

**The Patio Pulpit for Wednesday, 9/16/20**  
**Ignorance Is Most Definitely Not Bliss**  
**The Destructive and Greatly Unknown Heresy of “The New**  
**Apostolic Reformation”**

Something I haven't heard anyone say in a very long time is “ignorance is bliss.” I guess it's because we know better. It's like that old saying “an apple a day keeps the doctor away.” We know that isn't true. I have been an apple eater for years and I still had to have heart surgery 7 years ago. And I take prescription meds every day. As far as I'm concerned, my daily meds keep the doctor away, not my pharmacist, but my doctor only sees me twice a year.

Being ignorant of anything that could pose harm to us physically or otherwise is most definitely not blissful. I have been stressed out over the last couple of years worried about possibly damaging my arteries with my poor diet. And over the last month I have been stressed anticipating a scheduled chemical stress test. There was nothing blissful about not knowing. But now that I know, I'm greatly relieved by the great results of my now past stress test. The results were great. I've come pretty close to experiencing bliss.

The word “bliss,” by the way means, **1**: complete happiness, paradise, heaven. Ignorance does not make one happy and it certainly isn't heavenly.

Before last November, no one had ever heard of COVID19 and that's because before then it hadn't been cooked up in a lab in communist China and the news of its spread hadn't hit the media. The coronavirus is a newly invented strain of an old virus that's been around since the fall of man thousands of years ago. We were not blissfully ignorant of that fact, we were just ignorant. Ignorance can be as simple as not knowing about something to being as dangerous and life-threatening as being unaware of cancer growing in our body. We were not blissfully ignorant of COVID19.

I have said all that to segue into tonight's Bible study concerning a spiritual virus (one of thousands) that has infected the visible church. This is one you have probably never heard of until tonight. It's called

**“The New Apostolic Reformation,”** or **NAR** for short. It has been festering behind the scenes since the late ‘90’s and was concocted in the mindlab of one C. Peter Wagner, one of thousands of false apostles and false teachers who have embraced his destructive heresies. Wagner died in 2016 but not before he did irreparable harm to his millions of dupes.

### **So, What is NAR you might rightfully inquire? A basic lesson in NAR**

NAR is a heretical movement whose founder, the late Dr. C. Peter Wagner, claimed that in 2001 God began the restoration of the offices of apostles and prophets and He told Wagner so, personally. Wagner being the prophet that he was, was one jump ahead of God and coined the term “The New Apostolic Reformation” back in the late ‘90’s. I know you have heard of “self-fulfilling prophecies,” well that was one of them. He prophesied it and he alone fulfilled it. God has nothing to do with NAR.

Wagner and several hundred of his favorite fellow false apostles have organized themselves into the School of the Apostles.

While the leaders of this movement will deny it, they base all their so-called revelations on extra-biblical revelations from God that were given directly to them. They speak words of God that did not come from God, at least not the God and Father of the Lord Jesus. They find their true source in “the god of this world,” the devil (2 Cor. 4:4)

<sup>6</sup> *"They see falsehood and lying divination who are saying, 'The LORD declares,' when the LORD has not sent them; yet they hope for the fulfillment of their word.*

<sup>7</sup> *"Did you not see a false vision and speak a lying divination when you said, 'The LORD declares,' but it is not I who have spoken?""*

<sup>8</sup> *Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, "Because you have spoken falsehood and seen a lie, therefore behold, I am against you," declares the Lord GOD. (Ezek. 13:6-8 NAU)*

### **There is nothing new under the Sun**

Does the idea of God restoring something that was supposedly lost sound familiar? It should. That’s what the false prophet of Islam claimed to be doing when he started his own religion. He was restoring what

Judaism and Christianity had rejected and lied about which was that Islam was the true religion of Abraham and Moses and Jesus. It was what the false prophet Joseph Smith claimed back in the early 1800's when he claimed that he was shown a set of golden tablets with strange writings on them that could only be read by the strange pair of glasses he claims he was given which allowed him to then write the Book of Mormon. It was the same claim made by the founder and false prophetess of The Seventh Day Adventists, Ellen G. White. And by Charles Russell, the founder of The Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, the Watchtower organization. All these heretics claimed that until they came along, the world was left without truth. And now we have NAR.

And meanwhile, back at the ranch.

**The question of the day is multifaceted and it's this, "Who and what is an apostle and according to the Bible, are there true apostles today?"**

**The second question of the day is this, "Who is not an apostle? Or to put it another way, 'What is a false apostle?'"**