Let's begin with the page and paragraph parade of deception, distortions and absolute falsehoods.

Example # 1

Page 29, Paragraph 3, "Other origin stories tell of many gods who themselves are created, etc."

This paragraph plants the concept in the mind of children that polytheism is just as acceptable as monotheism, which is contrary to the Bible.

The Ten Commandments begin with "Thou shall have no other gods before me." This is the belief of the vast majority of the citizens of Alabama who will pay for these books to teach their children what they positively do not believe. It is another illustration of the public school system undermining the authority and will of the parents.

The book also states in this paragraph that "contemporary scholar Robert Alter states that the God of Genesis chapter one created the world 'out of water and waste.'"

Robert Alter is completely wrong!

Genesis 1:1 states in the Hebrew text God created a perfect world out of nothing...not "water and waste."

Genesis 1:2 describes a great global flood which could have covered the earth for millions of years. This is the reason geologists find stones that can be carbon dated to be millions of years in age. True science and true Scripture always agree.

Genesis 1:3 God then recreates the world out of the things that remain in the earth, which is validated by a correct reading of the Hebrew text.

Point: Distortions, deceptions and falsehoods never produce moral, emotional, political or intellectual health.

Example # 2

Page 34, Paragraph 1 "Human Dignity" states..."By contrast, some traditions and philosophies see humans as no more or less sacred than other living creatures."

This clearly teaches the pagan concept of pantheism. Pantheism teaches that God is in everything. He's in a tree, an animal, a fish, a bird, in blind beetles hiding in deep caves and must be protected as much as human life.

Recently in California, a mountain lion attacked and killed a twelve-year-old girl walking in a city park. Park rangers killed the mountain lion. How did the youth of California respond to this tragedy?

They took up an offering for the survivors...not of the girl who was killed...but for the cubs of the mountain lion who must be fed and sheltered. This is the result of pantheism.

Many environmental laws now being passed are pantheistic in origin. When birds and bugs become equal to people created in the image of God...the foundations of society are being destroyed.

Example # 3

Page 38 BLP textbook..."Do you think Adam and Eve received a fair deal as described in Genesis?"

This very question plants the seed in the minds of youth that Adam and Eve did not receive a fair deal and since God is the author of the deal...God is not fair!

Again, this is a clear deception contrary to the Biblical text and totally destructive to children. To present the concept "God is not fair" is to plant the seed of doubt of their faith in God.

Example # 4

Page 50, BLP textbook quotes the Mayflower Compact as follows:

"We whose names are underwritten...having undertaken a voyage to plant the first colony...do

by these presents solemnly and mutually in the presence of God, and of one another, covenant and combine ourselves into a civic body politic..."

This is an absolute misrepresentation of the Mayflower Compact. The actual Mayflower Compact reads:

"Having undertaken for the Glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith and the Honor of our King and Country, a voyage to plant the first colony..."

The Bible Literacy Project textbook has misquoted the Mayflower Compact by omitting for the Glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith and the Honor of our King and Country as if it never existed. This is an intentional falsehood.

Example # 5

Page 156, BLP textbook..."And if God allows evil things to happen, can God honestly be described as good? This puzzle remains unsolved."

Wrong! There is no puzzle about why bad things happen to good people. There are only masters of deception such as the authors of this book who try to make truth a lie and a lie the truth.

Fact: God has given to man the awesome power of speech, thought and the cognitive ability to make choices. Animals do not have this power or ability.

The reason bad things happen to good people is because of their poor choices! Choices have consequences.

Every war is man's choice. Every drunk driver who kills a car filled with innocent people is the result of the drunk who chose to drive and drink.

Every person who chooses to smoke chooses an early death by cancer. It is not God's will...it is the result of poor choice.

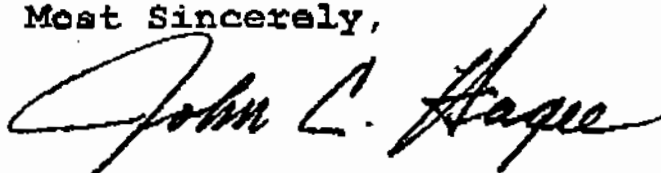
Every teenager who chooses to have sex before marriage chooses to risk sexual disease and/or bringing a new life into the world.

Every piece of legislation in every state in the union is a process of intellectual choice. When the levees broke in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina, it was not God's fault. It was the choice of the Louisiana Legislature to ignore the problem.

The acceptance or rejection of the intellectual, moral and spiritual poison of "The Bible and Its Influence" will be the choice of the Alabama Legislature.

I pray the distinguished members of the Legislature recognize it for what it truly is...distortion, deception and utter falsehoods and disallow it to be placed in the public schools of the great State of Alabama.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John C. Hagee". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Dr. John C. Hagee
Cornerstone Church
San Antonio, Texas