



Thinking

About Christian Unity

Part Two

By

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Introduction

The next Christian unity movement we're going to look at is known as the **New Apostolic Reformation** (NAR). I've heard from many Christians during the past several years who have expressed concern about the NAR. What is it? Where did it come from? Who is involved? What do they believe? Should I be concerned about people in our church who are involved in the NAR? What impact could it have on our church? What if our pastor wants to invite NAR apostles or prophets to speak at our church?

Some of the people who have contacted me are pastors and church leaders. Some have had people in their church read NAR books and watch NAR television and videos and share those views with other church members. Some leaders say they have had people in their church claim to be NAR prophets who wanted their prophecies heard and followed by the local church. Some of the leaders who shared their experiences with me were perplexed about what they should do. Would they be opposing God if they didn't allow the prophets to be heard and obeyed?

These are important questions about any unity movement and especially for one as large as the New Apostolic Reformation. The NAR claims hundreds of millions of Christians are affiliated with the movement around the world and they plan to add hundreds of millions more in the near future.

The New Apostolic Reformation claims that God has instituted a *Second Apostolic Age* with apostles and prophets similar to what the Church had during the 1st Century AD. The first part of our series will look at the evidence for a *Second Apostolic Age* from the teachings and writings of apostles and prophets in the New Apostolic Reformation movement. The second part of our series will look at opposing views to Christianity being in a *Second Apostolic Age*.

Our objective in this series is to develop enough understanding about the movement to answer three basic questions:

1. Is The Church Now In A *Second Apostolic Age*?
2. If The Church Is Now In A *Second Apostolic Age*, How Can Christians Know Which Apostles And Prophets Are True And Which Are False?
3. If The Church Is Not In A *Second Apostolic Age*, How Should Christians Respond To Those Who Believe We Are?

Meeting C. Peter Wagner

I met C. Peter Wagner at a Church Growth conference about 40 years ago. Many pastors had come together to learn more about Wagner's ideas for growing churches. At the time Wagner was Professor of Church Growth at the Fuller Theological Seminary's School of World Missions. He worked closely with Donald McGavran, thought by many to be the founder of church growth and the premier missiologist of the 20th century.

McGavran, a graduate of Columbia University, Butler University, and Yale Divinity School, began writing about church growth in 1936 and wrote *The Bridges of God* in 1955, a book many believe launched the modern church growth movement. McGavran established the Institute of Church Growth in Eugene, Oregon in 1957 and started the School of World Mission at Fuller Theological Seminary in 1965. Wagner said he first studied with McGavran in 1967 and joined him at Fuller in 1971.

Wagner and McGavran had served as missionaries prior to their time together at Fuller. Wagner served in Bolivia from 1956 to 1971. McGavran was born in India to missionary parents and served as a missionary there from 1923 to 1961.

McGavran wrote *Understanding Church Growth* (Wm. E. Eerdmans Publishing) in 1970. Wagner later revised and edited the book (Third Edition, 1990). It has been a classic in church growth circles and was

one of the books we discussed during the conference I attended in the 70s. Wagner wrote that McGavran was not satisfied with the number of converts to Christianity from his many years of work on the mission field in India –

“The conventional wisdom among missionaries was that India was a resistant country and that they should not expect many converts. But McGavran did not agree. It occurred to him that obviously there was a way of doing missionary work so as to produce few or no churches. But there must also be other ways of doing missionary work that God would bless with the establishment of many churches. At that time McGavran did not know exactly how the methodologies of the two approaches differed, but he determined to find out. As he declared in the preface to a book he coauthored in the 1930s, he had dedicated himself to ‘discarding theories of church growth which do not work, and learning and practicing productive patterns which actually disciple the people and increase the household of God.’”
Preface to Third (1990) Edition of *Understanding Church Growth*

Wagner wrote that McGavran became alarmed when he saw that too many of God’s resources—personnel and finances—were being used without asking whether God’s kingdom was being advanced by the programs they supported.

I remember many things about the Church Growth Institute I attended 40 years ago. One thing that is still very clear in my memory is Wagner’s emphasis on the “homogeneous unit principle.” It struck me

as different than what I understood the Gospel message to be, but here was an expert in “church growth” telling us we should focus our ministry efforts on people who were similar to us racially, economically and socially.

“A corollary of the people movement theory is the homogeneous unit principle. ‘People like to become Christians without crossing racial, linguistic, or class barriers,’ said McGavran. Conversion, he argued, should occur within a minimum of social dislocation. This principle has become the most controversial of all church growth principles because critics have interpreted it as classist or racist. Nothing could be further from McGavran’s mind, however. As the prototype of a world Christian, McGavran does not have a racist bone in his body. The homogeneous unit principle is an attempt to respect the dignity of individuals and allow their decisions for Christ to be religious rather than social decisions. It is developed in detail in McGavran’s magnum opus, *Understanding Church Growth*.” Preface to Third (1990) Edition of *Understanding Church Growth*

Those convictions of McGavran led him to start the Institute of Church Growth at Northwest Christian College in Eugene, Oregon in 1961. He moved the institute to Fuller Seminary in 1965 and became the founding dean of the Fuller School of World Mission and Institute of Church Growth. Here are some of McGavran’s thoughts about church growth in 1970 –

“The theory and theology of mission is what is in dispute. As God carries out his mission in the world and the church seeks to be found ‘about his business,’ what *should* be done? What priorities are correct? Among many good enterprises, which has preeminence? Which should come first and which—if any have to be—should be omitted? How is carrying out the will of God to be measured? What has really been accomplished as the church has spread on new ground? Considerations of anthropology, sociology, theology, and organizations complexity pile up one on the other. Never was a clear mission theory more needed than today—a theory firmly rooted in biblical truth.” Preface to the First (1970) Edition of *Understanding Church Growth*

I remember Wagner as being passionate about church growth. He expressed a confidence in his theology and methodology for church growth. The pastors I sat with at the conference shared a deep desire to reach unsaved people for Christ and see their churches grow. That conference would be just the beginning for many of us.

Another church growth leader I met during the 1970s was Dr. Win Arn. He studied at Fuller Seminary under Dr. McGavran and founded The Institute for American Church Growth in 1973. Arn and McGavran worked together on a book project titled *How to Grow a Church: Conversations About Church Growth* (Baker Publishing, 1973), another book we discussed at the conference. Billy Graham wrote the foreward for the book. Dr. Arn also wrote *Ten Steps for Church Growth* (1977, written with McGavran), *The Pastor’s Church*

Growth Handbook (1979), *Growth: A New Vision for the Sunday School* (1980, with Donald McGavran), *Back to Basics in Church Growth* (1981), *The Master's Plan for Making Disciples* (1982), *Who Cares About Love?* (1988, with Carrol Nyquist), and *Church Growth Ratio Book* (1990, with son Charles Arn).

Dr. Donald McGavran was the primary leader in the Church Growth movement until his death in 1990. The mantle of leadership fell to C. Peter Wagner, who emphasized the importance of prayer and spiritual warfare until he retired from the McGavran Chair of Church Growth at Fuller in 1999. That emphasis is an important part of the history of the powerful and growing movement known as **New Apostolic Reformation** (NAR).

NAR History

Wagner wrote *The Warfare Prayer: How To Seek God's Power And Protection In The Battle To Build His Kingdom* in 1997. What he wrote in the introduction to the book helps us understand his motivation for what came next –

“Five years ago I could not have written this book. But around 1990 what seemed like a divine alarm went off, calling the Church worldwide to serious spiritual warfare on a scale and intensity previously unknown. At that time God put me on the fastest learning curve I have experienced in 35 years of ministry. I feel compelled to share what I am learning in this book. I believe that through this book God can change you and your church, putting you on the front lines of the greatest forward thrust of world evangelization in 2,000 years of Christian history.” *Introduction to Warfare Prayer* (Prayer Warrior), Regal Books, 1997

Using Wagner's own historical recollection of 1990 as a key year for his ministry, let's look at the first decade of books that came from his encounter with the 'divine alarm.' We will include the year, the title and a brief description from the publisher (Regal Books, Baker Books and others). The book list is important to see how Wagner's theology about church growth developed during that time as well as noting key terms and concepts that became the foundation of the current NAR movement and its view of "unity" in the Church.

1990 – *Wrestling With Dark Angels: Toward a Deeper Understanding of the Supernatural Forces in Spiritual Warfare*

“As Christians, we are in the trenches of a violent war. It is more real than our Western mindset has led us to believe. Since the spirit world - where demons attack us daily - seems to us somehow less real than the tangible, material world in which we live, we think that it's nothing to fear. But this perception is fearfully wrong. The frightening fact is that in trying to deny the reality of the spirit world, we have made ourselves more vulnerable than ever to the attacks of dark angels. In *Wrestling with Dark Angels*, some of today's most respected theologians offer their views on spiritual warfare and how the Christian can deal effectively with its dangerous powers.” Publisher Description

1990 – *Spiritual Power And Church Growth*

No description from publisher available

1991 – *Territorial Spirits: Insights Into Strategic Level Spiritual Warfare & Intercession*

“Are evil spirits assigned to geographical areas? The theme of territorial assignment in the demonic kingdom is one rarely touched upon by theologians, making this book unique in the study of spiritual warfare. The book has been edited by C. Peter

Wagner, one of the most highly respected of all teachers in this area, and contains contributions from many key church leaders. None of the contributors lay claim to being the final authority on the topics covered but offer their theories and insights regarding spiritual warfare for the reader's consideration. As well as discussing the theoretical principles involved, the book also records the experiences and discoveries made by practitioners of strategic spiritual warfare.” Publisher Description

1992 – *Prayer Shield: How to Intercede for Pastors, Christian Leaders, and Others on the Spirit Frontlines (The Prayer Warrior Series)*

“Right now, someone you know is in desperate need of your prayers. It's the person out on the front line, leading God's army into the world to proclaim His good news. Pastors, teachers, and all types of leaders are under severe attack from the enemy. And they're depending on the prayers of those who care to help see them through. The enemy knows where our leaders are vulnerable, and he strikes at their weakest points. But the greater power is on our side. Through intercessory prayer you can reinforce your leaders with God's strength and protection.”
Publisher Description

1992 – *How to Have a Healing Ministry in Any Church*

No description from publisher available

1993 – *Breaking strongholds in your city: How to use spiritual mapping to make your prayers more strategic, effective, and targeted (The Prayer warrior series)*

“Action prayer can change your church, your community, and your life. When churches come together in prayer we see amazing things happen--things that most of us would have thought impossible just a couple of decades ago. The Soviet Union has disintegrated and the Berlin Wall has been destroyed. God has torn open the Iron Curtain, allowing the Gospel to pour into that starving land. On every continent it is plain to see that God is doing might things in response to prayer. Perhaps even more amazing are the results of prayer that growing numbers of people are seeing in their own lives. More and more, around the world, people are praying with the expectation that God will hear and answer their prayers. And this kind of effective prayer is available to you.” Publisher Description

1995 – *Lighting the World: Acts 9-15 (Acts of the Holy Spirit)*

“In *Lighting the World*, C. Peter Wagner demonstrates the powerful plans for action that Acts lays out for Christians. In addition to commentary, Wagner includes stories of current acts

of the Holy Spirit from mission fields around the world.” Publisher Description

1995 – *Blazing the Way (Acts of the Holy Spirit)*

“A phenomenon that seems to lend special urgency to a new commentary of this nature is the veritable explosion of knowledge in the fields of missiology and power ministries over the last two decades or so. As late as 1970, missiology was not recognized as an academic field in the United States. It is now well established. In the 1980s, controversies were raging around the validity of power ministries such as signs and wonders, demonic deliverance and spiritual warfare. In some circles debate continues, but it has cooled down considerably. Prior to 1980, however, supernatural power was hardly a chief topic of discussion among those of us who were not Pentecostals or charismatics. At this writing, however, we are offering five courses on various aspects of power ministries at Fuller Seminary where I teach, and other seminaries are following suit. It is not surprising, therefore, that our classic commentators of the past would not have dealt with these rapidly expanding areas in the depth it is possible to do today.” C. Peter Wagner, Introduction

[Wagner wrote the book *Signs & Wonders Today: The Story of Fuller Theological Seminary’s Remarkable Course on Spiritual Power* in 1987 and *The Third Wave of the Holy Spirit: Encountering the Power of Signs and Wonders Today* in 1988]

1995 – *Engaging the Enemy: How to Fight and Defeat Territorial Spirits*

“Right now, in this world, Satan's forces are waging war against Christians and the kingdom of God, and the authors of this book explain through both Scripture and personal experience, part of Satan's battle plan is assigning demons from his ranks.” Publisher Description

1996 – *Confronting the Powers: How the New Testament Church Experienced the Power of Strategic-Level Spiritual Warfare (The Prayer Warrior Series)*

No description from publisher available

1996 – *The Healthy Church*

“Why is it that some churches have survived hundreds of years while others are struck down in the “prime of the lives”? Dr. C. Peter Wagner (professor of church growth at Fuller Theological Seminary, School of World Mission, Pasadena, California) answers this question by examining nine spiritual “diseases” that can attack any church. Here is a model of the diagnosis and prescription that you can follow to restore the rosy glow of vitality to your congregation, whether it is feeling the effects of old age or has had its growth stunted from an unbalanced diet. The Healthy Church tackles the problems of “Ethnikitis” (a static church in a

changing neighborhood); "Ghost Town" syndrome (a deteriorating community); "People Blindness" (cultural differences existing between groups of people living in geographical proximity to one another); "Hyper-Cooperativism" (when interdenominational unity hinders evangelism); "Koinonitis" (spiritual navel-gazing); "Sociological Strangulation" (the flow of people into a church exceeding the capacity of the facilities to accommodate their numbers); "Arrested Spiritual Development" (people in the church are not growing in the things of God or in their relationships with one another); "St. John's Syndrome" (Christians in name only); and "Hypopneumia" (a subnormal level of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the life and ministry of the church). The Healthy Church is fascinating, informative, and a wealth of good information to counteract these maladies. -- *Midwest Book Review*"

[Wagner wrote *Your church can be healthy* as part of the Creative Leadership Series in 1979]

1997 – *Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church Grow*

“Identifies and discusses 27 spiritual gifts. Tells you how to find your gift and outlines how you can use gifts effectively. There are five steps to help you use your spiritual gifts to build God's kingdom.” Publisher Description

1997 – *Warfare Prayer (Prayer Warrior)*

“When Satan and his troops interfere with God's work here on earth, you know it's time to take action. But how can you do it? The answer is prayer. Satan's forces are doing whatever they can to keep us from reaching the lost with the good news of Jesus Christ. But God has given us power over the forces of darkness---when we come to Him in committed, sincere prayer. In this book, you'll find that using prayer as a weapon is only meaningful as it makes us more effective in reaching the lost. You'll learn what it takes to step out against the demonic realm cautiously and wisely, as an informed and prepared warrior.” Publisher Description

1997 – *Churches That Pray*

“Churches That Pray’ gives you concrete examples of the way God is answering fervent "action prayer" in every corner of the planet. It also gives you practical steps to take so that you can use "action prayer" in your church and in your community.” Publisher Description

1997 – *Breaking Strongholds in Your City (Prayer Warriors)*

“Take a moment to look around your community--the parks, the malls, they key points of interest. Look at the downtown, the uptown, the back alleys and across the tracks. What are the institutions that dominate the life of your city? Do they glorify God? Or is your city infiltrated by pockets of idolatry and

corruption? You can bring light to the darkest parts of your community by breaking down the enemy's strongholds through prayer. Finding solid information will ensure that your prayer is on-target and much more effective. This book shows you how to identify the enemy's territory in your area, and provides practical steps on how to pray against these dark strongholds---making it perfect for pastors, church leaders and intercessors on each level. Whether you are being called to frontline warfare or behind-the-scenes prayer support, discover how you can target your prayers to God's glory in your neighborhood.” Publisher Description

1997 – *Praying With Power: How to Pray Effectively and Hear Clearly from God (Prayer Warrior Series, No 6)*

“The groundbreaking Prayer Warrior Series culminates with C. Peter Wagner's most personal insights yet into the dynamics of prayer and spiritual warfare. Wagner provides steps for deepening and strengthening your own prayer life.” Publisher Description

1998 – *The New Apostolic Churches*

“My third season of research is now focusing on the New Apostolic Reformation, the subject of this book. I am very excited because the new apostolic churches, better than any I have previously studied, combine, on the highest level, solid technical principles of church growth with solid spiritual principles of church growth.” C. Peter Wagner, Chapter 1

1998 – *Confronting The Queen of Heaven*

“Confronting The Queen Of Heaven” takes a look at what is perhaps one of the most powerful spirits in Satan's hierarchy - the Queen of Heaven. In this book, C. Peter Wagner shows both the history and the adaptations that this spirit takes in today's world, and then reveals what we as Christians can do to play a part in confronting the Queen of Heaven and in proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord.” Publisher Description

1998 – *The Rising Revival: What the Spirit is Saying Through the Argentine Revival*

No description from publisher available

1999 – *Churchquake: How the New Apostolic Reformation is Shaking Up the Church As We Know It*

“Best-selling author and church growth expert C. Peter Wagner writes about a revolution taking place in the Church-an extraordinary work of God that is changing the shape of Christianity around the world. The New Apostolic Reformation is a grassroots phenomenon in which God is raising up alliances of non-denominational churches and leaders worldwide to help fulfill the last awesome push for the Great Commission. Wagner identifies and examines present-day apostolic church networks that are bound together not by doctrine or tradition, but by shared

passion for local and worldwide evangelism, energetic worship, fervent prayer and church planting.” Publisher Description

2000 – *Apostles and Prophets: The Foundation of the Church*

“Jesus revealed Himself to be the cornerstone of the church. But He has built His church, and continues to build it, through apostles and prophets, people who are empowered by the Holy Spirit. Now a leader of the New Apostolic Reformation gives us new insights into how the people called to crucial roles in the church--apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastor and teachers--must work together to fulfill their divine purpose. For the first time since the Early Church, God is harnessing apostles and prophets to fulfill the promises of His divine plan. Prepare to play your part!” Publisher Description

Key NAR Terms

Here are some of the key terms and concepts that Peter Wagner taught prior to the beginning of the 21st century that were foundational to the rise of the New Apostolic Reformation –

New Apostolic Reformation

Apostles and Prophets

Third Wave

Warfare Prayer

Prayer Shield

Strategic Level Spiritual Warfare & Intercession

Breaking Strongholds

Confronting the Powers

Territorial Spirits

Spiritual Mapping

Healthy Church

Fuller Seminary Influence

Wagner taught a course at Fuller about miraculous signs and wonders with John Wimber, founder of the Vineyard movement. Wimber trained in Biblical Studies at Azusa Pacific College and became co-pastor of the Yorba Linda Friends Church (Quakers). He joined with Peter Wagner in creating the Charles E. Fuller Institute (Church Growth) in 1974. Wimber became convinced that miracles would always serve to validate the preaching of the Word, so he and other charismatics in the church joined with Chuck Smith's Calvary Chapel in 1977 to plant Calvary Chapel of Yorba Linda. He joined with Kenn Gulliksen with Vineyard Churches to organize "The Association of Vineyard Churches" in 1982. A published history of Vineyard Churches shares the impact Fuller Seminary played in Wimber's work –

"John Wimber's influence profoundly shaped the theology and practice of Vineyard churches from their earliest days until his death in November, 1997. When John was conscripted by God he was, in the words of Christianity Today, a "beer-guzzling, drug-abusing pop musician, who was converted at the age of 29 while chain-smoking his way through a Quaker-led Bible study" (Christianity Today, editorial, Feb. 9 1998).

In John's first decade as a Christian he led hundreds of people to Christ. By 1970 he was leading 11 Bible studies that involved more than 500 people. John became so fruitful as an evangelical

pastor he was asked to lead the Charles E. Fuller Institute of Evangelism and Church Growth. He also later became an adjunct instructor at Fuller Theological Seminary where his classes set attendance records. In 1977, John re-entered pastoral ministry to plant Calvary Chapel of Yorba Linda.

Throughout this time, John's conservative evangelical paradigm for understanding the ministry of the church began to grow. George Eldon Ladd's theological writings on the kingdom of God convinced John intellectually that all the biblical gifts of the Holy Spirit should be active in the church.”

Encounters with Fuller missiologists Donald McGavaran and C. Peter Wagner and seasoned missionaries and international students gave him credible evidence for combining evangelism with healing and prophecy. As he became more convinced of God's desire to be active in the world through all the biblical gifts of the Spirit, John began to teach and train his church to imitate Jesus' full-orbed kingdom ministry. He began to "do the stuff" of the Bible, about which he had formerly only read.

As John and his congregation, mostly made up of former Quakers, sought God in intimate worship, they experienced empowerment by the Holy Spirit, significant renewal in the gifts and conversion growth. It soon became clear that the church's emphasis on the experience of the Holy Spirit was not shared by some leaders in the Calvary Chapel movement. In 1982, John's

church left Calvary Chapel and joined the Vineyard churches.”

www.vineyardusa.org/site/about/vineyard-history

It's important to keep the 1974 date in mind as we move forward. It is evidence to demonstrate how early “signs and wonders” played a role in Wagner's church growth theology. I attended his Church Growth conference a few years later and don't remember hearing him mentioning signs and wonders, so he may have not have been sharing that outside Fuller yet or may have chosen not to share about signs and wonders at the conference I attended.

Fuller Theological Seminary's Office of Continuing Education in Ministry and Global Harvest Ministries (Peter Wagner founded Global Harvest Ministries in 1993) sponsored the National Symposium on the Postdenominational Church in May of 1996 –

“This symposium is the first of its kind. Never before have so many postdenominational leaders, including apostles and prophets, from such a diverse number of groups gathered together to share with and pray for each other. You will have an inside track in understanding the spiritual motor which is driving this massive movement: C. Peter Wagner, Brochure

Wagner addressed the issue of “postdenominationalism” in the Foreward to David Cannistraci's 1998 book *Apostles And The Emerging Apostolic Movement* (Gospel Light Publications) –

“My studies of church growth have led me to an inexorable conclusion: The ‘fastest-growing identifiable segment of Christianity in the 1990s on five continents is what has come to be called the Postdenominational Movement. Inherent in today’s postdenominational churches is a structure commonly known as ‘apostolic networks,’ in which both the gift and office of apostle are recognized and accepted ... David Cannistraci, a key figure in the Postdenominational Movement, is a person of giftedness, wisdom and experience beyond his years. He is one of those rare people who is seen simultaneously as a scholar and a practitioner. Not only does Dr. Cannistraci develop theories, but he also makes sure his theories have gone through hands-on experimentation before he advocates them. I will require my Fuller Seminary students to read and digest this book.” C. Peter Wagner, Fuller Theological Seminary

“The present wave of the Apostolic Spirit already dwarfs anything the apostles could have seen or imagined in the first apostolic movement. It seems we are entering into a visitation of greater proportion than Pentecost, and it is exactly as Joel said it would be (see Joel 2:28,29). The Holy Spirit is crashing into history again, only this time He is coming upon our generation!

This wave will reactivate true apostolic ministry for the harvest. Because the Spirit is being poured out, and because He is an Apostolic Spirit, apostles and an apostolic movement *must* result.”
David Cannistraci, Chapter 1

In light of Wagner using the term “postdenominational” in the 1996 symposium, what role does “denominationalism” play in the New Apostolic Reformation? Elmer Towns of Liberty University wrote the Foreward for Wagner’s 1998 book *The New Apostolic Churches* and addressed that –

“Most old denominations were formed by doctrinal distinctives. Some old denominations were born when they split because of doctrinal technicalities; others were founded on new doctrinal allegiances. The old denominations were allied to Calvinistic or Armenian or dispensational or Pentecostal or Wesleyan doctrines or some unique interpretation of Scripture. The new denominations are really movements or, to describe them in postmodern business terminology, they are like franchises. They are Willow Creek Associates, Calvary Chapels, Vineyard Fellowships or other names that describe a new movement for God in the postmodern world of new challenges. C. Peter Wagner once called this new movement ‘Postdenominational churches,’ but the term was rejected because some thought it linked to past failure, or even worse, implied that some effective evangelical denominations were not in fact effective. So Wagner changed the title to ‘The New Apostolic Reformation.’ This book is about change, thus many readers may not like it because they do not want to change anything. Do not close your mind; read it carefully to see what is changed. These churches are not changing the essentials of Bible doctrine. They are as committed to the

fundamentals of the faith as the originators of past conservative denominations were committed to the essentials of Christianity. They are merely changing the methods of evangelism, worship, Bible study and leadership.” *The New Apostolic Churches*, Foreward written by Elmer Towns.

Wagner wrote *The New Apostolic Churches* with 18 other church leaders –

“I have never been more excited about a book dealing with church growth than I am about this one, *The New Apostolic Churches*. Because I suggested to the other 18 authors that they begin their chapters with personal testimonies of how God has brought them to the places where they are now, I will follow suit.” C. Peter Wagner, Chapter 1

Here are the church leaders who helped write *The New Apostolic Churches* –

Dr. Elmer Towns, Liberty University, Foreward

Apostle John P. Kelly, Overseeing Apostle, Antioch Churches and Ministries

Apostle John Eckhardt, Pastor and Overseer, Crusaders Ministries

Pastor Michael P. Fletcher, Manna Church

Pastor Bill Hybels, Willow Creek Community Church

Bishop Wellington Boone, First International Church of Atlanta

Lary Kreider, International Director, DOVE Christian Fellowship International

Pastor Roberts Liardon, President, Roberts Liardon Ministries

Rice Brooks, President, Cofounder of Christian International Ministries

Bishop Bill Hamon, Cofounder of Christian International Ministries

Pastor Billy Joe Daugherty, Founder of Victory Christian Center

Pastor Dick Iverson, Chairman of Ministers Fellowship International

Pastor Ralph Moore, Hope Chapel Foursquare Church

Dr. David [Kwang Shin] Kim, Senior Pastor, Grace Korean Church

Pastor Lawrence Khong, Faith Community Baptist Church, Singapore

Pastor Paul Daniel, President and Founder of His People Christian Ministries, Cape Town, South Africa

William F. Kumuyi, General Superintendent, Pastor, Deeper Life Bible Church, Gbagada, Lagos, Nigeria

Dr. Joseph C. Wongsak, Pastor, Hope of Bangkok Church,
Bangkok, Thailand

Most Christians are familiar with the titles of Reverend, Pastor, Bishop, Evangelist, Doctor, President, Founder, Superintendent, Chairman .. but Apostle? Peter Wagner briefly defined an 'Apostle' this way –

“Christian leader who is gifted, taught, and commissioned by God with the authority to establish the foundational government of the Church within an assigned sphere of ministry by hearing what the Spirit is saying to the churches and by setting things in order accordingly for the advancement of the Kingdom of God.”
Quoted by the International Coalition of Apostolic Leaders
(www.icaleaders.com)

Soon after writing a chapter for Wagner's 1998 book, John P. Kelly, identified as “Overseeing Apostle, Antioch Churches and Ministries,” helped start The International Coalition of Apostolic Leaders (ICAL) in Singapore in 1999. Kelly was asked to assume leadership as Presiding Apostle for the new coalition and establish an office in Fort Worth, Texas. The first annual meeting was held in Dallas in 2000. Kelly asked Peter Wagner to accept the position of Convening Apostle and ICAL moved into the offices of Global Harvest in Colorado Springs where Wagner lived. Kelly served ICAL as the Ambassadorial Apostle. Wagner asked Kelly to accept the position of International Convening Apostle over ICAL in 2009 and the

headquarters returned to Fort Worth in 2010. Wagner became the Presiding Apostle Emeritus of ICAL. Kelly identifies ICAL as “the largest known Christian society of God-ordained and man-recognized apostolic leaders in the world” (www.johnkelly.org/about.html).

The basic structure of ICAL is that it is “apostolically led and prophetically influenced” (www.icaleaders.com). According to ICAL, apostles operate in several different ways, including “vertical apostles” (ecclesiastical, functional, congregational, and team-member vertical apostles), “horizontal apostles” (including convening, ambassadorial, mobilizing, and territorial horizontal apostles), and different kinds of “marketplace apostles.”

ICAL presents itself as “a primarily professional society” in which confirmed apostles connect with other confirmed apostles. It is also a training ground for “emerging” apostles. ICAL also “provides apostolic accountability.”

Membership in ICAL is by official invitation “only” from the Convening Apostle. It includes a nomination process and application approval. Apostles pay an annual membership fee of several hundred dollars and are invited to attend annual meetings and summits. [More about those meetings later in this chapter.]

Here are two books Kelly has written. As you look at the titles of Kelly’s, keep in mind that he is writing from the position of being the International Convening Apostle of ICAL. The impact of what that

means in the NAR movement will become clear as we proceed with our investigation. Also, watch for key terms and concepts important to understanding NAR –

Power To Get Wealth (Palm Tree Productions, 2008)

“The prophets have declared that this is the time for wealth to transfer into God’s Kingdom. But how will it happen? Who will God use to acquire the wealth? *Power to Get Wealth* addresses the important questions of God’s prosperity plan and who will succeed in fulfilling his mandate and covenant. This book presents practical understanding and application to help Christians advance as WEALTHBUILDERS(sm) and become WEALTHDISTRIBUTORS(sm). Start your journey here to become one of God’s wise financial stewards!”

Travailing Intercession (House of Ariel Gate, 2015)

“Prayer is learning the terms of spiritual engagement. *Travailing intercession* is a high level of protocol that belongs to strategists who want to see the Kingdom come to Earth as it is in Heaven. Many people have misunderstood, misinterpreted and simply ‘not got it’ up to now. This book is a simple, logical and scriptural explanation of what it means to groan in the spirit and how powerful that really is. This book will take your prayer life to a new dimension!”

Another man identified by Wagner as an “Apostle” is John Eckhardt. In addition to heading up John Eckhardt Ministries and Crusaders Ministries, he is also the author of many books that are viewed by many to be the revelations of an Apostle of Jesus Christ.

Ministry Anointing of the Prophet (Crusaders Publications, 1991)

"What is the purpose of prophets? Why were they given to the Body of Christ? What is their function? What do they do? As Myles Munroe has often stated, if you do not know the purpose of a thing, you will abuse it.

Many prophets have suffered abuse in the body because their purpose and function was not known. They have often suffered rejection and hurt because of ignorance. In this book you will find revelation concerning the function of prophets. Besides edification, exhortation and comfort, prophets can also establish, reveal, impart, activate and confirm. We need to receive and honor prophets. The more we know the function and importance of prophets the more we will benefit from their ministries."

Publisher Description

Releasing God's Power Through Laying on Hands (Crusaders Publications, 1992)

"God has set up an authority structure in His kingdom, and He operates through and honors this authority. When you submit to

proper spiritual authority, God's power and blessing can be released on your behalf through laying on of hands.

Your understanding will be increased and your inner man refreshed as the wisdom and insight shared on this biblically sound doctrine unfolds in its fullness. Once local churches receive the revelation of laying on of hands and practice this doctrine, we will see a greater manifestation of God's power through His people.” Publisher Description

Deliverance and Spiritual Warfare Manual (Charisma House, 1993)

“This 54 page spiritual warfare manual is packed full of information. It is written in a unique way using explanation of terms by alphabetical order. Each term is defined with additional information and scriptural references. This manual would definitely be useful to pastors, church leaders, home group fellowships and bible studies, as well as by multitudes of Christian laymen involved in deliverance and self deliverance.” Publisher Description

50 truths concerning apostolic ministry (Crusaders Ministries, 1994)

“Apostolic ministry is ordained by God. Regardless of what men think or believe, this ministry has been ordained by God’s appointment. Apostolic ministry is fruitful because it is chosen and ordained of God (John 15:16). Any ministry set and ordained by the Lord will be fruitful in spite of opposition or misunderstanding.

Apostles are set IN THE CHURCH. As long as there is 'a *Church*,' apostles will be a part. The Scripture does not say God set them only in the 'EARLY CHURCH' or the 'CHURCH OF THE BOOK OF ACTS' but 'THE CHURCH'. This includes the present day Church ... Because of tradition many would rather call someone a 'reverend', a 'doctor', a 'superintendent', or a 'bishop'; but very seldom an APOSTLE. Many have ignored, avoided and attacked the office of the apostle. But God is restoring this ministry to the Church, and giving us a revelation of its purpose and function."

John Eckhardt

Some of the "truths" about apostolic ministry that Eckhardt claimed and taught in 1994 were –

Apostolic Ministry is First in Time

Apostolic Ministry is First in Rank

Apostles Have a Breakthrough Anointing

Apostles are Here Today

Apostles Establish and Set Doctrine

Apostolic Doctrine Comes From Heaven

Apostles Bring Revelation to the Church

Apostolic Revelation is the Foundation Upon Which the Church is Built

Apostles Lay Foundation

Apostles Bind and Loose

Apostles are Given Authority for Edification

Apostles Impart Spiritual Gifts

Apostles Pull Down Strongholds

Apostles Make Intercession for the Saints

Apostolic Ministry is One of Signs and Wonders

Apostolic Ministry Touches Cities and Regions

Apostles are Reformers

Moving in the Apostolic: God's plan to lead His Church to the final victory (Chosen Books, 1999, written with C. Peter Wagner, reviews by Pastor Mary Crum, Pastor Ted Haggard, Apostle Ivory Hopkins, Apostle John Kelly, Prophetess Cindy Jacobs, Apostle Ernest Leonard, Apostle Noel Woodroffe, Pastor Dutch Sheets, Bishop Harold Ray)

“To be an apostle, or to be apostolic, revolves around the concept of being sent. Only sent ones can fulfill the Great Commission. Only sent ones will be able to overcome the impossible odds that stand in the way of being able to say, ‘Mission accomplished.’ The Church cannot succeed without operating strongly in this dimension.

There are several premises I want to put forth concerning this commission:

1. The Church has been given a commission.
2. This commission is an apostolic commission.
3. This commission must and will be fulfilled.
4. Since the commission is apostolic, it will take an apostolic anointing to fulfill it.

What does it mean to be apostolic? Can we all be apostolic? What part do apostles have in fulfilling the Great Commission? When do we receive and operate in an apostolic anointing? How is the Church affected by apostolic ministry? These are some of the questions we will attempt to answer together ... Evil spirits must be dealt with. Prophetic utterances must be released. Many have believed the commission is an evangelistic commission. Although evangelism is an important part, the commission is essentially *apostolic*, incorporating evangelism to fulfill it. Sent ones do more than evangelize. Sent ones preach, teach, prophesy and do the works of Jesus.” John Eckhardt

[Wagner wrote about Eckhardt and the book they wrote together – “I certainly will require it of my Fuller Seminary students. I want them to get to know my good friend John Eckhardt. I want many of them to say, ‘John Eckhardt is my role model for ministry today.’ I am gratified that a rapidly growing number of leaders are now beginning to move in the apostolic gift and the apostolic office.” Because of the influence

Eckhardt had on Peter Wagner as early as the 1970s, we'll look at some of Eckhardt's beliefs and teaching to see what influence he had on the NAR.]

Presbyteries and Apostolic Teams (Crusader Ministries, 2000)

“Apostolic teams give the Church the ability to expand beyond the local borders and touch the nations. Presbyteries enable the Church to be governed properly. Both are essential in helping the Church fulfill its mission of impacting regions, territories, and nations.” Publisher Description

Identifying And Breaking Curses (Whitaker House, 2000)

“Although the Word of God teaches that we are already healed by the stripes of Jesus (Isaiah 53:5), there are many believers who have not appropriated this promise and continue to battle with sickness. This is because healing is a part of our redemption, but it is not automatic.

Again, according to the Word of God, we are healed by the stripes of Jesus. However, though every believer has been legally redeemed from sickness, there are still many sick believers. Just because one is a believer does not make one exempt from sickness. It is possible for a believer to be sick even with healing being a part of our redemption.

Unfortunately, there are still many believers living under curses even though they have been legally redeemed from curses. Just

as a believer may have to fight a good fight of faith for healing, he or she may also have to fight a good fight of faith against curses.

So the answer to the question, ‘Can a believer be under a curse’” is, ‘Legally, no; but experientially, yet.’

This is to say, Satan may not have a legal right to enforce a curse against you, but he is an outlaw and will attempt to do so anyway.

Therefore, curses oftentimes have to be broken over the lives of believers, and the believers must learn how to stand in faith against those curses, keeping them from operating in their lives.

The promises in the Word are not automatic. They must be believed and often fought for. You don’t have to fight God for His promises; He is not keeping them back from you. But you must contend with the Adversary who is trying to prevent you from receiving and walking in God’s promises.

So if you are a believer and you are experiencing the symptoms of a curse, you will have to be loosed from it before you will be able to walk in the full blessings of the Lord.” John Eckhardt

Demon Hit List (Whitaker House, 2000)

“Since identifying and uncovering demons by name is so important in deliverance, the idea to write a deliverance thesaurus is well overdue. Demons congregate in ‘groupings,’ and knowing how they linkup is invaluable to the deliverance worker. This thesaurus will help the worker identify the names of different

spirits, and also group spirits together to 'cluster' within people seeking deliverance. It will also be a handy reference book that the deliverance worker can refer to from time to time that will hopefully be a storehouse of information that will help destroy the works of the Devil.

Mark 5:9 gives us a key revelation in dealing with the Enemy. Jesus commanded the spirit to identify itself by name. Once the Enemy identified himself, Jesus cast him out. This is the power of identification. Identifying the Enemy can identify the Enemy by name, the more successful they will be in driving the Enemy out."

John Eckhardt

[Eckhardt lists individual names of demonic spirits – e.g. Abaddon (Apollyon), Abandonment, Abdomen, Abnormal, Abomination, Abortion, Absalom, Abuse, Accident, Accusation, Addiction, Adultery, etc – then includes a section called "Demons Attacking the Physical Body" taken from *A Manual for the Deliverance Worker* by Frank Marzullo and Tom Snyder – "Evil spirits often dwell in certain parts of the body" – Physical areas mentioned include – Abdominal Area and Pelvis, Bones, Neck, Back & Joints, Chest Area, Ears, Eyes, Head, Mouth, Navel, Nose, Spine, Throat, Stomach, Hands, Tongue (taste buds), etc. Eckhardt, Marzullo and Snyder believe that demonic spirits cause malfunction and problems in various areas of the body (e.g. liver, spleen, heart, lungs, spine, nervous system, bone marrow) causing all diseases (e.g. cancer, tumors, cysts, pain, crippling, strokes, heart attacks, arthritis, bursitis, multiple sclerosis, blindness,

crossed eyes, cataracts, glaucoma, emphysema, brain damage, blood clots, epilepsy, meningitis, dementia, Alzheimer's disease, psychoses of all kinds, frustration, paranoia, phobias, forgetfulness, procrastination, fear, worry, anxiety, stress, migraines, nightmares, suicide, tooth decay, cavities, canker sores, loss of taste, bad breath, stuttering, addiction, gluttony, bloody nose, postnasal drip, sinusitis, polyps, colds, viruses, thyroid disorders, goiters, laryngitis, swollen glands, palsy, etc) and that knowing the names of demonic spirits and where they are located in physical areas give the "worker" knowledge which will lead to casting the demonic demons out of the body and restoring health to body and mind.]

Prayers That Rout Demons: Prayers for Defeating Demons and Overthrowing the Power of Darkness (Charisma House, 2007)

"Prayer is one of the ways we release the will of God upon the earth ... Words are used to convey our thoughts. The words of God are the thoughts of God. We are releasing the mind of God when we pray and confess His word. The thoughts of God are peace and prosperity ... We can bind the works of darkness, which include: sickness, disease, hurt, witchcraft, poverty, death, destruction, confusion, defeat, and discouragement. We can loose ourselves and others from the works of darkness. This will result in greater liberty and prosperity. Binding and loosing will help us in the area of deliverance. We can loose ourselves from many things by using our authority. We can loose others by praying these prayers." John Eckhardt

God Still Speaks: How to Hear and Receive Revelation from God for Your Family, Church, and Community (Charisma House, 2009)

“It is clear that the new covenant God established with Israel and Judah includes knowing the Lord. All believers, from the least of us to the greatest, can have the blessing of knowing God through the Holy Spirit. This includes knowing and recognizing the voice of the Lord. When we use the term *prophecy*, we are simply referring to hearing the voice of the Lord and speaking His word to others.

In other words, every believer has the opportunity to operate in the prophetic realm. Every believer should expect to hear the voice of God. This is because each of us is a new covenant believer. The foundation of the new covenant is the basis for developing your prophetic life.

Every believer should expect to speak as the oracle of God. The key is to develop this ability intentionally. It will not happen automatically. Some believers have doubts about whether God will speak to them. Others can hear His word, but they struggle with speaking out on the behalf of God. All of us need more faith in order to flow in prophecy. Each of us must believe what the Word of God says and then act on it. It is true: God wants every single person to be a prophet.” John Eckhardt

[Eckhardt also shares in his book “prophetic exercises” to develop believers. They include “warm-up” activation where a team leader selects a minister who will prophesy to the circle member directly to

his left or right. The circle member who received the prophesy then turns to the circle member on his/her other side and prophesies to them. Other “exercises” include everyone in the prophetic circle taking a turn prophesying to a single circle member. These exercises “jump start” people in the prophetic circle into “flowing with the spirit of prophecy” and “will also demonstrate the flow of a prophetic presbytery.” Eckhardt shared many other prophetic exercises, including Switch/change, See a picture, Write what you hear, Group prophecy, The blind prophet, Sing a prophecy, Give a word of knowledge, Impart your gift, Popcorn, and Prophecy Scripture verses.]

Prayers That Break Curses: Prayers for Breaking Demonic Influences so You Can Walk in God’s Promises (Charisma House, 2009)

“Many of the curses that can affect a person’s life come as a result of one of the most wicked and vile spirits in the kingdom of darkness—the spirit of *Belial*.

He is a *ruling* spirit of *wickedness*. There is a host of demons that operate under his command, cursing the lives of people, which we will discuss in this book ... *Belial’s work* is to curse men and women, causing them to commit sins that are vile and contemptible. All sin is wrong, and I don’t make any excuses or allowance for any sin. However, there are some sins more abominable than others. That is, there are different *degrees* of sin.

Under the Law, there were some sins that were considered

‘abominations’ and punishable by death, while other sins required certain sacrifices. Belial’s work is to draw a national into such abominable sins that it will bring the curse and the judgment of God.

When I observe the practices and sins that are happening in our national today, I know that the spirit of Belial is behind them. Belial is a strongman in America as well as other nations of the world. Belial is a world ruler of wickedness. Jesus taught us the necessity of binding the strongman in order to spoil his goods (Matt. 12:29). The prayers in this book are meant to do just that—as you pray, Belial, the world ruler of wickedness, will be bound, and his demonic hold on you and on your family and community will be broken.” John Eckhardt

Prayers That Bring Change: Power-Filled Prayers that Give Hope, Health Relationships, Bring Financial Freedom and More! (Charisma house, 2009, written with Kimberly Daniels – Overseer of Spoken Word Ministries)

“Use the authority God has given you to move to the next level in your prayer life with this collection of proclamation prayers by best-selling author Kimberly Daniels. More than just a book on how to pray, *Prayers That Bring Change* is filled with actual prayers based on biblical principles that will help you live victoriously in every situation you face. Learn to break the powers of darkness and release the blessings and favor of God in your life.” Publisher Description

Prayers That Rout Demons and Break Curses (Charisma House, 2010)

“This bonded leather compendium combines the two best-selling books by John Eckhardt in the Spiritual Prayers series, *Prayers That Rout Demons* and *Prayers That Break Curses*. This is a powerful, handy reference tool that enables the reader to access Scripture-based prayers and decrees to overcome demonic influence and opposition. This book includes warfare prayers for every circumstance, including avoiding Satan’s attack in the areas of finances, pride, rebellion, relationships, healing, and demonic bondages. With the resources in this book, readers will break the powers of darkness and release the blessings and favor of God in their lives.” Publisher Description

Prayers That Bring Healing: Overcome Sickness, Pain, and Disease. God’s Healing is for You! (Charisma House, 2010)

“Too often God’s people do not receive miracles and healing because they do not place a demand on the anointing. They don’t push forward because they don’t expect that something miraculous will happen.

Sometimes believers let themselves get discouraged. Let me tell you this: Don’t let the devil talk you out of your healing. Put your mind on God. You have to press through discouragement and frustration so that you don’t miss your miracle. Don’t let anyone stop you ... Healing is available to *all* during the kingdom age ...

God does not put sickness on *His* people. Jesus died so that we might be healed ... we can expect to live in health and to be healed of all our diseases because of what Jesus did on the cross ... This is the kingdom age where you don't have to be sick, broke, or run over by the devil. That is GOOD NEWS! You don't have to be sick, broke, poor, or confused any longer. Sickness and disease are works of the devil, and Jesus came and 'disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them' (Col. 2:15). Healing comes with the territory. When you are in Christ, you can expect to be healed ... not only should you expect to be healed, but you should also know that you are to pass that healing on to all those around you. That is true kingdom living." John Eckhardt

Ordinary People, Extraordinary Power: Be Activated to Heal, Deliver, Prophecy, Preach, and Demonstrate God's Kingdom (Charisma House, 2010)

"There is no substitute for the apostle's ministry. We need apostles in each generation, just like we need evangelists, pastors, and teachers. When emerging apostles do not replace founding apostles, the church is in trouble. This cycle of deterioration has occurred in almost every movement and denomination. This is because of a lack of understanding concerning apostolic ministry.

I believe that God always provides the gifts that we need in order to fulfill our destinies. It is not the will of God that movements start

out with great power and momentum, only to shrivel up and die after one generation. The apostolic gift is the key to continuous advancement and momentum. There is always another generation of apostles that should be in position to replace the founding apostles.

When an organization or church becomes administrative at the expense of being apostolic, apostolic gifts are often choked out. This is because apostolic gifts tend to be too progressive, pioneering, and advancing for many organizations. Some would identify this as rebellion, but usually it is a desire to keep the group moving forward and walking in present truth.

However, the church faces an unfortunate situation when administration takes over the apostolic, because the very gifts that churches need to advance are usually lost due to the organizational constraints placed upon them. This happened in the early church when bishops replaced apostles. The church became more ceremonial and traditional. The apostolic power and grace of the church in the Book of Acts was lost. The Reformation of the sixteenth century began to change this. The reformers, however, failed to restore the proper role of the apostle. Many Reformation churches kept the Episcopal (bishops) form of government. We are now seeing the restoration of apostles to their proper role in the church.” John Eckhardt

[Eckhardt gave the “school of the prophets” mentioned in 1 Samuel 19 and 2 Kings 2 and 4 as an example of how “Apostolic

churches should develop prophetic schools to train believers in the proper flow of prophecy and prophetic ministry.”]

Prayers that Release Heaven On Earth: Align Yourself with God and Bring His Peace, Joy and Revival to Your World (Charisma House, 2010)

“God has a marvelous plan for His church, a plan that will help release heaven on earth. The prophets predicted a time when salvation, righteousness, peace, joy, rejoicing, and redemption will come to Israel and the world. Jerusalem (Zion) will be restored and once again become the dwelling place of God. The heathen (nations) will come to the God of Israel and worship. It will be a time of the establishing of an everlasting covenant (new covenant). God’s plans are for a time when old things (former things) pass away and new things spring forth. There will be an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the release of living waters from Jerusalem, which will flow to the nations.

It is time for God’s people to get on board with God’s plan and to diligently pray—and work—to see the fulfillment of God’s plan for His church.” John Eckhardt

Prayers that Activate Blessings: Experience the Protection, Power & Favor of God for You & Your Loved Ones (Charisma House, 2011)

“God will not only save you and wash you, but He will also bless you, dress you up, put jewels on you, and beautify you. The grace and favor of God on your life will cause you to go into a place of

prosperity. God not only will save you but will also multiply you and bless you.

In this book we are going to talk about how to obtain the covenant blessing of God. We are going to learn confessions and prayers based on God's Word that will activate shalom over your life. Death and life are in the power of the tongue. We can choose blessing by choosing to live and speak correctly.

God is ready to release new favor, blessing, prosperity, protection, and peace over you. It is His desire to give you good things. Now get ready to receive them." John Eckhardt

Daily Declarations for Spiritual Warfare: Biblical Principles to Defeat the Devil (Charisma House, 2011, written in first person from God's perspective)

"Do you hate every false way that Satan uses to sidetrack people from the path of life onto the path of death? Do you want to see changes in your city, region, and nation? I have given you the power to represent My kingdom and to even change geographic regions. You are a king in My kingdom, and your word is filled with authority and power against the kingdoms of this evil world. Stand firm in the power I have given you. Don't suffer unnecessarily by failing to exercise your authority in Me." John Eckhardt

The Invisible King and His Kingdom: How to Understand, Operate In, and Advance God's Will for Healing, Deliverance, and Miracles (Charisma House, 2011)

“Jesus came to announce the year of the Lord’s favor, or the year of jubilee (Luke 4:18-19; Lev. 25:8-25). In the year of jubilee, land is restored, debts are canceled, and slaves are released. The kingdom is our *jubilee*. When you come into the kingdom, you enter into rest and receive *favor*. As a result of the kingdom, shame, ruin, confusion, sickness, death, poverty, bondage, oppression, sadness, defeat, humiliation, sin, iniquity, cursing, fear, lack, and barrenness would be banished ... As believers we are positioned with Him in His kingdom, and we have been instructed to spread the news of His kingdom wherever we go, that others may choose to be a part of His kingdom also.” John Eckhardt

Prayers that Move Mountains: Powerful Prayers that Bring Answers from Heaven (Charisma House, 2012)

“What mountain are you facing in this season of life? Unemployment? Financial problems? Difficult marriage? Illness? Foreclosure? Undeclared sin? Whatever it is, the power lies in you to speak to that mountain and say, ‘Be thou removed!’

The keys to deliverance, freedom, and the abundant life have been given back to us. Jesus came to return to us our authority in the earth so that we can exercise prayer and faith to bring God’s

will from the heavenly realms into the earthly realm, affecting our lives in the here and now.

The Bible says that you can decree and declare things with your mouth, and they will happen (Rom. 4:17). According to Joshua 1:8, you have the power to make your way prosperous, to mow down the mountains in your way. By meditating and obeying the Word of God, you put yourself in a place of life and blessings. Choice is where your power lies. What you choose to speak and declare needs to coincide with how you live and what you meditate on.” John Eckhardt

Prayers that Release Heaven and Move Mountains (Charisma House, 2012)

“Leather-bound compendium contains material from John Eckhardt’s best-selling series.

This special edition combines message from *Prayers That Release Heaven on Earth* and *Prayers That Move Mountains*.

Prayers That Release Heaven on Earth is a handbook for advancing the kingdom of God here and now. Combining powerful prayers with decrees taken from Scripture, it helps you understand God's plan and keeps your heart and mind focused on Him.

Prayers That Move Mountains is filled with prayers of submission, repentance, confession, obedience, praise, and worship. Based on 2 Chronicles 7:14–15.” Publisher Description

Women's Daily Declarations for Spiritual Warfare: Biblical Principles to Defeat the Devil (Charisma House, 2013 ... Written to women in first person from God)

“Have you become disillusioned and discouraged because of the wickedness and corruption that exist all around you in this sinful world? Don't you know that I want to give you the keys to My kingdom in heaven? Not even hell itself will be able to prevail against My kingdom. With the keys to My kingdom, I have given you authority to bind and loose. You will be able to restrict, stop, hinder, fetter, check, hold back, arrest, and put a stop to the demonic strongholds in your world. You can use the keys of My kingdom to lock up sickness and disease, hurt, witchcraft, poverty, death, destruction, confusion, defeat, and discouragement in your life. By doing that you will loose yourself—and others—from the works of darkness, the works of Satan. Always remember that I have given My daughters—you—power and authority over all devils.” John Eckhardt

Deliverance and Spiritual Warfare Manual: A Comprehensive Guide to Living Free (Charisma House, 2014)

“You can have a good life. This book will give you the tools and weapons you need to command good days in your life to be at peace and full of blessing and prosperity. You will be fortified and empowered to speak blessing and prosperity over your neighbors, your troubled family members, and your coworkers. You will then

not only have peace in your life, but you will also become a peacemaker.

Prosperous people are peaceful people. They are blessed. They have more than enough. They love and see good days. They are citizens of the heavenly kingdom of God because they have been redeemed from the curses of sin and death.

The Lord has also commanded peace and rest toward you. He has established the victory for you over all the powers of the enemy. Demons are enemies. They are enemies of peace, joy, health, and prosperity. Deliverance will give you rest, and spiritual warfare will give you the training, strategies, and endurance so that you can continue to live abundantly under the covenant blessings of God.” John Eckhardt

God’s Covenant with You for Deliverance and Freedom: Come Into Agreement With Him and Unlock His Power (Charisma House, 2014)

“Deliverance out of trouble is a form of God’s mercy being enacted because of covenant. If it wasn’t for the mercy of God, every covenant violation that we commit today would cause us to be destroyed. Our actions outside of God’s plans for our lives put us in violation of the covenant and opens us up to all kinds of evil and torment from the enemy.

The covenant provides certain benefits, including protection and deliverance. People living outside the covenant do not have these benefits and therefore are susceptible to the work of the enemy.

Sin is an open door for demons, and those who do not enjoy the benefits of redemption and forgiveness are more susceptible to demonic intrusion into their lives. Those who walk in covenant enjoy the blessing of forgiveness from sin, and the operation of demons is limited and hindered.” John Eckhardt

God’s Covenant With You for Life and Favor: Come Into Agreement with Him and Unlock His Power (Charisma House, 2015)

“The gospel is that Jesus Christ came and died so that you could experience the shalom of God. The chastisement—the price—of our peace was upon Him. He was beaten and crucified so that we could have peace. All who believe and come under the rule of the Messiah can have peace.

You can have prosperity and live in safety, and all the evil beasts will be driven from your life. You will not be tormented by devils. You will have the blessing of God. It’s the guarantee of His covenant of peace. It belongs to the saints of God. So no matter how bad the news gets, don’t let the devil take your peace and your shalom away from you.” John Eckhardt

Prophet, Arise: Your Call to Boldly Speak the Word of the Lord (Charisma House, 2015)

“At the end of November and the beginning of December 2014 the Lord began to stir my heart to release His word of encouragement and confirmation to the many prophets who have been silenced

and shut down in their local churches. So during this time on my Facebook page I began posting statuses on prophets day after day. What I began writing was not planned. It was not something written down ahead of time. It just began to flow from my heart. As a result, I have received thousands of likes and comments from people around the world saying how they have been touched. Some have received healing and release as they read the statuses. The Lord told me to keep pouring out the oil as long as there were vessels receiving, so I will continue until it stops.” John Eckhardt

Unshakeable: Dismantling Satan’s Plan to Destroy Your Foundation
(2015)

“The majority of double-minded people manage to function in life and have some successes, yet they still have the characteristics of a spirit of schizophrenia. This causes them to be constantly unstable in every area, never having any peace about who they are or what they can or have to accomplish. They may not always go to a place of insanity that the world describes as schizophrenia.

This revelation of double-mindedness and schizophrenia came to the forefront through the ministry of Frank and Ida Mae Hammond, pioneers in the area of deliverance and authors of the classic book on deliverance *Pigs in the Parlor*. I had the honor of ministering with Frank Hammond and found him to be a humble and gracious servant of the Lord. Before Frank passed away, I

asked him to lay hands on me and impart. I believe I received an impartation, and a passion to teach on this subject and see people set free.” John Eckhardt

“We all know people who sometimes act in polar opposites: the minister who is godly, prayerful, and holy at times, yet has periods of sin and perversion; the person who is outgoing and cheerful, yet falls into bouts of withdrawal and depression; or the person who is gentle and kind, yet has periods of outburst and rage. ***Unshakeable*** is a teaching unlike any other from best-selling author John Eckhardt on breaking the most binding, demonic force: double-mindedness. Through this powerful book you will develop a firm, Christlike identity that will not be easily shaken by this world. You will learn how to overcome the manifestations of double-mindedness that result in:

- Broken marriages and divorce
- Indecision and passivity
- Bitterness and anger
- Hurt and offense
- Fear and rejection
- Spiritually rooted sickness and disease
- And much more!” Publisher Description

The Deliverance Topical Bible (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2015)

“There are numerous scriptures on deliverance. The large number shows us the importance deliverance is given in the Word of God. This Topical Bible is a handy reference tool for those who desire to meditate and familiarize themselves with the subject of deliverance.” John Eckhardt

The Prosperity Topical Bible (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2016)

“Prosperity is an important subject to study because it is God’s will that his children prosper ... The key scripture for The Prosperity Topical Bible is Psalms 35:27 – ‘Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the **prosperity** of his servant. God takes pleasure in the prosperity of his servants.” John Eckhardt

Fasting for Breakthrough and Deliverance (Charisma House, 2016)

“You’ve commanded, rebuked, prayed prayers, done warfare, and shouted, but there’s more that needs to be broken off your life. It’s time to add some fasting to your warfare strategy. There is no other way around some demonic strongholds. No shortcuts. You have to fast and humble yourself until that thing breaks and leaves your life.

Demons are different in terms of their wickedness. There are demons that are stronger, more wicked, unclean, and stubborn, and higher in rank, ability, and intelligence. The longer a demon has been in your family or in your life, the harder it is to remove because its roots go very deep. Demons such as rebellion, pride, witchcraft, Jezebel, poverty, and lack may only come out with a high level of faith ... When you fast the anointing increases in your life because you are so into the Spirit. The authority of God, power of God, and faith of God comes alive when you lay aside some things and fast. You will find yourself getting stronger and stronger. Shouting doesn't do it. It is the anointing that does it.”
John Eckhardt

The NAR at the Beginning of the 21st Century

Peter Wagner claimed at the Arise Prophetic Conference in San Jose, California in 2004 that, “The second apostolic age began in the year 2001.” Wagner said that was the year God restored the lost offices of prophet and apostle to the Church –

“I hope it’s convincingly, that 2001 marks, is the year that marks the second apostolic age, which means for years the government of the church had not been in place since about, you know, the first century or so. It doesn’t mean weren’t apostles and prophets, because the government of the ... the foundation of the church according to Ephesians 2:20 is apostles and prophets, Jesus being the chief cornerstone. It doesn’t mean there weren’t apostles and prophets, it means the body of Christ hadn’t recognized them and released them for the office that they had so that they’d function as apostles and prophets in the foundation of the church. But we now have that, I believe we’ve reached our critical mass in the year 2001. Now I’m concentrating on apostles in this teaching, not so much prophets, you’ve got a couple more prophets coming on the scene here. But here’s the thing. If God gave apostles to the church, which He definitely did, ok, and I don’t have to convince anyone at Gateway that He gave apostles to the church, but here is my point. If He gave them to the church as the government of the church, He must have given them both to the nuclear church and to the extended church. Now, the thing

is, I've written five books on apostles already, and all my books, with the exception of a mention, maybe a paragraph, the substance of every one of my books has been on apostles in the nuclear church. I haven't written a book on apostles in the extended church. So, this is new. I know Rich Marshall, he's from here in San Jose, he's now writing a book on the marks of a workplace apostle, it hasn't been published yet. And so, we'll find out what these characteristics of workplace apostles are very soon, but all I'm saying is the first step toward finding out is to know that they're there. See, because that church, the government of that church, needs to be set in place. And the problem is that like a lot of you, you know, all you have to do is join a church and within the first six weeks you find out that where you are in the workplace you're salt and light, see? You all know you're salt and light. Everybody knows they're salt and light, that's a common thing. But I tell you what, some of you have been out in the workplace, you know you're salt and light, you don't have to be persuaded you are, but you've been out in the workplace for fifteen years and everything's just the same. Nothing's changed. But you're salt and light. Why hasn't anything changed? I tell you why, it's not because you're not legitimate servants of God, but it's because you're out in the workplace different from where you are on Sunday and Sunday is very important, whether you belong to Gateway, whether you belong to a Presbyterian church, whether you belong to Jubilee, on Sunday, when the church is gathered it's very important that

you belong to... who's your pastor, who takes care of your small groups and all, that's very important. But I tell you what, once everybody in all the church gets out into the workplace together, how important is it? What church do you go to on Sunday? It's not very important at all. What's important is that you're the people of God out there, you're representing the kingdom of God, and you know this, but nothing has happened because the government of the church has not come into place. See, the problem is, is that Satan has had too much of his way in our society because he has a government! And the only way to overthrow a government is with a government. It won't happen otherwise. So therefore the government of the church has to get into place in the extended church just like we do have it very well in place, we haven't reached our goal yet, but it's very well established in the nuclear church." Transcript of C. Peter Wagner, Arise Prophetic Conference, Gateway Church, San Jose, CA, 10-10-2004 (Transcript by Sandy Simpson)

[Wagner mentioned that Rich Marshall was writing about "workplace apostles." Marshall published *God@Work: Discovering the Anointing for Business* in 2005. He wrote about a new breed of ministers emerging in the world marketplace who are "called of God to make money—a lot of it." That concept is part of what Wagner calls the Seven Mountain Mandate that we'll look at later in this series.]

We saw that Peter Wagner emphasized apostles, prophets, signs and wonders, warfare prayer, prayer shields, breaking strongholds, confronting the power, territorial spirits, spiritual mapping, third wave and healthy church during the end of the 20th century, prior to the official start of the “second apostolic age.” Based on Wagner’s own emphasis of 2001 as the year when God ushered in the new age of apostles, of which Wagner was a primary apostolic leader, what would Wagner emphasize at the beginning of the 21st century? If Wagner is truly an “apostle” of God, given the definition of what he says an apostle is today, what Wagner has revealed in his writings and speeches is direction every Christian should receive and act.

Here are some of the books Wagner wrote between 2001 and 2015, along with introductory quotes and descriptions from each book. After looking at Wagner’s emphasis in this new century, we’ll see what it means to this and future generations.

Spheres of Authority: Apostles in Today’s Church (Wagner Publications, 2002)

“God is pouring the new wine of revelation, power, and authority into the 21st century church; and with it He has given the church a new wineskin prepared especially for such a time as this. This wineskin, known as the New Apostolic Reformation, is the most radical change in the way of doing church since the Protestant Reformation five centuries ago. The central focus of this Reformation is the resurgence of apostles in the church. In this

book, C. Peter Wagner, a widely recognized authority on church leadership and himself an apostle, takes a revealing look at the subject of apostles that is sure to satisfy many questions of both layperson and scholar alike including:

- What is the definition of an "apostle"?
- What are the characteristics of a real apostle?
- Isn't it prideful to call oneself an apostle?
- What does an apostle do?
- What is appropriate apostolic authority?
- What are the different spheres of authority an apostle may have?
- What role do apostles have in transforming cities and territories?

Using biblically sound theology, historical anecdotes, and personal experience, Wagner brings a new level of clarity to a subject that is easily misunderstood. This book is an important tool in both understanding and entering into the new wineskin God has given the church." Publisher Description

Radical Holiness for Radical Living (Wagner Publications, 2002)

"Can anyone really live a holy life?

Is there a test of holiness?

Can I be holy enough?

What are the non-negotiable principles for radical holiness?

How much holiness should be required of a leader?

Do you want to be everything God created you to be?

Radical Holiness For Radical Living will answers these questions as well as open the way for you to move to new levels in your Christian life. You can defeat Satan's schemes and enjoy daily victory in your walk with God.”

Humility (Chosen Books, 2002)

“If the summation of the gospel is to love God with all our hearts and our neighbor as ourselves, then the essence of how we fulfill that commandment is found in clothing ourselves in an attitude of humility. First we walk humbly with God; then we practice humility toward our fellow human beings. Becoming a humble person is God's will for every believer, but it is every individual's choice. If we do not choose to walk humbly but instead choose to exalt ourselves, God will humble us in a way that we would never have chosen. This character quality is so dear to God's heart that it is the key to walking closely with Him and finishing life well.”

Out of Africa: How the Spiritual Explosion Among Nigerians Is Impacting the World (Chosen Books, 2003)

“I began to suspect that something extraordinary was going on in Nigeria in the early 1990s when I was invited by Pastor William

Kumuyi to train leaders in a pastors' conference that he would convene. I was stunned when I saw the crowd of 13,000 pastors and leaders who had registered for the conference. In fact, Kumuyi had constructed a building to hold that many people just for the conference ... Kumuyi invited me to speak to his Deeper Life Bible Church headquarters congregation on Sunday. The Sunday attendance at that time was 74,000 adults, with 40,000 children in the building across the street. The last I heard, that local church has 150,000 members. Kumuyi has planted more than 5,000 Deeper Life Bible Churches across Nigeria and has sent church-planting missionaries to start Deeper Life movements in virtually every other African nation, as well as many nations outside of Africa.

Then years later I revisited Nigeria. This time, with the help of my fellow apostle Joseph Thompson, coeditor of this book, I convened a Nigerian Apostolic Summit under the auspices of the International Coalition of Apostles. Meeting with those Nigerian apostles was a remarkable experience. Four of the five most prominent Nigerian apostles attended (William Kumuyi could not make it), as well as many others ... These four apostles seated together in that room constituted the most powerful coalition of anointed Christian leadership in one place that I had ever seen."

Peter Wagner

“Nigeria, once a hopelessly beleaguered society, has risen from the ashes and is a spiritually revived nation. One of the main contributors to this book states: ‘It is safe to say that the Church and effectual prayers have kept our nation from complete anarchy and genocide. The impact of Christianity is evident wherever you go. If you look a little deeper, listen a little closer, you will see and hear the myriad changes that are subtly transforming our nation into a nation that truly fears the Lord.’ The miraculous is evident in the church of Nigeria. *Out of Africa* offers the testimony of numerous Nigerian pastors who are making a difference for God all over the world. Learn from churches who are experiencing a radical move of God.” Publisher Description

Changing Church: How God Is Leading His Church Into the Future
(Regal Books, 2004)

“Some may wonder why God might have chosen the historical sequence of intercessors first, prophets second and apostles third. This can be explained by highlighting the principal function of each of the three offices. The task of intercessors, for example, is to stand in the gap between the visible world and the invisible world. God gives them a supernatural ability to clear the pathway between heaven and Earth. When they succeed in removing the roadblocks that the enemy has erected, God’s voice can be heard much more clearly by those of us on Earth. The members of the Body of Christ most gifted to hear the voice of the Lord are the

prophets. Let me repeat: ‘Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets’ (Amos 3:7). The prophets clearly hear the voice of God. However, prophets typically are not gifted to know how to *apply* it to a given concrete situation. Implementing the will of God, generally speaking, is the task of apostles, those who are specially equipped to set things in order (see Titus 1:5). Once all of this came into place in 2001, I began to feel comfortable using the label ‘Second Apostolic Age.’ Peter Wagner

“For church leaders, prayer warriors, and Christians who want to see the bigger picture of what God is doing in the world right now, this follow-up to "Churchquake!" overlooks denominational barriers, asking one and all to join together for the ultimate fulfillment of God's purposes.”

The Book of Acts: A Commentary (Chosen Books, 2008)

“My experience in power ministries comes through the framework of what has been called the Third Wave. This refers to the third wave of the power of the Holy Spirit experienced through the Body of Christ in the twentieth century—the first being Pentecostal movement starting at the beginning of the century, and the second, the charismatic movement back to 1960. The Third Wave does not replace the other two but flows into the same stream of Holy Spirit renewal.” Peter Wagner

“Experience Pentecost. Look on as 130 converts shake a city. Meet Paul. Go with him as he plants the first Gentile church. Extend the kingdom's power and see the enemy upset. Walk with Paul as he travels to Corinth, Antioch, Ephesus and beyond. For those desiring to be a part of God's action in their churches, their communities and throughout the world, there is nothing that will help more than thoroughly understanding the book of Acts and applying what we can learn from it. Acts was designed to be God's training manual for Christians. It worked in the early church, and it works in the postmodern world. The reader's study of Acts in *The Book of Acts* will bring new intimacy with the Spirit and new joy in doing His will.” Publisher Description

Freedom from the Religious Spirit: Understanding How Deceptive Religious Forces Try To Destroy God's Plan and Purpose For His Church (Chosen Books, 2005)

“It is good to start out with a working definition, so I'll suggest one. As I have studied this for some time now, I have come to the conclusion that *the spirit of religion is an agent of Satan assigned to prevent change and to maintain the status quo by using religious devices* ... Knowing what we already know about the invisible world of darkness from what we read in Scripture, we can safely surmise certain things. For example, there certainly must be *many* spirits of religion, not just one. Consequently, our term ‘the spirit of religion’ should be understood as a generic term,

embracing however many of these demons there might actually be ... because in my personal area of ministry I deal constantly with hearing what the Spirit is saying to the churches collectively about new times and seasons, this corporate manifestation is the one I have been faced with the most. This is the only chapter in this book that specifically addresses the issue of the corporate spirit of religion. Understanding the corporate spirit of religion is extremely important because we now live in the Second Apostolic Age (which I date as beginning in 2001) and we are currently witnessing the most radical change in the way of doing church since the Protestant Reformation. This is why I like to call what we are seeing the New Apostolic Reformation.” Peter Wagner

“Composed of archaic traditions and obsolete practices, and masterminded by the enemy of our souls, the spirit of religion seeks to keep individual believers and the corporate church stagnant and unaware of the call of the Holy Spirit for change. We witnessed the spirit of religion when the Pharisees failed to recognize the coming of the Christ. Today, the spirit of religion can be so subtle that we are unaware of its impact, instead being deceived into believing that God is directing us. Only when we recognize the hold that this counterfeit religion has over Christianity can we be freed to experience the transformation of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the heart of the church. Join C.

Peter Wagner and other dynamic Christian leaders as they unveil the dark influence of the spirit of religion.” Publishers Description

The Church in the Workplace: How God’s People Can Transform Society (Regal, 2006)

“There are many important things that the Holy Spirit *said* (past tense) to the churches, starting with the Bible itself. At the same time, I believe just as strongly that the Holy Spirit did not stop speaking after the Bible was written and the canon of Scripture was established. The Spirit continues to speak, and God’s people need to listen attentively. Parents need to know what the Spirit is saying to their families; teachers need to know what the Spirit is saying to their pupils; corporate executives need to know what the Spirit is saying to their companies; pastors need to know what the Spirit is saying to their church; believers on the city council need to know what the Spirit is saying to their community, and so on.

Contrary to what some people might think, however, it is not the responsibility of all believers, nor even of church pastors, to hear directly what the Spirit is saying to the *churches* (plural). Apostles are the ones who have been given the primary responsibility of hearing what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Those who provide apostolic leadership to a number of churches need to hear what the Spirit is saying to those churches under their apostolic covering. Likewise, those who have more of a horizontal

jurisdiction need to hear what the Spirit is saying on an even broader basis.

True to my personal apostolic calling over the years, I have found myself developing the boldness (I hope it's not arrogance) to say that I am quite sure I am hearing a major global word from the Spirit. I imagine that I would not be as bold if I were the only one hearing this, but fortunately I am not the only one. Numbers of other leaders who also hear from God are now saying the same or similar things, providing further confirmation. What is this word from the Spirit? 'Social transformation!'" Peter Wagner

[Wagner used a graphic in his book to demonstrate Social Transformation sitting on two pillars – The Church In The Workplace and The Transfer of Wealth. Workplace Apostles are shown working between the two pillars. Under the pillar of The Church In The Workplace is The Government of the Church. Under the pillar of The Transfer of Wealth is Breaking the Spirit of Poverty. Both pillars stand in the center of an area described as "The Land."]

"Social transformation is standing on two pillars: the church in the workplace and the transfer of wealth. Without both of them, we will not see our cities transformed. The pillar of the church in the workplace arises from the foundation of the biblical government of the church, and the pillar of the transfer of wealth arises from the foundation of breaking the spirit of poverty. Finally, the ongoing, dynamic linkage between the two pillars is provided by workplace apostles." Peter Wagner

“If Christians are in the workplace, then so is the church. In *The Church In The Workplace*, C. Peter Wagner explores how the role of the church in the work life of believers is just as much a ministry, a service to God and even worship, as what believers do on Sunday in their local churches. A further indispensable step toward activating faith at work is to understand clearly how the extended church operates through the nuclear church and how bridges can be built to join the two. Wagner does just this as he looks at the biblical perspective on work, the Holy Spirit's call to the church to bring about social transformation and worldwide examples of the role the church has already played in the workplace.” Publisher Description

Warfare Prayer: What the Bible Says about Spiritual Warfare (Destiny Image, 2009)

“I first wrote *Warfare Prayer* in the beginning of the 1990s when the Holy Spirit began speaking strongly to the churches about strategic-level spiritual warfare. This book, along with Cindy Jacobs' *Possessing the Gates of the Enemy*, was widely circulated among the churches representing what I like to call 'Charismatically-inclined evangelicals.' These two books helped initiate a widespread paradigm shift. Instead of just praying for individual souls to be saved, prophetic intercessors also began wrestling with principalities and powers as Paul describes in Ephesians 6.

Through prayer initiatives such as the AD 2000 United Prayer Track, an army of God began to be raised up internationally to combat the enemy on high levels, with notable changes in the spiritual atmosphere in many places.

As I see the world picture unfolding, the year 1990 marked the beginning of a strong upsurge of interest across denominational lines in spiritual warfare, particularly what I like to call strategic-level spiritual warfare.

When all is said and done, there are probably many, many different discernable levels of spiritual warfare. At this point I will suggest three generalized levels for which there is a fairly broad consensus among Christian leaders who are specializing in this type of ministry. I realize that each one of the three will allow for several subdivisions, and that there will be considerable overlapping around the rather fine lines that separate them. But I have found it helpful to distinguish the following:

1. Ground-Level Spiritual Warfare
2. Occult-Level Spiritual Warfare
3. Strategic-Level Warfare”

Peter Wagner

“Warfare Prayer provides a toolbox and an operator s manual for those who take seriously the Apostle Paul s statement that we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers. The demonic world around us is a reality, but all too few

believers understand that realm of darkness to say nothing of having the skills to use effectively the weapons of warfare that God has given us. Based on a combination of sound biblical theology and real life experiences, this book is a user-friendly guide for those committed enough to join the army of God.”

Publisher Description

Praying with Power (Destiny Image, 2008)

“Christian people are praying and talking about prayer more than at any time in memory. Pastors are elevating prayer toward the top of their agendas for the local church. Seminaries and Bible schools are teaching courses about prayer that they have never taught before. Denominations and mission agencies are adding prayer leaders to their top-level staffs. New independent prayer ministries are multiplying on every continent. This is the time for you to be informed, and for you to become involved.” Peter Wagner

“The groundbreaking Prayer Warrior Series culminates with C. Peter Wagner’s most personal insights yet into the dynamics of prayer and spiritual warfare. Dr. Wagner reveals his personal approach to prayer as he provides you with practical steps for deepening and strengthening your own prayer life. *Praying with Power* will encourage you as it leads you into intimate personal, life-changing communication with your Father, the almighty God. Dr. Wagner answers personal, practical questions about prayer

including: How can I make my prayers more effective? How can I hear God better? How can I pray for my community? How do I network with like-minded prayer warriors? As a missionary for almost 20 years in Bolivia, Dr. Wagner's interesting insights about witchcraft, two-way prayer, and corporate prayer introduce concepts you may not have previously considered. Also provided are steps for establishing a prayer ministry in your church or small group, and how to use prayer to heal past wounds. Discover today that Praying with Power brings you closer to God.”

Publisher Description

Dominion!: How Kingdom Action Can Change the World (Chosen Books, 2008)

“In a word, we are now in the Second Apostolic Age. We have been here, to the best of my calculation, since around 2001. For the first time this side of the initial few centuries of the Church, a critical mass of the Body of Christ once again recognizes the contemporary gifts and offices of apostle and prophet. Growing numbers of people have come to take literally Ephesians 2:20, which says that the foundation of the Church is apostles and prophets, with Jesus the chief cornerstone.

David Barrett, one of our most respected researchers and author of the massive *World Christian Encyclopedia*, has divided world Christianity into five ‘megablocks.’ The largest is Roman Catholicism, with over one billion members. However, of the four non-Catholic megablocks, the New Apostolic Reformation (which

Barrett calls Neo-Apostolic, Independent or Postdenominational) is the largest, with over 432 million adherents, compared to small numbers for the Protestant/Evangelical, Orthodox and Anglican megablocks. These Neo-Apostolics comprised only 3 percent of non-Catholic Christianity in 1900, but they are projected to include almost 50 percent by 2025.

Not only is the New Apostolic Reformation the largest of the four non-Catholic megablocks, but significantly, it is the only one of all five megablocks that is growing faster than Islam. It is important to recognize that we are not talking about something on the fringes, but about a dynamic movement at the very heart of 21st-century Christianity.

We can trace the roots of the New Apostolic Reformation back as far as 1900, when the African Independent Church Movement was first launched. The Chinese House Church Movement beginning around 1975 and the Latin American Grassroots Church Movement emerging around 1980 were also parts of the same spiritual phenomenon on different continents. In the United States, the independent charismatic churches, dating back to around 1970, were the most immediate precursors of what is now called the New Apostolic Reformation.”

“A significant acceleration of the historical process leading to the Second Apostolic Age began in the decade of the 1970s. This is when the great prayer movement started. Virtually every notable prayer movement on today’s scene originated this side of 1970.

For the first time, the Body of Christ began recognizing the gift and office of intercessor. Today one can go into churches virtually across the denominational spectrum and be introduced to so-and-so with the words, 'She is one of our intercessors.' In the 1970s and before, this would have been extremely rare, although 'prayer warriors' were sometimes acknowledged. But now the newer trend of recognizing and activating intercessors in our churches and ministries continues to grow.

The Body of Christ began to affirm the gift and office of prophet in the decade of the 1980s. By stating this, I do not mean to imply that there were no prophets before 1980. I believe the Church has always had prophets. However, previous to the 1980s most prophets of God were restricted in their ministry by the widespread notion among many believers that the office of prophet had ceased after the first century or so. Now, however, a growing critical mass of the Church recognizes and affirms the office of prophet.

The decade of the 1990s saw a beginning recognition of the gift and office of apostle in today's Church. True, many Christian leaders do not as yet believe that we now have legitimate apostles on the level of Peter or Paul or John, but a critical mass of the Church agrees that apostles are actually here. For example, at this writing the International Coalition of Apostles (ICA), over which I currently preside, includes over five hundred

members who mutually recognize and affirm each other as legitimate apostles.” Peter Wagner

“Jesus has mandated his church to actively engage in transforming society on earth--"Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven." But when societal issues and problems loom large, it can seem an impossible task. Offering solid teachings on apostles and prophets, spiritual warfare, the church in the workplace, and much more, C. Peter Wagner shows readers just how kingdom action can change the world. With a sense of mission and urgency, Wagner explores the biblical roots of dominion theology, the views of great Christian thinkers through the ages, the ways Christians are working it out in their lives and on the job, and what each part can do when brought together through the operational power of the Holy Spirit.

From the Inside Flap

For many years the Church has endeavored to make Kingdom inroads into the world's structure, but transformation has been minimal. This is about to change. The "greater works" Jesus promised His followers are actually coming into view. In tandem with this growing awareness, voices of church leaders are rising with a clear mandate: Social transformation is the current overriding objective for the people of God. Never before has there been such an opportunity. It is time for the Church to rise up and take Kingdom action. Join the pioneers of a new reformation--and change your world.” Publisher Description

Wrestling with Alligators, Prophets, and Theologians: Lessons from a Lifetime in the Church – A Memoir (Chosen Books, 2011)

“For the past half-century, C. Peter Wagner has been at the leading edge of the key spiritual paradigm shifts that have been accompanied by major moves of the Holy Spirit. In the 1960s the missionary movement in South America was at its peak--and Dr. Wagner was there. In the 1970s he was a recognized authority in the church-growth movement. In the 1980s he taught a popular course at Fuller Seminary with Vineyard movement leader John Wimber that advocated praying healing for the sick, spiritual mapping, identificational repentance and spiritual warfare. Dr. Wagner coined the phrase *Third Wave* to describe this fresh move of the Holy Spirit--the impact of which is still being felt today. In the 1990s he became a leader of the New Apostolic Reformation, and in the new millennium he has championed the Dominion Mandate, adopting the Seven Mountain (or 7M) template for reclaiming the culture for God's kingdom. For five decades, Dr. Wagner has led the church from one great move of God to the next, riding the wave of the Spirit through changes he never imagined when he first answered God's call to ministry. In *Wrestling with Alligators, Prophets, and Theologians*, Wagner tells, for the first time, his personal story of ongoing transformation. Readers will get a close-up view of the seismic shifts in the church's recent history, through the eyes of one of the only people to have seen it all unfold.”

Spiritual Warfare Strategy: Confronting Spiritual Powers (Destiny Image, 2011)

“Never since Pentecost itself has history recorded a level of prayer on six of the continents comparable to what is happening today. The Bible tells us that somewhere in Heaven golden bowls are being filled with “...*incense, which are the prayers of the saints*” (Rev. 5:8). Exactly when the bowls will be full to overflowing no one knows. But one thing is certain: The incense level in the bowls has never been higher and rising faster than it is today!

Many think the burgeoning prayer movement is a sign that the great revival for which generations of Christians have been hoping and praying is just around the corner. Four of my good friends have written key books on the subject. Bill Bright stressed the role that fasting plays in his *The Coming Revival* (New Life Publications). Robert Coleman’s book is *The Coming World Revival* (Crossway Books). Tom Phillips has published *Revival Signs: Join the New Spiritual Awakening* (Vision House), and David Bryant, chairman of the National Prayer Committee and convener of the Forum for National Revival, has documented trends as well as anyone in his *The Hope at Hand* (Baker Books). Bryant says,

‘God is stirring up His people to pray specifically, increasingly, and persistently for world revival.... If God is stirring up the church to pray with this distinctive focus and consensus, He will not let us

pray in vain. He has promised to hear and answer us fully. We can prepare for the answers with confidence.'

Thousands of churches have installed prayer rooms, tastefully furnished rooms that include a phone line or two and perhaps a fax machine or a computer for email. These rooms are occupied by intercessors 24 hours a day. Some are bringing in outside speakers for special prayer conferences. A few have added full-time or part-time staff members who have the title 'minister of prayer,' 'pastor of prayer,' or 'prayer coordinator.'

One of the varieties of prayer that has gained wide attention among Christian leaders around the world is called 'strategic-level intercession.' Every few of us, particularly in the United States and other nations of the Western world, had even so much as heard either this term or related ones such as *spiritual warfare*, *territorial spirits*, *prophetic acts*, *remitting the sins of nations*, *spiritual mapping*, *warfare prayer*, *tearing down strongholds*, or *identificational repentance* during our seminary or Bible school days. Many of these terms were coined in the 1990s. It is understandable, therefore, that such innovative concepts would require considerable processing, especially among those of more conservative temperaments. For some, the assimilation of new ideas requires more time than for others." Peter Wagner

"Discover how Jesus and the early Church overcame the enemy—and you can overcome too. We live in a day when the Holy Spirit is speaking strongly to the churches about

aggressively retaking the dominion over creation that Adam forfeited to satan. This level of spiritual warfare is a new ministry area to many Kingdom-minded believers. *Spiritual Warfare Strategy* provides a biblical and theological rationale as well as practical tools for advancing God's Kingdom. Dr. C. Peter Wagner examines the role spiritual warfare played in Christ's ministry and among His first followers and applies it to today's battle." Publisher Description

Apostles Today (Chosen Books, 2012)

"The Second Apostolic Age is a phenomenon of the twenty-first century. My studies indicate that it began around the year 2001. The First Apostolic Age lasted for another 200 years *after* the first of the New Testament apostles concluded their ministry. This is not to say that the church of Jesus Christ or the kingdom of God went into some kind of hibernation for 1,800 years—it most certainly did not. The true Church has been with us down through the ages, sometimes larger, sometimes smaller, sometimes stronger, sometimes weaker. In Matthew 16:18, Jesus said, 'I will build my church,' and He has been doing so for over 2,000 years through God's people on Earth as they preach the gospel, make disciples, and set captives free ... My term for the new wineskin that God has provided for these churches is the 'New Apostolic Reformation.' It is a 'reformation' because we are currently witnessing the most radical change in the way of 'doing church' since the Protestant Reformation. It is 'apostolic' because the

recognition of the gift and office of apostle is the most radical of a whole list of changes from the old wineskin. And it is 'new' to distinguish it from several older traditional church groups that have incorporated the term 'apostolic' into their official name."
Peter Wagner

"C. Peter Wagner Shows How You Can: Determine who is an 'apostles of the city' and how they are set in place. Examine the role of apostles in transforming cities and territories. Learn the three crucial concepts that will lay the proper groundwork for city transformation. See your city move beyond short-term success into the genuine transformation that God desires to bring!"
Publisher Description

The Chapter titles are important to note about modern apostleship –

The Apostles Have Surfaced!

What Apostles Do

Character Counts!

Spiritual Gifts and Apostolic Assignments

The Power of a Title

Apostolic Spheres

Where Do We All Fit?

Apostles in the Workplace

Apostles for Social Transformation

Conclusion: New Wine in New Wineskins

Appendix: What Is an Apostle?

Territorial Spirits: Practical Strategies for How to Crush the Enemy Through Spiritual Warfare (Destiny Image, 2012)

“All around the world, praying Christians are arriving at a consensus about the nature of the battle for the individual cities. For example, the prayer warriors of London believe that they are battling a spirit of unrighteous trade that has influenced the world through that great city for hundreds of years. The Bible usually identifies an evil spirit by its territory or by its prime characteristic, for example, ‘*The prince of the kingdom of Persia*’ (Dan. 10:13) or ‘*Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire...*’ (Rev. 20:14). We associate New York with mammon, Chicago with violence, Miami with political intrigue. Getting the exact name of demons at any level is not necessary, but it is important to be aware of the specific nature or type of oppression.” Peter Wagner

“The Battle Is Ours!

“Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world” (Eph. 6:12 NIV).

For generations when Christians have engaged in spiritual warfare, most of the time they have focused on “satan” as the main opponent. However, C. Peter Wagner has gathered together

a number of ministers who teach from personal experience that the “principalities and powers” are more than just satan—there is an entire hierarchy of demons in this world. Often, missionaries and ministers are finding that they have far more success in an area when they first go to war in the spirit and in prayer against the evil power that rules a certain region. C. Peter Wagner has compiled this book of many voices, speaking from Scripture and personal experience, teaching the reality of territorial spirits and the necessity of waging targeted, powerful warfare against them in order to reach the souls these evil powers have held captive for too long.

You will learn:

- There is an entire hierarchy of demons in this world, many with specific geographic territories.
- Once a territorial spirit’s power is broken, ministry in that area can be far more effective.
- How to go to war against evil spirits to break their power over the people of a region.

Christians must take to heart what the Bible teaches about spiritual warfare.

Arm yourself with this book!” Publisher’s description

On Earth As It Is in Heaven: Answer God's Call to Transform the World (Bethany House, 2012, Foreward to Dutch Sheets book)

“I now see that I severely underestimated the degree of opposition that had already developed in certain circles against what I call the dominion mandate. In fact, I am embarrassed to admit that a network of Christian apologists had been opposing what they called dominionism for some time; and when I wrote this book, I had not yet even heard the term nor read what they were writing. What were they saying? Let me just randomly choose from the Internet some of their descriptive phrases relating to dominionism: a ‘dangerous political movement,’ ‘religious extremeism,’ ‘a betrayal of the political and social mores of our society,’ ‘hate mongering,’ ‘bizarre ideas of a handful of Christian Right players,’ ‘aberration of true Christian theology,’ ‘heresy’ and ‘Christian imperialism,’ just for starters.

The more I have read and analyzed this material, the more convinced I have become that fear is one of the principal driving elements underlying the sincere opposition by some to dominionism. While there are many other specific objects of fear pinpointed in the literature, most all of them can be summarized in the fear that dominionism will lead to a theocracy. Oddly enough, I am as apprehensive of a theocracy as the critics of dominionsm are.” Peter Wagner

“There has been an intense and growing debate in recent years regarding "dominionism" and what it means for Christians' involvement in business, politics, education, entertainment and other realms of societal influence. Now Dr. Peter Wagner brings Spirit-inspired clarity to the conversation with this essential guide for believers who want to impact our world for God's kingdom. This invaluable study examines powerful strategies God has revealed to His people in recent days and answers persistent questions with clear, biblical wisdom: Is wealth a legitimate tool of the church? How do today's workplace apostles lead in spiritual battle? Does God allow His people to make some decisions about the future? How is dominion theology operational in our world today? This groundbreaking study lays a biblical, theological and inspirational foundation for the mandate God has given His people.”

This Changes Everything: How God Can Transform Your Mind and Change Your Life (Chosen Books, 2013)

“A "paradigm shift" is a radical change in your way of thinking--and C. Peter Wagner has undergone a number of them during his decades of ministry. Now he invites you to open your mind to the Holy Spirit's paradigm-shifting power. *This Changes Everything* is your essential guidebook for how God is transforming the world through people just like you. Discover new movements of God's Spirit that are turning the tide against the evil one, opening wide the doors of heaven to usher in God's reign on the earth. Find out

what these powerful new strategies mean for Christians' involvement in business, politics, education and entertainment, and learn how you can be a part of what God is doing in your sphere of influence. Find clear, biblical answers to questions such as:

- Is wealth a legitimate tool of the Church?
- How do today's workplace apostles lead in spiritual battle?
- Does God allow His people to make some decisions about the future?
- How is dominion theology operational in our world today?

God is calling you to a new way of life, starting with a new way of thinking. When your mind is renewed, you will never be the same!" Publisher Description

"This Changes Everything fearlessly tackles theologically profound and extremely important biblical subjects in a clear, lucid and practical way. C. Peter Wagner brilliantly distills the paradigm shifts that have transformed his life and a theology that has been the foundation for more than 50 years of fruitful ministry around the world. This is a must-read for those who want to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to His church today!"
Dr. Che Ahn, President and Founder, Harvest International Ministry, Senior Pastor, HRock Church, Pasadena, California

"C. Peter Wagner has been my friend for more than 30 years. Since I met him during the 1980s, I have seen him change the

emphasis of his ministry on occasion—changes he described as ‘God giving him a new assignment.’ Those who want to follow his growth in ministry over the years will understand these changes by the ‘new paradigms’ he explains in this book. Here you will find insight into Dr. Wagner’s heart.” Elmer L. Towns, Co-founder, Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia

Prayer Shield: How to Intercede for Pastors and Christian Leaders
(Chosen Books, 2014, Revised)

“During the 1970s, the Holy Spirit began to speak clearly to many Christian leaders about the need to cover in prayer those who were engaged in Christian ministry and related activities. This was the beginning of one of the most far-reaching changes in modern Christianity. Never before in living memory had prayer been such a high agenda item for apostles, pastors, Christian leaders, ministers in the workplace and other believers. As these leaders obeyed God’s call, the Church was brought to a new level of impact, from which we continue to benefit today ... One of the reasons I wanted to do this second edition of *Prayer Shield* is that my previous focus, and that of other authors of books on prayer, are largely on pastors. Since *Prayer Shield’s* initial publication, some seismic shifts have been moving the Church to new levels. For one thing, the New Apostolic Reformation is now being recognized as the most explosive segment of contemporary Christianity, especially in the Global South. The Second Apostolic Age began in 2001. One of the implications of this has been that

Ephesians 4:11 is taken more literally than it was in the past. This is where the apostle Paul says that Jesus ‘gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers.’ Yes, we need to continue interceding for pastors, but we also need to include apostles, prophets, evangelists and teachers at the same level. I knew virtually nothing about apostles and apostolic ministry when the first edition of *Prayer Shield* was released, but now I have a wealth of experience—in fact, I am an apostle! A second seismic shift impacting the Church has been the mushrooming agreement that the hearty of the Great Commission is to make disciples of whole nations (see Matt. 28:19), leading to a commitment to the dominion mandate or the transformation of society. In order to help bring this transformation about, God has allowed us to begin recognizing that the kingdom of God is not limited to the organized church as we have customarily conceived it, but that the Church functions in the workplace as well. What God’s people do in the workplace is a legitimate form of ministry. There are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers in the workplace, and intercession for leaders must include them as well. Once we recognized our duty to reform society, God then, through Lance Wallnau, gave us the insight we needed to understand the ‘Seven Mountains’ that have always operated together to mold the culture in which we live. Instead of attempting to reform society in general, it becomes much more convenient and productive to attempt to reform each of the Seven Mountains simultaneously.

The mountains are religion, family, education, media, government, arts and entertainment, and business.” Peter Wagner, Introduction to the Second Edition

“In this complete guide to becoming an intercessor, C. Peter Wagner reveals how you can help advance the kingdom on earth by invoking God's strength and protection over Christian leaders through intercessory prayer.” Publisher Description

Supernatural Forces in Spiritual Warfare: Wrestling with Dark Angels (Destiny Image, 2012)

“The 1980s to the 1990s was an awesome period of time for the Christian community. Skilled analysts and prophets alike are affirming that the decade of the ‘90s shaped up as an arena for the greatest outpouring of spiritual power in at least living memory if not in all of Christian history. The fruition of the 90-year-old Pentecostal movement, now joined by the charismatic movement the Third Wave, was one of the chief contributing factors. These movements combined with new and powerful emphases on church growth, compassion for the poor and oppressed, prayer, prophecy, and other aspects of the supernatural.

A striking feature of this buildup that resulted in a new breakthrough around the turn of the century was a new openness to the miraculous works of the Holy Spirit across the lines of historic Christian traditions. For years many evangelicals shunned the reported manifestations of signs and wonders, healings,

demonic deliverances, and miracles in the Pentecostal and charismatic movements. A few still rather staunchly adhere to their traditional anti-Pentecostal positions, but their ranks are becoming notably thin.” Peter Wagner

“A biblical and theological rationale with practical tools for advancing God’s Kingdom.

Supernatural Forces in Spiritual Warfare: Wrestling with Dark Angels is a compilation of keynote speaker presentations in an important symposium that was a public legitimizing of academic pursuits in fields related to the supernatural power of God both for local church ministries and for world evangelization.

Topics include:

- Power Evangelism: Definitions and Directions by John Wimber
- We Are at War by Ed Murphy
- Deception: Satan’s Chief Tactic by Timothy M. Warner
- Pentecostal/Charismatic Understanding of Exorcism by L. Grant McClurig Jr.
- Sickness and Suffering in the New Testament by Peter H. Davids
- In Dark Dungeons of Collective Captivity by F. Douglas Pennoyer

In addition to these scholars, well-known pastor, ministry leader, and teacher, Dr. C. Peter Wagner examines the role spiritual warfare played in Christ's ministry—and applies it to today's battles.

You don't have to be afraid of spiritual warfare—you have God's supernatural forces on your side every day in every way.”

Publisher Description

NAR Timeline

Peter Wagner was the Convening Apostle of the International Coalition of Apostolic Leaders (ICAL) or the Presiding Apostle Emeritus of ICAL during the years he wrote these books, so we can accept the history he shares about the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) as “official.” Therefore, here are important dates in the “timeline” for the NAR and a brief explanation of each from an article Wagner wrote for Charisma Magazine in June 2014.

1900 – African Independent Church Movement launched –

“In the early 1900s, not only did we see the beginning of the Pentecostal movement, but we also saw the first component of what I like to call the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) fall into place. That was the emergence of the African Independent Churches that had split from the previous generation of churches established by western missionaries. Since then, the independent churches have far surpassed mission churches in their dramatic growth.”

1940s – 1950s – Apostolic Movement

“Focusing on North America, I believe that God desired to bring back apostolic government to the church in the years following World War II. During the late 1940s and through the 1950s, some notable new movements emerged under leaders whose names became household words, especially within the

charismatic stream. Though some accepted the title "apostle" and others did not, they all led their movements apostolically.

These were our pioneers. Some of the initiatives were known as restoration, Latter Rain, shepherding, discipling or the like. They enjoyed considerable growth momentum, but it wasn't sustained. They made some mistakes, but all pioneers do."

1970 – Independent Charismatic Churches –

"Once it became clear that these fledgling apostolic movements were not going to increase in size and influence in North America, I believe that God began to implement a new process designed to resurface the biblical government of the church."

1970s – Great Intercessory Prayer Movement begins – intercessors stood in the gap between the visible world and the invisible world to clear the pathway between Heaven and Earth so that God's voice could be heard "much more clearly" by members of the Body of Christ who were "most gifted" to hear the voice of God (identified by Wagner as the "prophets"). The prayers of the intercessors removed "roadblocks" that the enemy had erected between Heaven and Earth.

"The 1970s witnessed the emergence of the great prayer movements, many of which continue today. As a part of this shift, the gift and office of intercessor began to be recognized by the body of Christ."

1980 – Latin American Grassroots Church Movement

“In the 1970s, the Latin-American grass-roots churches began multiplying like mushrooms throughout Central and South America. Add the independent charismatic churches that became the fastest-growing segment of Christianity in America, and you have the main ingredients of the NAR.”

1976 – Chinese House Church Movement

“The second NAR component was the Chinese house church movement that began in 1976. They experienced the greatest harvest of souls in a single nation in history.”

1980s – Body of Christ affirms the gift and office of prophet – Prophets are the most gifted at hearing the voice of God “clearly.”

“The gift and office of prophet began to be highlighted in the 1980s. We've always had prophets in the church, but for the most part they weren't recognized and accepted as such.”

1990s – Body of Christ recognizes the gift and office of apostle – Apostles are most gifted to “apply” the will of God and “set things in order.”

“Throughout the 1990s, the gift and office of apostle became activated more and more among cutting-edge church leaders.”

2001 – Second Apostolic Age begins

“This historical sequence is interesting. Why would God first activate intercessors, then prophets, then apostles? The principal job description of intercessors is to open the pathway between heaven and earth in the invisible realm. Once they do this, the voice of God becomes more audible.

While all believers should hear the voice of God, those most called to tune in on the higher levels are the prophets. Prophets can be better prophets if they follow the intercessors. The prophets accurately receive and communicate the words from the Lord, but most of them have little or no idea as to what to do with the words they hear. It is the apostles who are assigned to take what the Spirit is saying to the churches and implement it by developing a strategy for moving forward.

Let's call those apostles who began to emerge in the 1990s "Microsoft apostles." As we go on, we'll see many significant differences between them and the World War II apostles of a previous generation. One of them is that Microsoft apostles understand much better why they need to be aligned with prophets and intercessors.

From what we have been saying, it is obvious that one of God's prominent new wineskins for this season is the NAR. The corresponding old wineskin is traditional denominational Christianity. Most Microsoft apostles maintain high respect for the old wineskin, partly because—at least in North America—that is where they had their Christian beginnings. God exhibits

His mercy by not pouring new wine into the old wineskins because He doesn't want them to break. After all, at one point in time, they were His new wineskins! He loves them, and so should we.

In the sweep of history, the New Apostolic Reformation represents the most radical change in the way of doing church since the Protestant Reformation. This statement does not mean to imply a change in doctrine. The doctrinal foundations of the Reformation such as the authority of Scripture, justification by faith and the priesthood of all believers remain intact. However, fundamental changes in the way the church has been organized and has operated for the better part of 500 years are being implemented.

The old wineskin final authority in the Protestant churches never was entrusted to an individual, but always to a group. The final spiritual authority became a church council, a deacon board, a presbytery, church elders, a congregation, a synod, a general council, a state convention, a vestry, a national assembly, a session or any number of other ecclesiastical terms, all signifying a group but never individuals.

On the local church level, the new wineskin pastor is the *leader* of the church, not an *employee* of the church as he or she was in the old wineskin. If the church elders, for example, could hire a pastor, they could also fire a pastor. To keep the job, a pastor had to please the church. That partially

explains why in America's two largest denominations, the Southern Baptists and the United Methodists, pastoral tenure averages only two to four years. In apostolic churches, pastoral tenure is much longer—frequently for life—because the pastor does not report to the elders; rather the elders are appointed by and report to the pastor.

So to whom does the pastor report? He reports to the apostle. Typically, apostles form a network of churches and oversee their pastors. Apostolic networks are the functional successors to denominations. The major difference, however, is that networks led by Microsoft apostles are relationally based, not legally based. Those who follow apostles are voluntary—they can leave the network any time they desire. But they usually stay because they are grateful, convinced that the apostle adds value to their life and ministry.

Yes, both apostles and prophets are resurfacing. With the biblical government in place again, the church is poised for the greatest advance of God's kingdom ever.” Peter Wagner, *Charisma Magazine*, June 25, 2014

NAR Statement of Faith

What do people involved in the New Apostolic Reformation believe? We look to Peter Wagner and other leaders of the movement and the official Statement of Faith (SoF) of the ICAL -

THE TRINITY

We believe that God eternally co-equally exists in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and that these three are one God.

GOD'S CREATION

We believe that God through Christ Jesus and the Holy Spirit created and governs all that exists. He created man and woman in His own image and has commissioned them to exercise dominion over His creation.

AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE

We believe the Bible, in its entirety as originally given, to be inspired by the Holy Spirit, without error and the infallible, authoritative Word of God.

SATAN AND THE FALL OF MAN

We believe that by willfully sinning against God, man fell into rebellion against God. Since the fall, all men are born in sin and therefore subject to God's wrath and captive to Satan's kingdom of darkness. Mankind's only escape from this satanic bondage is to biblically repent of sins, appropriate the sacrificial blood of

Jesus as the required ransom for their sins, and surrender to the Lordship of Jesus.

JESUS AS OUR LORD AND SAVIOR

We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, born of a virgin, who became the substitution and atoning sacrifice through His shed blood on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. We believe in His soon coming personal return in power and glory to receive His Church. Jesus came to earth to redeem that which was lost (Luke 19:10). We believe that all Christian activity should have a redemptive and transformational purpose.

SALVATION (NEW BIRTH)

Salvation (a born again conversion experience) is an awesome opportunity made available to all mankind. To take advantage of this opportunity, we believe in the necessity of biblical repentance, the personal appropriation of the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, and surrender to the Lordship of Jesus. When this is sincerely done the sinner is pardoned and accepted as righteous in God's sight. We deny that Christ can be received as your Savior without Him becoming Lord of your life. We believe that faith without accompanying spiritual or physical works is dead. We are called to a life of discipleship and holiness in joyful obedience to Jesus Christ.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the deity of the Holy Spirit who proceeds from the Father and the Son. We believe that the Holy Spirit makes available everything believers need to live a godly life and accomplish everything He asks us to do.

THE GREAT COMMISSION

We believe that the Church is commissioned to preach the Gospel to the world and to disciple the nations. We believe in the practical application of the Christian faith in everyday life and the need to minister to people everywhere and in every area of their lives, which includes not only the spiritual, but also the social, commercial, political and physical.

GOVERNMENTS IN THE WORKPLACE

We believe that all authority and dominion flows from Jesus Christ who has delegated His authority to various governmental spheres among men, including self, family, church, corporate and civil. Each believer has been divinely assigned a sphere of influence that they must bring under the dominion of Christ.

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

We believe that no public official or corporate officer can function effectively without the knowledge of God's will as revealed in His Word. His every purpose must be to establish or further the Kingdom of Jesus on earth.

FIVEFOLD MINISTRY OFFICES, ELDERS AND DEACONS

We believe that Christ Himself has bestowed upon certain men and women of His choosing the spiritual gifting of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers. These five offices constitute the eldership of the Church whose function is to cooperate in spiritually equipping and activating believers for effective service in every sphere of life, including the marketplace, political, education, media, arts, family and church. The work of the eldership is to establish spiritual unity and the priesthood of all believers in Christ. Their objective is to establish the Kingdom of God on earth.” icaleaders.com/about-ical/statement-of-faith/

ICAL also “believes and agrees with the historic creeds of the universal Church of Christ: Nicene and Apostles Creed.” However, they also believe and agree with the Lausanne Covenant, which many Christians do not agree.

Keep in mind that this SoF comes from the ICAL website. Though it is an official document, it does not necessarily mean that every member apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher, church or member agrees with everything in it; just as is true with many denominations where individual pastors and/or churches do not necessarily agree with every point of a denomination’s SoF.

Primary areas of disagreement that many Christians have with the NAR are their beliefs about supernatural signs and wonders, apostolic and prophetic offices, receiving new revelation from God (new “words” from God similar to how 1st century apostles heard from God and were inspired by the Holy Spirit), the beginning of the Second Apostolic Age in 2001, and working to bring in the Kingdom of God on earth through the process of the Seven Mountain Mandate (pulling down the blessings of God from Heaven to earth and Dominionism).

Personal Thoughts

My interest as a journalist and Christian is whether the NAR claims are true. If they are, then Christians everywhere need to get on board quickly because God is on the move and “wills” that we all be involved in listening to His Word through the modern-day prophets and apostles and doing our part to “bring under the dominion of Christ” our “divinely assigned sphere of influence” (ICAL Statement of Faith). If the NAR claims are true, then the “eldership” of fivefold ministry offices (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers) is here “to establish spiritual unity and the priesthood of all believers in Christ” and “the Kingdom of God on earth” (ICAL Statement of Faith). If God has chosen this time and method to bring His Kingdom to Earth, all Christians should hear and obey. However, if the claims of the NAR are not true, they need to be challenged and exposed.

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