

Revelation and Special Language – A Response to CTMI Site

One of the early questions Carte Blanche asked Miki Hardy in the two hour interview in Feb 2010 was:

*"People tell us about your **revelation of the cross**. Help me understand what this is about."*

Miki replied "Which revelation?"

Devi laughed and retorted "How many have you had?"

Miki replied "All pastors everywhere know this - the Lord speaks to us"

Devi replied - "People say Miki has had this revelation and they must now seek it - I am trying to understand what this is"

Marc Labonte - "All born again Christians understand that Jesus is the shepherd and we are the sheep and "my sheep hear his voice"... this is normal - we are in a living relationship with him."

Devi - "People watching this programme will say you are crazy to say you hear the voice of God. Put this in context."

Miki - "Every pastor hears the voice of the Lord its absolutely normal - it would be abnormal not to hear His voice""

Well not too much clarity on what "revelation" means there! Certainly no mention of the bible! Seems like hearing the audible voice of God is normal for Miki!!??

We replied citing many examples of Miki claiming that the church is in trouble without "the revelation of the gospel that comes from the apostolic anointing".

Subsequently this issue has received attention in a number of posts on this forum Like "Miki's Gospel - So Near But so Far" and "Paper and Ink vs Revelation". Also Berean's challenge to Miki about the difference between **illumination** (insight into the bible) and **new revelation** which would mean new books in the bible.

A CTMI theologian (Gilbert Grant again or maybe Peter Mackenzie?) has responded on their (Un) concerned parents site - the one that allows no responses.

Here's what was posted:

“**Revelation, Unique Revelation and Special Revelations...**

A singular group, obviously very concerned with Bible semantics, Eschatology, Theology, Hermeneutics, and Exegesis has made such a fuss over the past few months about CTMI. The word that has tied them in knots, and made everyone spitting mad seems to be such an inoffensive one: “revelation”

It is incredible how people can clutch at the lightest of straws and create a major doctrinal issue about something so minor. To deal with this dangerous issue, have been brought together the following crew: An ‘expert in cults’, self proclaimed after his bad experience with a real cult, a ‘discerning’ ministry, and a purported “Christian Therapist” – no irony that we don’t hear of too many of those mentioned in the New (or Old) Testament – who has defined the way young people from CTMI talk. All of this from interviewing 2 youngsters against their will – as using an internal, in-house, language, and almost Pauline in tone. Leaving aside the psychobabble, and that there is a Biblical precedent for this sort of issue, I believe that the ‘therapist’ does have a point about one thing.

The issue of language is indeed one that distinguishes the Pentecostal and Charismatic Church from old-line traditional denominations. One only has to watch parodies of televangelists in movies, or on comedy shows, to know that all the humour to the generally unsaved audience relates to the words used by preachers and Christians from these types of churches.

Thus, speaking a type of Christian “language” is hardly an offense for which people are likely to burn in hell. On the contrary, just as surfers have their own language that only they seem to understand, Christians the world over are also known to use expressions like ‘sharing’, ‘my heart’, the Lord ‘told me’, etc. None of these, and similar expressions, is an implication that the speaker presumes that he alone is in direct, exclusive communication with God.

As a young Christian over 20 years ago, I recall a very popular expression at the time, which was all about the difference between ‘head’ knowledge and ‘heart’ knowledge. I am convinced that very few readers will need to have explained the difference between the two. The first one simply meant that we could clearly understand and grasp some point about God, the Bible, ourselves, grace etc. However, this remained in our heads only, and it had no power to transform our lives, or change old habits.

The second was all about something entering our hearts. Suddenly, all the lights flashed on! Everything became crystal clear and we could see where we had gone wrong; and somehow, we acquired a miraculous power to change even the most entrenched habits, be set free of long-term sinful ways; seeing issues, situations, and people in a completely different way. The light could be called ‘revelation’, while the miraculous power could be described as ‘grace’.

I believe that this word “REVELATION”, as it is used across the churches working with CTMI, is merely another way of saying heart knowledge. No more, no less! Jesus rightly told off the Pharisees who were prepared to strain at gnats, while swallowing camels.

For Pastor Miki Hardy, Basil O'Connell-Jones, and all those hundreds of pastors who work with them at CTMI, 'revelation' simply means some Biblical truth that reaches the heart of a man or a woman with the power of God to reveal the true state of that person's heart on that specific issue. There is **nothing unique, nothing secret, and nothing exclusive about it.** The revelation of the gospel of the cross is available to ALL who seek it with humble, repentant hearts. ”

MAJOR OR MINOR?

“The word that has tied them in knots, and made everyone spitting mad seems to be such an inoffensive one: “revelation”. It is incredible how people can clutch at the lightest of straws and create a major doctrinal issue about something so minor.”

The issue of "revelation" is VERY far from being a "minor" issue. Rather it is fundamental to our understanding of all truth. Christianity is unique in all religion in that it claims that God has chosen to reveal Himself clearly through the prophets, apostles and Jesus Christ Himself as recorded in the scriptures of the Old and New Testament. No revelation and we are left to work things out for ourselves in utter darkness. Pretty serious issue!

Jesus said he would build his church on the foundation of the revelation of apostles and prophets. (Luke 11:49; Eph 2:20) All humanity have a choice - believe this "revelation" or trust your own understanding and personal thoughts and experiences of "god".

A proper understanding of revelation is a HUGE issue! It is what makes the difference between life and death, heaven and hell!

GETTING OUR "CREW" WRONG!

“An ‘expert in cults’, self proclaimed after his bad experience with a real cult, a ‘discerning’ ministry, and a purported “Christian Therapist” – no irony that we don’t hear of too many of those mentioned in the New (or Old) Testament”

This weak attempt to discredit our "crew" is almost entirely inaccurate. 😊 Our cult expert is Dr Stephan Pretorius who has never been in a real cult but has studied and investigated cults for years. He has published in a number of reputable journals. He is one of 80-100 speakers at the International Cultic Studies Association's annual conference in Barcelona this year. Phil Naessens is a qualified theologian, pastor and seminary lecturer who runs a discernment ministry podcast and site which investigates and comments on issues in the Christian Church. Dr Ant Greenham is a professor of theology and expert on comparative religion in a prominent and reputable USA bible seminary. Our responses are shaped by these objective experts who never have had family in CTMI. In addition, there are over 40 supportive pastors as well as ex members who spent many years in CTMI who assist us with their insights. Sean Semple, the **actual** NOT "purported" (as CTMI have claimed) pastoral therapist, is now busy in his practice and after his initial involvement has had no input into any comments on the "revelation" issue.

CTMI "SPEAK"

“Thus, speaking a type of Christian “language” is hardly an offense for which people are likely to burn in hell. On the contrary, just as surfers have their own language that only they seem to understand, Christians the world over are also known to use expressions like ‘sharing’, ‘my heart’, the Lord ‘told me’, etc.”

We agree 100 % that the use of **biblical** expressions is common and right in all healthy Christian Churches. This person is cloning Miki in claiming to be like "Christians the world over" when everyone knows the exclusive "us-them" attitude and practices of "read no other books, attend no other conferences or bible schools, invite almost no other speakers, belong to no other fraternals" in all of CTMI!! Cynical comments about "burning in hell" are unfortunate.

The only point we have ever made is that it is a researched mark of cults that they develop their own language based on what their powerful "personalty cult" leaders regularly use. This becomes part of belonging. As parents with family in CTMI and as ex members we know this is true of CTMI! Ex -members joke about it frequently and lapse into using the old CTMI language with each other for a laugh! Terms such as the following are either not found in scripture or are used out of context. Neither are they used by "Christians the world over". They come out of the mouths of Miki and Audrey and are cloned throughout CTMI because it is cool and acceptable to be like them.

- *Catch the revelation*
- *Follow your heart*
- *Put your hand or finger into ...*
- *This gospel of the cross*
- *“Putting law” on somebody*
- *Twisted hearts*
- *In the natural*
- *Sons and daughters in the house*
- *Life on the altar*
- *The given life*
- *A gospel with power (or no power) to change lives*
- *See in the spirit*
- *Walk the road*
- *Apostolic anointing and revelation*
- *Carry the revelation of the gospel in your heart*
- *Love you guys*
- *Join with us who are “founded/grounded in this gospel”*
- *“Thank you for your heart” in this matter*
- *“Shake” and “shaken”*
- *Confronted*
- *Pure heart*
- *I want to make it very clear*

DOUBLE MINDEDNESS OVER "REVELATION" AND ROLE OF SCRIPTURE

"I believe that this word "REVELATION", as it is used across the churches working with CTMI, is merely another way of saying heart knowledge. No more, no less! Jesus rightly told off the Pharisees who were prepared to strain at gnats, while swallowing camels.

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So who must we listen to? This spokesperson or Miki and Audrey who certainly differ!!! Or is this a feeble attempt to cover up obvious and repeated statements of unique, exclusive, experiential, extra biblical "revelation".

We agree absolutely that heart knowledge differs from head knowledge. The Holy Spirit gives believers enlightened understanding of scripture which is different from an unbeliever who reads scripture. This is because all those born again have had their eyes opened.

Paul was sent to the gentiles to preach the gospel to:

***open their eyes**, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me. (Acts 26:18)'*

With these "open eyes" and with the ongoing help of the Holy Spirit who "leads into all truth" all believers can understand the revelation of God which is scripture itself!!

Paul instructs Timothy and Titus to teach and preach sound doctrine and silence those who depart from this body of apostolic teaching. This is "the voice" sheep will hear!! Sheep will hear good preachers and teachers opening the word of God and this will strike a chord in their hearts and they will want to obey. Not the special inner insight and superior mystical understanding of Gnosticism as obviously claimed by Miki when he said:

" Must we learn the scripture to renew our mind? No! It's in the spirit that we renew our mind - reading bible bible bible wont help you. It is the world's way." "When the revelation comes you don't need pen and paper and ink, God writes it on the heart, that's where it takes root. The mind is not meant to be renewed by things that I learn. "(Shepherds and Hirelings)

This is obviously and clearly WAY more than "heart knowledge of the bible". Miki specifically excludes the bible and the mind here!! Revelation and the bible are independent in this statement. Exactly like when two church leaders in Hillcrest were told by CTMI leaders:

"Don't quote scripture at us. That's a dead letter! You people just go around quoting scripture into people's lives. Put the book aside and let God speak to your heart"

Putting the book aside means putting the revelation aside!!! 🙄

If revelation means heart knowledge of **the bible** surely there would be serious study of the bible in CTMI. There most certainly is not! Ask any ex members now in churches where sound apostolic doctrine is loved and taught and preached and understood and obeyed from the heart. Rather, in CTMI serious study to "rightly divide the word of truth" is mocked and frowned upon and Miki and others boast of not preparing - of just standing up and speaking in the spirit! Those who use commentaries and study the Greek and Hebrew are accused of "stifling the Spirit". When a hungry young believer asked why after three years he had not been taught bible basics he was told "The early church didn't have a bible and what about blind and illiterate people"!!!

And if any humble and repentant believer can receive the "revelation of the gospel of the cross" then why does Miki state in a JOY magazine article:

*"Yet today many Christians are falling apart, being destroyed, because they do not hear the right Gospel enough. As a result they backslide and leave the church. **Because of the lack of genuine Apostles, carrying the true anointing**, this message is absent from the church today"*

Please note - he does not say because of "poor teaching of sound doctrine from the bible" or "lack of heart knowledge" - NO - he clearly links "the message" to "genuine apostles carrying the true anointing" (which is him and his revelation of course!!!)

Basil O' Connoll Jones certainly understood it this way when he said:

"There is only one gospel. The revelation of this gospel comes through the apostolic anointing. The true gospel cannot be taught; its a revelation."

This is classic Gnosticism and heresy! Of course the gospel must be taught!!! In the hope that the Holy Spirit will apply His word to the sinners heart! "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God".

When Basil was asked by local church leaders why he claimed to have "something you do not have" and what this might be - his immediate answer was NOT "heart knowledge of the bible"!! Rather it was "Apostolic anointing and revelation".

Our recent analysis of Durban and Bulawayo conferences makes it absolutely clear from countless extracts that Miki is saying to other pastors "you must submit to the apostolic anointing and revelation which I carry in my heart like Paul". (NOT which has been in the bible for centuries!!!) Only then can you "catch" the revelation and when it "drops into your heart" you will feel the difference! No mention of studying God's word together with the help of the Spirit! In fact he mocked those who wanted to be independent of apostolic anointing with their "LITTLE BIBLES".

If this heart knowledge of the bible is available to any believer why did our children say when we asked them "are you the only ones in all the world and church history with this gospel?"

"There may be some who have what we have but we haven't found them yet"???

NO Gilbert or Peter or whoever you may be - your *"what's the big deal - all we mean is heart knowledge of the bible which anyone can have"* response just does not tie up with the reality of all teaching in CTMI!

In fact it blatantly contradicts what your apostle with the anointing and revelation repeatedly teaches. And what other leaders and members often repeat.

(The above was sent to Gilbert Grant and Peter McKenzie with no reply. Clearly their post was not meant for us. Rather for their own congregation. Especially the newer members. As pointed out by many cult specialists – such organisations do not want their newer members to be exposed too early to the reality of their more radical teachings.)