

God Is Jealous

Contents

Preamble.....	2
Responding to allegations	2
Criteria	2
Introduction	3
I AM Jealous.....	3
Why Investigate Alpha?.....	4
How did I Investigate Alpha?	5
What have I found about Alpha?	6
Measures of Success.....	6
John Wimber	7
What do we know about the Toronto Blessing?	7
Some of the Key People in Nicky Gumbel's Orbit	8
The Archbishop of Canterbury (Justin Welby since 2013).....	8
This is where the research got exceedingly dark. Please be warned.	8
Rick Warren	10
Catholic Church leadership	10
Joyce Meyer, Christine Caine, Mike Todd	10
Eleanor Mumford	10
Nicky Gumbel	11
What does Nicky Gumbel believe? How has that infused Alpha?	11
Further Evidence.....	13
Warning	13
Exposure to Demonic Influence	13
Warning	14
ALPHA AND THE NEW AGE.....	14
Measures of Success.....	15
Summary of Evidence.....	16
Indictments.....	16
Conclusion	17
A Call to Action	19

Preamble

Responding to allegations

How should we respond to allegations levelled against a Christian person, message or ministry?

The Apostle Paul commands us to **judge** those within the church.

“Do you not judge those who are within the church?” (1 Cor 5:12).

The Word of God instructs us to examine everything in light of scriptural truth and then bring discipline where warranted. The more egregious the allegation, the more stringent should be the process leading to examination, judgement and finally, discipline.

Paul instructs Timothy in the process (1 Tim 5:19-21)

1. Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by **two or three witnesses**. (v 19)
2. But those elders who are sinning **you are to reprove before everyone**, so that the others may take warning. (v 20)
3. I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to **keep these instructions without partiality**, and to do nothing out of favoritism. (v 21)

Yet we find this so difficult. Why? Failure to properly apply discipline with the Body of Christ has corrupted it, leading to internal weakness and fear. “Judging another Christian is a bit radical,” some might say. But when did it become **radical** to simply obey God’s Word?

“What will it take to shake us out of our slumber? What will it take for us to rouse? We need to pursue with every fibre of our being – this redemption of radicalisation.”

(Nicholas Paul Franks)

Franks has written a timely book for the church. [The Glorious Few](#) leads the reader on a journey through the de-radicalised Church to discover what radical discipleship really means.

Using scriptural study, extensive research and personal testimony, The Glorious Few is ultimately a heart-felt cry for national repentance and the Bride of Christ to be straightened out in preparation for the return of Jesus.

I’m not suggesting that you read his book before you read this article (you can read The Glorious Few later). But please take four minutes to [watch the video](#). This level of commitment will be required for the church to truly address the apostasy within its ranks.

Criteria

We must establish the judgement criteria before we judge, lest our bias and prejudice enter in. We must consider:

- a. What kind of evidence would disqualify something as being “sin” (1 Tim 5:20)
- b. How much of that kind of evidence is necessary?
- c. Therefore, what is the threshold for guilt?

In criminal law, the preponderance of evidence that goes beyond a reasonable doubt is necessary.

In civil law, the threshold is 51% - more plausibly true than false, based on the preponderance of evidence.

In matters of Christian ministry, what level should be applied? Criminal, Civil or Spiritual?

“A little leaven, leavens the whole lump of dough.” (Gal 5:9) and

“But like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in **all your behavior**; because it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” (1 Pet 1:15,16).

Before we continue, it is critical to establish in our own minds the criteria by which we will judge. Then it must be applied without compromise.

Introduction

I AM Jealous

This introduction is inspired by a [video series of the same name](#) by Nick Franks. Watching this entire series before reading this article would make this entire process so much more straightforward! Anyway, in case you don't, I'm providing a very brief summary of some key points.

Yahweh has revealed Himself to us through His Word via many names, each expressing a wonderful and awesome aspect of his divine nature and character. One name that we *rarely* speak of is the one He gave to Israel following their whoredom, worshipping a golden calf while Moses was on Mt Sinai receiving the terms of God's Old Covenant promises.

After God dealt with the sin of His people and replaced the two stone tablets, He made sure to tell Israel His name:

“for you shall not worship any other god, for Yahweh, whose name is Jealous [El Qanna], is a jealous God.” Exodus 34:14

Yahweh revealed to His chosen people that – His name is Jealous. God is El Qanna.

In his book, *God's Unfaithful Wife*, author Ray Ortlund writes:

*“If the church seeks pleasure and luxury through the Baals and Asherahs of this modern world, insulting the value and joy of her husband's loving all-sufficiency, then **the church deserves to be confronted** and she would do well to listen, lest she risk being punished. Matters of **faithfulness to Christ deserve a place at the centre of church discussion**, rather than at the periphery.*

*Faithfulness requires a **careful monitoring of ourselves**, after all, who but an adulteress would be reckless in her relationships? His bride must **remain open-minded and responsive** to Him, **repenting and turning** when His Word touches on **some manifestation, however***

slight in our own eyes, of unfaithfulness in our own lives it may seem to be, in our message, our policies or our ministry strategies.

*If, however, **spiritual whoredom** is perceived as **too remote a possibility for the church to take seriously**, then we are **all the more liable to be deceived** along with previous generations of the covenant community. He wants to find in us the same sense of identification with Him that is appropriate to human marriage. And **we show Him our love through doctrinal faithfulness to His Word.***

Yahweh is Jealous for His Glory, Honour and Holiness; the great Worth and Reputation of His Name.

*“The **Glory of God is the ultimate reason** for the existence of the universe and the **primary means** by which this is expressed is **the faithfulness of His covenant people.**” (Franks)*

*“**God’s Glory and Honour are inextricably linked** and woven into the process of the **preparation** of the church for the **return of Christ**, the wedding supper of The Lamb. Therefore, what **should be in view to us**, His church is the **process of sanctification from whoredom to fidelity.**” (Franks)*

*“As the **recognition** of God-ordained **relational exclusivity wanes**, so does an appreciation for jealousy that **demand exclusive fidelity.**” (Thoennes)*

*“Marriage is **NOT** a **sociological construct**, but a **theological reality.**” (Franks)*

*“Ezekiel hopes to transform his audience’s **perception** of their relationship with Yahweh **exposing delusions of innocence** and offering a **divine understanding of reality.**” (Daniel Block)*

*“We will see now from Ezekiel the level of **God’s jealous fury** is **directly proportional** to the **depth of His love.**” (Franks)*

Yahweh has not changed. He is **still** Jealous!

*“What one observes in Hosea’s historical situation is the **admixture of contrary theologies** made congenial not by logic of principle ... but by **fashion and feeling.**” (Ortlund)*

*“This perfectly sums up **today’s so-called ecumenical covenant** that has hamstrung the church and has **dishonoured God** in ways that we are **clearly unaware of.**” (Franks)*

This is where I must leave Franks’ [teaching series](#). However, you may not truly understand the **gravity** of this article if you do not understand that **God is Jealous** for His Glory and the church.

Why Investigate Alpha?

My first experience with the Alpha course occurred in the later 1990’s when our church trialled the course. I did not participate; I only heard feedback as a church member. At that point, I didn’t really have a strong opinion regarding the spiritual value of Alpha. It seemed to be OK, other than one person’s very strange and dramatic Holy Spirit weekend experience. That man later went on to divorce his wife. Also, many years later, the church

leader who ran the Alpha course became woke and ecumenical in his views of God and the church. I could not pin this latter event to the Alpha experience but can now, in retrospect imagine how it could occur (later in this article). Very sad.

Fast-forward 25 years. A little over 12 months ago, the Queensland Baptist leadership decided to roll out the Alpha course in our state. My daughter encouraged me to study Alpha, having discerned that there were issues with it. I decided to do a deep dive into the Alpha course, based on many reviews of people who had studied and / or experienced it. Twelve months ago, I found ample evidence (IMO) of reasons for grave concern and advised my church pastor and various fathers and brothers in the Lord. Nevertheless, Alpha rolled on in our state, not just in Baptist churches but also across many other denominations.

My pastor recently advised me that he is now considering running Alpha in our church. He didn't state why, but did mention that he thought my initial report into Alpha included insufficient evidence for him to disqualify the course. I told him that I would do further research to find definitive proof, one way or the other. After all, if the Alpha course is useful to the Kingdom of God, I need to stop being "the troubler of Israel" in this respect.

How did I Investigate Alpha?

Some may ask: what do the most famous Bible teachers and Christian influencers say about the Alpha course? One may expect that by now, if there was anything wrong with Alpha, the "experts" in the Christian faith would surely know.

There are two things wrong with this form of argument.

1. It uses the "Appeal to Authority" logical fallacy. Although one may expect the most senior and well-respected leaders within the church to know or even spiritually discern such things, there are dangers to this form of expectation. No expert knows everything. All experts added together don't know everything. God even says that he will use the base and foolish things of this world to shame the wise (1 Cor 1:27-28)
Let's take the COVID response of the last few years as an example. Did any / many "experts" in health, viruses and pandemic plans tell the world to get some sun, eat well, exercise, take Vitamin D, Ivermectin and Zinc, avoid masks (they don't work), ignore social distancing rules (aerosolised viruses ignore these too) and avoid experimental, mRNA-based gene-therapies?
NO! It was a small number of "unauthorised" investigators who risked their careers and reputations to warn others about what was true and what was false.
2. If there is something wrong with the Alpha Course, it will not be obvious. If demonic powers are involved (as some claim they are) the errors will be hidden in such a manner that it will take significant effort to identify and isolate them. We must give the devil his due. He excels at his trade – deceit. If evidence is found to indicate evil, then this needs to be taken seriously until new contrary evidence is discovered.

So that's what I did. With the help of my daughter and few others, I found, verified and synthesised a vast amount of information to make sure that it was consistent. I interviewed brothers and sisters in Christ for their perspectives and experiences. I emailed Elizabeth McDonald from Bayith Ministries (UK) to check that she was a genuine person with a heart

for God's truth. She has probably spent more time on this than any other person on earth. You will see her work referenced later in this article. And then I prayed that my work would not be performed for any motive other than to discover the truth and glorify God as a result.

Twelve months ago, I spent about 40 hours on this research and writing. This time around, I've done the same.

How do I have the time to do this?

1. I prioritise my time
2. I'm not earning a living at the moment.

Why am I doing this?

Twelve months' ago I was fired for researching and writing articles that warned Australian Coal Industry Executives about the pagan roots of the woke strategies being used (e.g. DEI, CRT, ESG) to introduce neo-Marxism. Since then, God has not permitted me to return to work. I told the Lord I would do whatever He tasks me with until I am once again employable.

What have I found about Alpha?

Alpha is claimed to be a wildly successful "evangelisation" program. It has been translated into 112 languages and millions have completed the Alpha course already. It has been endorsed by many church leaders including Rick Warren, Bill Hybels, Joyce Myer and Tony Campolo. See the [end of this article](#) for more information on who these people are.

Measures of Success

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) or performance measures help us to predict people's behaviour. As a Management Consultant I know a few things about KPIs. [Here is an article](#) I wrote about their strong influence on people.

[This article](#) calls Alpha and Nicky Gumbel British Christianity's Biggest Success Story. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby and Nicky Gumbel were both recognised for their [service to the Church of England](#) by King Charles in the Dec 2023 New Year's Honour list. Media tells us that Alpha has been wildly successful. But how do we define success in the church context? What are our KPIs? Are they about numbers of decisions, money raised or courses run or rather, about making disciples who are willing to forsake all to follow Christ? Nicky Gumbel speaks to this **vital** question later in this document.

There is no doubt that the Alpha course has led to many people having had some kind of religious / Christian conversion experience. One can only hope that they were genuine and by many accounts, it seemed that many were. But how can we effectively measure **eternal outcomes** from Alpha? This question will be addressed toward the end of this article.

In addition to the bright and cheery outward appearance, Alpha also comes with a dark under-belly. Most who've criticised Alpha are Cessationist. Their lack of Holy Spirit inspiration and discernment is a major problem for them, in general. Yet, despite this, it is difficult to refute their evidence. When allegations are read, videos are watched and

historical timelines are assembled, the evidence becomes overwhelming. Note: the majority of allegations from Cessationists deals with what the Alpha material excludes or twists. Their allegations pertaining to the Holy Spirit experience play a minor role.

In many senses, the writing of this document had the feel of investigative journalism, albeit from a spiritual perspective. At times I almost wanted to build a link analysis (crazy wall) like we saw in the film “A Beautiful Mind.” The story of Alpha felt a bit like a big ball of tangled bits of string when I first began. I trust that by the grace of God, I’ve found and pulled on the right bits of string to unravel it.



Before writing too much more, it must be noted that the Toronto Blessing (TTB) was the ONE BIG catalyst for the enormous growth we’ve seen in the Alpha movement since 1994. Everything about Alpha must be viewed from this pivotal point forward.

Although not the founder, Nicky Gumbel is the best-known promoter of Alpha. Before discussing some of Nicky Gumbel’s personal experiences and beliefs, we will firstly examine his close associates; those who have influenced both him and the Alpha program.

John Wimber

Former Head of the Vineyard movement, John Wimber visited Holy Trinity Brompton (HTB) and Nicky Gumbel soon after the Toronto Blessing had begun. Nicky Gumbel says that ***John Wimber was the most influential person in his life***. Several sessions on the Holy Spirit, how to speak in tongues and a “Holy Spirit weekend” were all subsequently included in the Alpha course (all recommended by John Wimber).

What do we know about the Toronto Blessing?

This article “[Giggling for God](#)” comes from a 1995 Catholic magazine. It describes one Catholic’s experience at a specific Toronto Blessing meeting. It then went on to outline the spread of TTB among Catholic “clergy and laity who ‘tend to have their heads screwed on right.’”

From [this article](#) we read: “Stephanus Pretorius completed a doctoral thesis in 2002 after a careful study of the phenomena of the Blessing within the context of world religion.

Among the reported effects at Toronto was the sight of people collapsing to the floor and lying apparently unconscious for considerable periods of time. Others were said to imitate animals either in their movements or in the sounds they made.

The thesis claims that similar phenomena occur in ***Hindu spiritual practice***, particularly in the disciplines associated with the ***awakening of an energy known as Kundalini***.”

Paul Gowdy, a former Pastor at the Toronto Airport Church also wrote an article entitled: [The Toronto Deception By a former Toronto Vineyard Pastor](#).

In it he wrote: “It has taken me nine years to actually come to the place where I would write this story. Part of the reason was because I was not fully convinced that it is appropriate to speak out against weaknesses in the body of Christ publicly. Another reason is because it has taken years of soul searching to become convinced that what happened in the Toronto Airport Church was **actually all bad or at least more bad than good!**”

One must wonder whether the Toronto Blessing was more a move of **deceitful spirits** than the Holy Spirit and the **doctrines of demons** than the doctrines of God. (1 Tim 4:1)

Some of the Key People in Nicky Gumbel’s Orbit

From the Premier Christianity article: [Alpha’s Nicky Gumbel on retiring from HTB, evangelising the world and addressing racism](#), we learn that some of the key people in Gumbel’s orbit include The Archbishop of Canterbury (Justin Welby since 2013); Rick Warren; the head of the Catholic Church [in England and Wales], the preacher to the Pope, Joyce Meyer, Christine Caine and Mike Todd.

The Archbishop of Canterbury (Justin Welby since 2013)

Justin Welby’s rise to the top position in the Church of England was quite extraordinary. Here is an interesting [set of facts](#) regarding Welby’s appointment. Make of it what you will.

- Justin Welby and Nicky Gumbel have known each other since the mid-70’s.
- Welby was a wealthy oil businessman while attending HTB. That’s when he did the Alpha course, converted and became a CofE clergyman.
- 20 years later, Welby became a bishop.
- Four months after that, he was elected the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Welby defends Trans rights, seeks to find a way forward for gay marriage to be enacted within the CofE and says that “[It’s better to be woke than asleep.](#)” He also promised to begin ordaining female Bishops.

The Church of England, under Justin Welby continues to ordain LGBT and female clergy.

This is where the evidence got exceedingly dark. Please be warned.

From [this report](#) on CofE Ministry statistics, there were about 10,000 clergy in 2020, one third being women. The report did not state how many of these were LGBT.

Steven B Smith authored a [2018 PhD thesis document](#) titled:

The **distinctive relationship between sexual ecstasy and spiritual ecstasy** for heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered **clergy of the Church of England**: Integrating Transpersonal Awareness with an Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis.

Here is the abstract:

“Twenty-two participants who identified as heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered clergy of the Church of England were recruited and interviewed using a semi-structured interview. ... After several levels of analysis the following superordinate themes emerged: (a) **twenty** of these participants **organised their sexuality and spirituality in a dialectical or unified relationship**; (b) **twelve** of these **reported a direct mystical union** with

God through the veil of **sexual ecstasy**; (c) **all twelve reported that these experiences have been transformative** leading to an expanded and inclusive sense of self and other, which has also **enhanced their ministry**; (d) **rituals and symbols** that reflect the distinctive **relationship between sex and spirit** are needed to **reflect and confirm** heterosexual and LGBT participants' **lived experiences**; and, (e) the House of Bishops of the **Church of England** continues to **place spirituality and sexuality in a dualistic relationship**, relegating the latter into the **shadows** of human experience, causing a **deep sense of rejection and oppression for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered clergy** who faithfully serve as priests within the Church of England."

Below is my attempt to translate this into simpler language and to offer some commentary:

- The C of E under Archbishop Justin Welby ordains LGBT and female into clergy.
- If we assume that the 22 enlisted in the study were representative of the **entire** CofE clergy population, (from (b)), then more than 50% of CofE clergy "**reported a direct mystical union** with God through the veil of **sexual ecstasy**." Either way, somewhere

between **12 and 5,000** Church of England ministers
have experienced a demonic visitation;
i.e. **they are being raped by demons**.

- The frightening fact is that (from (c)) "**all twelve reported that these experiences have been transformative** leading to an expanded and inclusive sense of self and other, which has also **enhanced their ministry**." That is,

they believe that their orgasms are a sign of intimacy with God
and this is enhancing their ministry.

- They are blinded to the fact that they are demonically oppressed. They are being deluded. "But the Spirit explicitly says that in latter times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to **deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons**." (1 Tim 4:1 NASB)? A plausible answer to why this may be happening will be provided later (Click on: **Further Evidence** to go there now).
- (from (d)) These (demonised "heterosexual and LGBT") clergy want their lived experiences validated through "**rituals and symbols**." They experience it and want it to be recognised, not left in the shadows of human experience.
NOTE: This would indicate that both LGBT and hetero-sexual clergy are being demonised. The demonisation appears to be independent of the sexual sin being engaged in.
- (from (e)) CofE leadership consider spirituality and sexuality as separate, not unified. They relegate "the latter into the **shadows** of human experience, causing a **deep sense of rejection and oppression for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered clergy**."

The following are my personal reflections and comments on this PhD thesis.

- This was submitted in 2018 (six years ago). By now it should be common knowledge throughout CofE leadership.
- Is there no concern that **somewhere between 12 and 5,000 ministers are being demonised**, yet still leading CofE churches?
- Although happy to ordain LBGT clergy, CofE leadership will not deal with the spiritual dissonance that must come with such people trying to serve both God and the devil at the same time.
- Do the CofE leaders have no fear of God, as shepherds? (Ezek 34:1-10)

Refer to [this article](#) for more on such **mystical unions**. **For the mature only.**

Justin Welby will be addressed further, later on in this article.

Rick Warren

Rick Warren holds strong views on global ecumenism (joining Islam and the Roman Catholic Church with the bride of Christ) and the ordination of female clergy. Warren has also spoken at the World Economic Forum, advising world leaders that pastors must be engaged to convince their flocks to embrace WEF programs (i.e. Sustainability goals and the New World Order).

So significant was Rick Warren's influence on Nicky Gumbel, that

Gumbel left HTB to support Rick Warren's [2033 Vision](#). More on this later.

Catholic Church leadership

Nicky Gumbel has developed Alpha for the Catholic Church. [This article](#) references when Gumbel and an Alpha course conference celebrated a Papal Mass.

[This article](#) summarises many of the current problems within the Catholic Church. It is written by a Vatican Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano who called out corruption within the Vatican and has now been excommunicated by the pope. Vigano refers to the infiltration of **Freemasonry and the spirit of the Antichrist** within the papacy.

Joyce Meyer, Christine Caine, Mike Todd

These are all well known for their heretical teachings, yet are specifically mentioned as speakers at Gumbel's leadership conferences.

Eleanor Mumford

Not mentioned in the previous article, it was [Eleanor Mumford](#) who introduced the spirit from the Toronto Airport Church to Alpha.

"The Alpha course was virtually unknown until Eleanor Mumford of the South-West London Vineyard church brought the Toronto Blessing from the Toronto Airport Vineyard church in Canada to HTB, via Nicky Gumbel in May 1994. After this, HTB became the centre of the charismatic outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the UK, similar to the Toronto Blessing."

Note, DTW are Cessationist, rejecting the gifts of the true Holy Spirit of God in the church today. Satan has done an effective job at sowing confusion with Christ's church.

Nicky Gumbel

From Premier Christianity we learn that Nicky Gumbel actually left HTB to support Rick Warren's [2033 Vision](#). It reads:

"17 April 2033 – Easter day – will be the 2,000th anniversary of the resurrection of Jesus, and the great commission that followed. Bible translators are working on getting the New Testament into every language in the world. Rick Warren is working on getting a Bible, a believer and a body of Christ into every people group.

Our part is to make Alpha available to everyone on the planet by 2033!"

[As Jesus was born in 4 BC, they will be 4 years too late.]

What does Nicky Gumbel believe? How has that infused Alpha?

What is listed below scratches the surface. Ministries including [Bayith.org](#) have dedicated man-years of effort in reading all available literature on Alpha, analysing it and producing documents warning about Alpha.

Here are a few of Nicky Gumbel's beliefs about God as expressed through Alpha:

1. His views of the Holy Spirit were radically affected by the Toronto Blessing.
2. His understanding of the person and purpose of the Holy Spirit:
Q: Why has Alpha become what it is?
A: It's not just the work of the Spirit but the place of the Holy Spirit in Alpha. So, the Holy Spirit seems to like the Holy Spirit, basically. (Gumbel)
Does not the Bible tell us that the Holy Spirit always seeks the Glory of the Father through the Son and never glorifies Himself? **Is Gumbel using his personal "experience" of the "Holy Spirit" from the Alpha courses to lead him to an explanation of who the Holy Spirit is, rather than the Word of God?** Click here **Warning** for more on this.
3. His [understanding of the wrath of God](#) is opposed to the idea that God is judge of all the world, and rather, that God's primary and only stand towards us is love.
4. [This analysis](#) of Alpha from Bayith.org regarding the **character** of Jesus asks:
 - a. **Was Jesus sinless?** In Alpha video 4 the actual word 'sinless' does not occur: "Jesus was tempted in every way." (Heb 4:15). He also prefers to say that "Jesus never did anything wrong." Gumbel avoids the use of the word sin and instead says: "the things that we do wrong and the mistakes that we make."
 - b. **Was Jesus Infallible?** He says "We all make mistakes" (without excluding Jesus). "Even with Jesus, on one occasion, he laid hands on a blind man and he said, after he had laid hands on them [the man's eyes], 'Do you see anything?' and the man said, 'I see people but they look like trees walking around'. So, Jesus laid hands on him again."
 - c. **Was He a "Man of Sorrows"?** Alpha paints a very different and one-sided picture of Jesus, full of fun, laughter and joy, not sorrow.
 - d. **Was Jesus Perfect?** Nicky writes that "Jesus himself set us a **great** example." Jesus is

never described as “perfect,” although the word is used elsewhere. For example, it is said of Alpha “I think the course is now about as **perfect** as it can be.”

5. [This analysis](#) of Alpha from Bayith.org regarding the **nature** of Jesus asks:
 - a. **Was Jesus pre-existent?** Nicky Gumbel does not actually call Jesus ‘pre-existent’ or ‘everlasting’ or ‘eternal’ in the talks, and when he discusses Jesus’ love for us he says it is only now and future.
 - b. **Is Jesus the Word made flesh?** The Lord Jesus is simply never called “the Word” in the Alpha talks. Although the word ‘reincarnated’ is used at one point, there is no mention of terms like ‘incarnation’ regarding Jesus in the Alpha talks, nor of Him coming “in the flesh”, nor of any of the three crucial verses from John 1.
 - c. **Is Jesus the Messiah?** Of concern is the fact that Gumbel teaches we are Christ: “Actually, the Church is Christ”. Gumbel also teaches that “The church completes Christ in the same way as a body completes the head.”
6. [This analysis](#) of Alpha from Bayith.org regarding the **divinity** of Jesus asks:
 - a. **Is Jesus divine, part of the Triune God-head?** Nicky Gumbel never uses “Yahweh” or “Jehovah” in Alpha. What one will find stated on Alpha is, “Jesus did not go round saying the words, ‘I am God.’” There is no statement in any Alpha course that simply states “Jesus is God.”
 - b. **Is Jesus God?** When Alpha covers John 1:1, which reads, “...the Word was with God, and the Word was God,” Gumbel immediately weakens this crucial verse by giving the explanation that, “The Word [unnamed] was a person in **fellowship** with God, and the Word was ... eternally divine.” Why replace the perfectly good phrase “was God” with “was ... divine”?
 - c. **Is Jesus fully God?** Nicky Gumbel favourably quotes someone saying: “I understood Jesus is fully God” [Talk 3]. This would be excellent, except that Gumbel then tells hearers how they should interpret the phrase “fully God”: “[W]e say that Jesus is ... fully God... let me use an analogy ... We say Sir Christopher Wren built St. Paul’s Cathedral; in fact, he didn’t lay a single stone. Other people laid the stones. He used agents to do it, but he ... directed the whole operation” [Talk 5]. In other words, Jesus is only “fully God” in the derived sense that God fully directed Him or fully inspired Him.
 - d. **Is God in Jesus or is Jesus God?** Gumbel’s words suggest that only the “innermost being” of Jesus (or the “being” that lives inside Him?) is God. The New Age movement, like other counterfeit versions of Christianity, believes Jesus was just a human receptacle for a member of the Trinity and that we can all attain Christ Consciousness.
7. This [summary](#) of Elizabeth McDonald’s analysis of Alpha includes the following: Alpha emphasises God’s love but hardly mentions His holiness. Therefore, “the need of repentance for sin and the consequences of that sin in the sight of a holy God who must, and will, judge it is **hardly mentioned**.”
8. Gumbel and Alpha emphasise unity over truth. “We make it a rule on Alpha, never to criticise another denomination, another Christian church or a Christian leader.” “Actually we must stop judging one another.” Compare this with “Do you not judge those who are within the church?” (1 Cor 5:12) Alpha promotes unity with the Roman Catholic Church.

Discussing the price of unity in the Church at the end of the 19th century, Bishop Ryle wrote: “Our noble Reformers bought the truth at the price of their own blood, and handed it down to us. Let us take heed that we do not basely sell it for a mess of pottage, under the specious names of unity and peace.”

Martyn Lloyd Jones opposes false ecumenism in this podcast: [Maintaining the Evangelical Faith Today | An Address of Martyn Lloyd-Jones \(1952\)](#)

[IMO, the only valid ecumenism occurs when Jew and gentile become “one new man” in **Christ** (Eph 2:15). This is THE ONLY UNITY IN THE CHURCH – nothing else!].

9. In relation to how God guides us – Alpha participants are taught about the “**Guiding Spirit**” and “**more unusual ways**” of guidance.
“This kind of guidance, especially guidance by angels, needs thorough testing against Scripture in today’s religious climate in which false prophets and occult spirit guides, masquerading as angels of light, abound.” Click **Warning** for more of this.
10. Alpha participants are **not being taught** about “deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.” (1 Tim 4:1). They are **not being taught** to be like the Bereans and to test what is said against the Word of God. On the contrary, it would appear that Alpha Course Leaders and participants **are being taught** mind-opening techniques of the New Age. Read on below to the Section on **Exposure to Demonic Influence**.

Further Evidence

In addition to the work of Elizabeth McDonald from Bayith Ministries, the following analyses of Alpha are most useful:

- Apprising / Christian Resource Network
The Article: [THE INFLUENCE OF CHRISTIAN MYSTICS MORTON KELSEY AND JOHN WIMBER ON THE ALPHA COURSE](#) provides deep insights into the power behind the Alpha course. This [5 minute audio file](#) (interview with Pastor Kirby) reveals several key facts:
 - a. John Wimber exerted significant influence over Gumbel and the Alpha course
 - b. Nicky Gumble met with Pastor Kirby in Toronto in 1995
 - c. Morton Kelsey’s book “Healing and Christianity” is the most important resource for Alpha leaders for the Holy Spirit weekend, especially for the “Healing Night.”

Warning

Exposure to Demonic Influence

What do we know about Kelsey’s views on spiritual matters? Bob De Waay of [Critical Issues Commentary](#) provides the following insight into mystics including Kelsey:

“The problem is that when people learn techniques to access this inner realm beyond the conscious mind, they often meet horrible forces of darkness. According to Kelsey, evil exists there that is both intrinsic and extrinsic to the human psyche.” Despite this, Kelsey insists that Christians must still use such techniques to find intimacy with God.

“Kelsey describes his beliefs: ‘There are **various techniques for opening up the tight capsule of space and time. Zen and Yoga**, paying attention to dreams, prayer, contemplation,

meditation, and the use of biofeedback all can be helpful for some people in reaching stillness and opening themselves to new experiences within. ... There is **a real danger in much of Eastern thought** and in our own scientific probing into the mind, but is not because there is something dark and evil lurking in either of them. The danger lies in the fact that **Eastern ways of prayer** and scientific interest in altered states of consciousness **do not go far enough.**"

- [What Is The Alpha Course? Is It Good or Bad For Learning the Bible?](#)

The acronym for Alpha may surprise you and it seems unbiblical in a great sense.

Anyone can come

Learning and laughter (e.g., having fun)

Pasta and pudding (e.g. food)

Helping one another

Ask anything

Could anything sound further from the main message of the gospel? To repent, to turn from one's sins, to place your faith in Christ Jesus, to be baptized, to take the gospel into all the world, to make disciples of others, our spiritual depravity, the sinfulness of sin, to grow in holiness, to love one another and be a servant of all. There is a roaring silence from these critical essentials of the gospel so **it is like another gospel**. A real-good, feel-good, me-centered gospel that has shades of being a false gospel. It is overly charismatic and underwhelming in the proclamation of the gospel.

- [The Dangers Of The Alpha Course](#)

Warning

ALPHA AND THE NEW AGE

All of this heightened interest amongst Charismatic Christians in 'Signs and Wonders' and the supernatural experiences of the Toronto Blessing is a reflection of spiritual and cultural changes going on outside Christianity, in which **New Age experiential mysticism predominates**.

Nicky Gumbel is aware of this paradigm shift from reason to experience: "In the Enlightenment reason ruled supreme and explanation led to experience. **In the present transitional culture**, with its 'pick-and-mix' worldview in which **the New Age movement is a potent strand, experiences lead to explanation**". [Nicky Gumbel, Telling Others, p19].

Post-Christian neo-mysticism is already so pervasive that virtually every non-Christian participant of Alpha – or any other evangelistic initiative - will reflect to some degree New Age thinking. In New Age philosophy "experiences lead to explanation" yet, like the Toronto Experience, **the thrust of Alpha is towards the experiential, not the written Word.**" [Ian Lewis, 'The Alpha Course', Evangelicals Now, Dec 1995].

CONCLUSION

It may only be part of Alpha's teaching which does not accord with Scripture, but I would say with Paul: **"A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough."** (Gal 5:9).

- [The Alpha Course Examined](#) (2023) Christian Author Tony Payne states:
“Personally, I wouldn’t be game to use something that I know is inadequate.”
- [The Alpha Course is emotionally powerful but theologically confused](#) (2022)
- This article: [My Alpha experience – why I consider the course to be cynical and dishonest](#) is from an agnostic who participated in an Alpha Course.

Measures of Success

I previously wrote: “How can we effectively measure eternal outcomes from Alpha?”

[In this article](#), Jules Evans (a friend of Gumbel) asks Nicky:

“To what extent do you think the things people might deem as ‘Holy Spirit encounters’ could be accounted for by psychological things like, say, trance states, or hypnosis, or social contagion? It’s striking that similar sorts of ecstatic experiences happen in other religious traditions.”

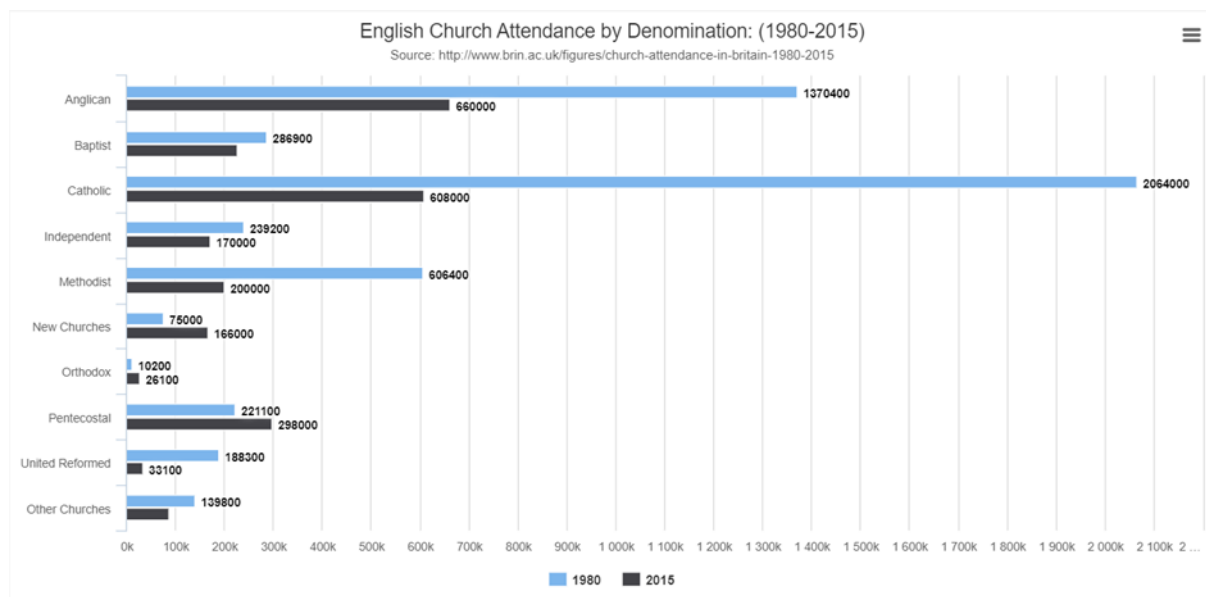
Gumbel replies: “There are three possibilities in the kind of experiences you’re describing. Either it’s **demonic**, or it’s **psychological**, or it’s **God**. Or it could be a combination, particularly of the last two.

What matters is the fruit.”

Gumbel then goes on to describe fruit in terms of Alpha in prisons and people being healed.

There is no doubt that both Nicky Gumbel and Alpha have been successful in human terms ([Personal wealth](#), numbers of participants, number of decisions etc.) But what is the fruit in terms of impact on the Church and by extension, on Brits, both now and for eternity?

Despite Alpha being wildly successful with 1.2 M Brits participating (till 2013), the number of [Christians in the UK](#) has plummeted since that same time.



So, where is the fruit?

Summary of Evidence

It is true that many churches have adapted Alpha to their own needs. Many good leaders may have run the courses in such a way to interject and correct biblical errors and guard people from demonic oppression. **HOWEVER, based on the evidence collected, the following facts are clear of the basic Alpha course and the promoted training materials.**

1. Church of England leadership continue to ordain LGBT and female clergy while ignoring the fact that **demonised clergy are leading their churches.**
2. The **glory of God should be the focus** of every program, including Evangelism. **Not on food and fun** over repentance and holiness. A life of fun, laughter and ease should not be promoted when Christ bids us to take up our cross and follow Him. "When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die." Dietrich Bonhoeffer.
3. The Alpha Course provides an **inadequate** treatment of the condition of man, the true consequence of sin and man's **need for repentance.** It also does little to explain the full nature and character of God, His Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Therefore the "gospel" presented during Alpha lacks the power for salvation (Rom 1:16). The baptism of the Holy Spirit should only be referred to those who have repented to the Father, believed on the Son, shown the fruits of repentance and been baptised in water.
4. There is no doubt that a spiritual power is at work within Alpha's "Holy Spirit" weekend. When leaders and course participants are **exposed to New Age, mind-altering techniques** can we assume that Alpha's power is from the Holy Spirit and not from an unclean spirit?
5. The focus on global ecumenism invites Christ's bride to be joined with unregenerate people. God is Jealous for His Glory and Christ for the purity of His Betrothed. What has light in common with darkness? What does the Bride of Christ have in common with idolatrous denominations including the Roman Catholic Church and Islam? **Is global ecumenism really a priority for the church?** Should truth be set aside for unity? Are decisions and course numbers more important than holiness?

Indictments

Does this evidence rise to the level of **indictment** against the CofE leadership, Justin Welby, Nicky Gumbel, the HTB Network and Alpha?

Based on the analysis and assessment of numerous Christian pastors, authors and investigators, it would appear so. **Please review the evidence presented above and test my conclusions. This is too serious to get wrong.**

But this type of indictment of the church is not new. Even the Cessationist Paul Washer has produced a similar set. The following is a list of some of these from his 2018 Book: Ten Indictments against the Modern Church.

A Practical Denial of the Sufficiency of Scripture

"If you want to be friendly to someone, and if you want to accommodate someone, accommodate Him and His glory, even if it is rejected by everyone else. We are not called to build empires. We are not called to be accepted by men. We are called to glorify God. "

An Ignorance of God

The justice of God, the sovereignty of God, the wrath of God, and the glory of God ... “That is not my God. I could never love a God like that.” Why? Because they have a god they have made with their own mind, and they love what they have made.

A Failure to Address Man’s Malady

We make a twofold son of hell who will never again be open to the gospel because of the religious lie that we, as professing evangelicals, have spewed out of our mouth.

An Ignorance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ

When the gospel is preached today ... do you ever hear of God’s justice and wrath? Almost never! ... Anything other than this is gospel reductionism! We wonder why it has no power. ... When you leave the gospel behind and there is no longer any power in your supposed gospel message, then you have to do all the little tricks of the trade that are so prominently used today to convert men.

An Unbiblical Gospel Invitation

They join right in with that pseudo-Christian morality that encompasses “churchianity” in America. And in the last great day, they will hear this: “I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”

An Ignorance Regarding the Nature of the Church

Because the preaching of the gospel is so low, the majority of the church consists of carnal, lost people.

A Replacement of the scriptures regarding the Family

I am not against biblical evangelism, but I am against the way you are doing it.

Pastors Malnourished in the Word

All this emergent church stuff, much of the church growth stuff, all the cultural sensitivity that throws biblical sensitivity out the window – it is just a bunch of little boys wanting to play church without the power of God in their life.

Conclusion

I find it quite puzzling that Pentecostal Christians often seek the opinion of Cessationist teachers like John MacArthur and Paul Washer for a strong rebuke of the excesses of the Pentecostals (e.g. Prosperity Gospel, Word of Faith). I’ve done this myself in the past. Are Pentecostals unprepared to call out sin? I know that MacArthur and co have a deep knowledge of the Word of God, but if they don’t believe that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are for today, can their judgement be trusted?

Washer’s work serves as a general rebuke of the church. However, when a specific part or ministry within the body has cancer, two things are needed – a precise diagnosis of the tumour (where it is and how large it is) and the will to deal with it thoroughly.

Therefore, I’d like to commend to you a brother in Christ who knows the baptism of the Holy Spirit. His name is Nicholas Paul Franks.

For the better part of a decade, Nick was a lay leader, musician and worship leader at the Abundant Life mega-church, in Bradford England. In 2011, he left that church and then attempted to serve within several “Christian” para-church organisations and one stint at an HTB-affiliated church in central London.

His fifteen-year journey afforded him first-hand experience. When confronted, he spoke boldly and in love against the apostasy of the British church system, especially in relation to false gospels and egalitarianism. His “radical” views of the standards of Biblical Christianity made him virtually “unemployable” within the current British church context and ushered in his public ministry – calling the modern church to repentance and preparation of the return of Jesus. Mairi, his wife was recently forced to resign as a teacher from a large school after persecution for her beliefs in Christ, as portrayed by their [ministry content](#).

Having lost all income, Nick and Mairi have learned just how much it costs to follow Christ.



I want to conclude by providing a stark contrast between two men. One unnamed preacher at the Toronto Airport Church and Nicholas Franks. This first video is a compilation from [the Toronto Airport Church](#).

But all you really need to do is to watch 1 minute from 29:00 to 30:00 to get the gist of what was happening.

The former person was drunk, but not in the Holy Spirit, as this form of intoxication is not found among disciples in the Word of God. We don’t know what he did to be in such a state, but God’s pulpit was desecrated. God was mocked by deceiving spirits. But God will not be mocked. He is a Jealous God!

The church does not need Cessationist brothers to help diagnose its maladies if we will simply read His Word and walk by His Holy Spirit. With love and care to honour the Word of God, Franks applies the scalpel of God’s Word to a tumour in Christ’s betrothed. Please take the time to carefully [watch and listen](#) to this very difficult but loving word of rebuke to Justin Welby, Nicky Gumbel and the HTB Networks of churches. It dovetails precisely to what was found through my own research.

Nick and Mairi are authors and content creators, producing numerous books, films, videos and podcasts. Once you complete Nick’s video, I would commend to you many other videos, blogs, podcasts and books by Nicholas and Mairi Franks, especially [The Glorious Few](#), the [I AM JEALOUS](#) series and his [Open Letter to the Church](#).

A Call to Action

If the Indictments levelled against Justin Welby, Nicky Gumbel, the HTB Network and Alpha are legitimate, then how should church leadership, we the church and I respond?

In the series I AM JEALOUS, Franks describes several Biblical characters whom embody the ways that we *could* respond to idolatry and apostasy. I want to contrast the actions of Phinehas and Oholibah.

1. In Numbers 25, Israel began to play the harlot with the daughters of Moab. They joined themselves to the Baal of Peor and the Lord was angry against Israel.

“Then behold, one of the sons of Israel came and brought to his relatives a Midianite woman, in the sight of Moses and in the sight of all the congregation of the sons of Israel, while they were weeping at the doorway of the tent of meeting. When Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he arose from the midst of the congregation and took a spear in his hand, and he went after the man of Israel into the tent and pierced both of them through, the man of Israel and the woman, through the body. So, the plague on the sons of Israel was checked.” (verses 6-8)

Phinehas was “jealous with My jealousy” (v 11) said Yahweh to Moses and turned away His wrath.

Whatever we do (in the spirit) to defend God’s holy name, we must also be willing to do within our own lives first. Anything that is idolatrous in us must first be pierced with that same spear, then applied to the sin within the camp.

2. In Ezekiel 23, Yahweh describes Samaria and Jerusalem as two sisters, Oholah and Oholibah. Samaria (Oholah) played the harlot with the Assyrians and for this, Yahweh punished her, giving her into Assyrian hands as punishment.

But what did Jerusalem (Oholibah) do in response to God’s obvious jealousy and wrath?

“Now her sister Oholibah saw this, yet she was more corrupt in her lust than she, and her harlotries were more than the harlotries of her sister.” (v 11) “You have walked in the way of your sister; therefore, I will give her cup into your hand.” (v 31) “You will drink it and drain it. Then you will gnaw its fragments and tear your breasts.” (v 34)

Every Christian must respond in one of two ways to sin in the body of Christ, within their sphere of influence, either as Phinehas or Oholibah. Which will you choose?

Ignoring sin in the Body of Christ when confronted by it is tantamount to cowardice and Rev 21:8 tells us that the cowardly and unbelieving will share in the same suffering as the abominable and murderers.

Brothers and Sisters, if we are too apathetic to act, then are we not like the church of Laodicea in Rev 3? God then says to us “I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. (Rev 3: 18-19)

Maranatha!