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CHRISTIAN ARRAY

RESTORING THE RESTORATION
IN OUR GENERATION

NUMBER 2

DECEMBER, 1989

INNOVATION ARRAY - DATA COLLECTION ON DENOMINATIONS

The Wednesday night class teacher came in and announced that the new class subject was a study of other churches (denominations). The format was to be a 10 minute verbal review for two dozen different groups followed by verbal discourses of specific topics.

The teacher was proud that he was doing a good job. The educational director was certain that he had arranged a first class program.

The class listened. They were refreshed in what they were already vaguely familiar with. Being somewhat limited in the recall of verbal information, they were not better prepared to do their part in the Great Commission.

This scenario is repeated in the church time after time, place after place, and year after year.

This does not work anymore, if it ever worked. The changes which have occurred in our society to render this classic teaching method ineffective are not the subject of this article. They will be addressed later. The fact is, it is not working. This pattern has been an integral part of the transforming of the church of Christ from a "Bible knowing church" to a church that used to know the Bible.

There are surely dozens of study styles far more effective than this "verbal class" method. The congregational "verbal class" method not only does not build the education of the members, it actually discourages outside studies to maintain or build member's knowledge. You may not agree with that statement, but look around. Do you disagree with the results?

Effective personal evangelism requires opportunity, desire, and information. Certainly opportunity is all around us. Desire and motivation are entire subjects to themselves. Information is the topic of this article. Personal evangelism will certainly be enhanced if better information is more readily available to the average member.

Several books are available which present information on various religious groups. The books tend to discuss the high points of various groups without a common format. The facts are buried within enough words to make them difficult to rapidly access.

This issue of the Christian Array addresses one. It addresses a book being written titled The Innovation Array. It has the general goal of being a substantial aid in the processes of personal evangelism.

The Innovation Array is being written in a notebook style which is intended to provide an information array on various religious groups. Specific goals of this book are:

1. Allow a reader to know the basic beliefs of any of 300 different religious groups within a few seconds.
2. Allow a member quickly review comments on how to effectively approach members of various religious groups.
3. Provide the information in a standardized format.
4. Keep the format simple for frequent updates. (A loose leaf notebook is used.)

The Innovation Array is basically formatted in two sections. The first section is a Data Summary. The Data Summary is a highly compact presentation of information which a user can review to see the basic tenants of any religion. In this format approximately 30 groups can be displayed on a single page. As the general goal of this book is to document approximately 300 groups, this still represents several pages. The format of this information presentation is shown on page 6 of this issue.

The second section is the data in a more detailed format for each group. Two pages called a "Standard Church Questionnaire" are dedicated to each group. It provides the backup data, sources for the data, and a place for specific comments. The questionnaire shown on page 5 of this issue is a compressed sample of this questionnaire. In addition to every group being documented in this style, the specific comments area will include what you have seen as successful in handling discussions with prospects of that particular group.

DATA SUMMARY

Page no. 7 presents a portion of the Data Summary which is being prepared. The first column gives basic subjects starting with SALV for "Salvation". The second column is a listing of apostacies which have occurred. The third column is a set of scriptures which provide a quick reference on the subject.

The fourth column titled "ARRAY PAGE NO." is the page number for a lesson on this subject in a book titled Christian Array. The fifth column is titled "DATE STARTED" gives the approximate date when the apostacy began. The sixth column titled "CODES" provides A, B, and C for predicted, first century, and recent innovations.

Starting in the seventh column, data is displayed from various religious groups. Only a sampling is presented here of what has been done, however, it is far from complete.

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STANDARD CHURCH QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questionnaire asks a specific set of questions which coordinate with the "Data Summary". The goal is to have this questionnaire filled out on at least 300 different religious groups. The goal is not to have 300 sets of opinions, but 300 sets of facts. Each question on the questionnaire must have the book and page number where the data was located, or the name of the person providing the information.

At the end, comments can be included about the group or how to approach members of that group.

STANDARD CHURCH QUESTIONNAIRE

DENOMINATION: _____

MEANING OF NAME: _____

DATE ESTABLISHED: _____

ORIGINATOR: _____

	BELIEF OF THIS CHURCH (YES OR NO)	REF. BOOK LTR.	BOOK PAGE NO.
<u>SALVATION:</u>			

ALL WILL BE SAVED: _____

SALVATION BY FAITH ONLY: _____

SECOND CHANCE FOR SALVATION _____

AFTER DEATH: _____

BELIEVE THAT YOU CANNOT FALL _____

FROM GRACE: _____

PREDESTINATION TO SALVATION: _____

BAPTISM:

BAPTISM: _____

* NOT ESSENTIAL: _____

* SPRINKLING OR POURING _____

ACCEPTABLE: _____

* OF INFANTS: _____

* FOR THE DEAD: _____

* OF HOLY SPIRIT: _____

* LORDSHIP BAPTISM: _____

ORGANIZATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

MAN'S NAME FOR CHURCH: _____

LOCAL CHURCH NOT UNDER RULE _____

OF LOCAL ELDERS: _____

CALLS HUMANS "FATHER" OR _____

REVEREND: _____

INFALLIBILITY OF A COUNCIL OR A _____

MEMBER: _____

CELIBACY OF PRIESTHOOD: _____

SPECIAL DRESS OF PRIESTHOOD: _____

PROBATION PERIOD FOR NEW _____

MEMBERS: _____

VOTE TO ACCEPT NEW MEMBERS: _____

DETERMINATION OF BELIEFS:

CONTEMPORARIES CAN UPDATE _____

BIBLE: _____

USE OF A CHURCH CREED: _____

SUBJECT TO PART OF THE OLD _____

LAW: _____

TRADITIONS OF THE CHURCH EQUAL TO _____

BIBLE IN DETERMINING WHAT IS _____

CORRECT TO BELIEVE: _____

THE END

KINGDOM NOT ESTABLISHED: _____

PREMILLENNIUMISM: _____

RAPTURE: _____

THERE IS NO HELL: _____

PURIFICATION IN PURGATORY: _____

MISCELLANEOUS:

HOMOSEXUALITY IS ACCEPTABLE _____

CONDUCT: _____

USE OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC: _____

WOMEN ADDRESSING MEN AT _____

SERVICE: _____

DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE _____

WITHOUT ADULTERY: _____

PROPHECY DATE OF CHRIST'S _____

RETURN: _____

MIRACULOUS GIFTS TODAY: _____

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS: _____

WORSHIP OF DEPARTED SAINTS: _____

DENIAL THAT LIVING _____

CHRISTIANS ARE SAINTS: _____

TEACH TO ABSTAIN FROM _____

CERTAIN FOODS: _____

ABSOLUTION (REMISSION OF _____

SINS BY PRIEST): _____

DO NOT TAKE COMMUNION ON _____

FIRST DAY OF EACH WEEK: _____

TRANSUBSTANTIATION (BREAD & _____

WINE BECOME LITERAL FLESH _____

& BLOOD OF CHRIST _____

REQUIRES REGULAR CONFESSION _____

TO ANOTHER PERSON: _____

PENANCE: _____

REFERENCE BOOKS:

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL(S) PROVIDING INFORMATION TO YOU (IF ANY): _____

D. _____ PHONE NO.: _____

E. _____ PHONE NO.: _____

F. _____ PHONE NO.: _____

COMMENTS: _____

USE ADDITIONAL PAGES FOR MORE INFORMATION.

RESEARCHER: _____

DATE: _____

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

We need interested church members to assist in two specific areas. First, we request that you review the information being collected and make suggestions on other pertinent information to be collected. If we are going to do this, we might as well do it right.

Secondly, members are needed to document various groups. If you are acquainted with a group, please assist this work by xeroxing this page and filling it out. If you want to assist with a more extensive commitment, call or write. There is plenty of work to do.

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CHRISTIAN ARRAY

THE CHRISTIAN ARRAY
INNOVATIONS IN CHURCHES: A DATA SUMMARY

PRELIMINARY: ALL DATA NEEDS TO BE CONFIRMED
BELIEFS MAY NOT BE COMMON TO ALL PARTS OF A DENOMINATION

CODES FOR INNOVATIONS:
A = APOSTASY PREDICTED IN BIBLE
B = FIRST CENTURY PROBLEM
C = MORE RECENT INNOVATION
"X" MEANS DATA SHEET NOT AVAILABLE ON DENOMINATION

	SCRIPTURE REFERENCE	ARRAY PAGE NO.	DATE STARTED		B B B	C C C	E Q J	M L P S
S ALL WILL BE SAVED	HEB. 6:4-6			C	.	.	.	.
A SALVATION BY FAITH ONLY	JAMES 2:17			C	.	.	.C	.C.
L SECOND CHANCE AFTER DEATH	MATT. 25:31-46		593	C	.	C.	.C	C.
V CANNOT FALL FROM GRACE	GAL. 5:4	12.1		C	C.	.	.	.C.
PREDESTINATION (TO SALV.)	GAL. 5:4			C	C.	.	.	.C.
B NOT ESSENTIAL FOR SALVATION	ACTS 2:38	3.1.2		C	.C.C	.	.C.C	.C.C
A SPRINKLING OR POURING	ACTS 8:38	3.1.2	1311	C	.	C.	C.	.C.C.
P OF INFANTS		3.1.3	1750	C	.	C.	C.	.C.C.
T DEPRAVITY OF INFANTS	MATT. 18:3	3.1.3	375	C	.	C.	C.	.C.C.
I FOR DEAD		3.1.3		C	.	.	.	C.
S OF HOLY SPIRIT		3.1.3		C	.	.C	.	.C.
M LORDSHIP	ACTS 2:38	3.1.3	1980'S	C	.	.C	.	.
O MAN'S NAME FOR CHURCH	I COR. 1:10-17	6.1	57	B	B B B	B . .	B B B	B B C B
R NOT UNDER LOCAL CONTROL	I TIM. 5:17		325	C	C C C	C . C	C . C	C C C C
G CHANGED ORGANIZATIONAL TYPE	I TIM. 3 & TITUS 1		"	C	.	.C	.C	.C.C.
A CALLS HUMANS FATHER OR REV.	MATT. 23:8-10			B	.	B . .	.B . .	.B . .
N INFALLIBILITY OF A MEMBER			1414	C	.	C . .	.	. . . .
I CELIBACY OF PRIESTHOOD	I TIM. 4:3	6.1	1123	A	.	A . .	.	. . . .
Z SPECIAL DRESS OF PRIESTHOOD	MATT. 23:1-7			B	.	B . .	B B .	.B B .
A PROBATION FOR NEW MEMBERS	ACTS 2:41			C	.	.C	.	. . . .
VOTE TO ACCEPT NEW MEMBERS	ACTS 2:41			C	.	.	.	. . . .
B								
I CAN UPDATE BIBLE	REV. 22:18-19	2.2		C	.	C . .	.C	C C C C
B USE OF A CREED	GAL. 1:8-9	2.2		C	.	C . .	C . C	C C . C
L SUBJECT TO PART OF OLD LAW	GAL. 3:24-25	2.2		B	.	.	.B	.B B .
E TRADITION=BIBLE IN DECISIONS	MATT 15:3	2.2	1545	C	.	C . .	.	. . . .
E KINGDOM NOT EST. IN 1ST CENT.	COL. 1:13	4.5		C	.C	.	.C	. . . .
N PREMILLENIUMISM		8.2		C	.C	.	.C	. . . .
D RAPTURE		8.2		C	.C	.	.C	. . . .
THERE IS NO HELL	MATT. 5:22	9.2		C	.	.	.C	. . . .
PURIFICATION IN PURGATORY	LUKE 16:19-26		593	C	.	C . .	.	. . . .
CHRIST NOT RESURRECTED	I COR 15:12-19			B	.	.	.B	. . . .
M HOMOSEXUALITY O.K.	ROMANS 1:26-27		1900'S	C	.	.	. . .	. . . .
I USE OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC	EPH. 5:19		667	C	.C	C . .	C . .	C C C C
S WOMEN ADDRESSING MEN AT SER.	I COR 14:34-35	11.3		B	.	.	.	.B . .
C DIVORCE & REMARR. W/O ADULTRY	MATT. 5:32	11.1		B	.	.	.	. . . .
PROPHECY DATE OF CHRIST'S RET.	II PETER 3:19	8.1		C	.	.	.C	. . . .
MIRACULOUS GIFTS TODAY	I COR. 13:8	14.1		C	.	.	.	. . . .
RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS	GAL. 4:9-11			B	.	B . .	.	.B B .
M WORSHIP OF DEPARTED SAINTS			787	C	.	C . .	.	. . . .
I MEMBERS NOT SAINTS	ROMANS 1:7			C	.	C . .	.	. . . .
S ABSTAIN FROM FOOD	I TIM. 4:3	6.1	998	A	.	A . .	.	. . . .
C TEACH MYTHS	II TIM. 4:4	6.1	451	A	.	A . .	.	. . . .
COMMUNION NOT WEEKLY	ACTS 20:7		>300	C	.	.	C . C	.C . .
TRANSUBSTANTIATION (WINE BECOMES BLOOD, ETC.)			1215	C	.	C . .	.	.C . .
REG. & REQ. CONFESSION TO ANOTHER PERSON			1217	C	.	C . C	.	. . . .
ABSOLUTION (FORGIVENESS BY PRIEST)			1268	C	.	C
PENANCE (WORK TO REMOVE SIN)			157	C	.	C

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BUSINESS QUOTES

The following quotations were in the Design News Magazine in November, 1989 in an article titled "Interesting Quotations for Today's Managers":

"We trained hard...but it seemed that every time we were beginning to form up into teams we would be reorganized. I was to learn later in life that we tend to meet any new situation by reorganizing; and a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing confusion, inefficiency, and demoralization." - Pedronius Arbiter, 210 B.C.

"Would any of you think of building a tower without first setting down and calculating the cost, to see whether he could afford to finish it?" - Jesus, 30 A.D.

BELIEVER'S PROOFS

It is criticized that only believers wrote about the resurrection of Christ. Can you imagine that an individual would see Christ crucified, buried, and resurrected and then write that it didn't happen. If anyone saw it happen, he was a believer.

Witnesses of the resurrection who wrote independently of the fact of the resurrection are:

1. Matthew, a tax collector
2. Mark
3. Luke, a doctor
4. John, a fisherman
5. Paul, a lawyer, an ex-member of the Jewish sanhedrin
6. Peter, another fisherman
7. James, Jesus' brother, probably a carpenter by trade
8. Jude, James' brother, therefore probably Jesus' brother and probably a carpenter by trade.

This is not the writings of a single book. It is the independent writings of no less than 8 individuals. It was several hundred years later before the writings of these individuals were actually combined into the "Bible" as we know it.

CHRISTIAN ARRAY

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Phone (713) 497-6042
FAX (713) 497-7312

Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E.

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS REQUESTED

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EVENTS CALENDAR:

AREA WIDE CONGREGATIONAL EVENTS

March 10, 1990: "One Day On Crete - How To Build The Church God's Way", Dr. Carrol Osburn from ACU, First Colony

Sept. 21-23, 1990: Creation Evolution Seminar, Memorial, 464-0271

AREA WIDE YOUTH EVENTS: TBA

- Jan. 8 Youth Ministers & Basketball at Oak Ridge North, 11:30 A.M.
- Feb. 5 Youth Ministers & Basketball at Memorial, 11:30 A.M.
- Feb. 11 Watters Road hosts Area-Wide Spring Fling at 3:00 P.M.
- Mar. 5 Youth Ministers & Basketball at Memorial, 11:30 A.M.
- Apr. 7 ACU Spring High School Day
- May 7 Youth Ministers & Basketball at Memorial, 11:30 A.M.
- June 11 Area-Wide Devo
- June 18 Area-Wide Devo
- June 25 Area-Wide Devo
- July 2 Area-Wide Devo
- July 9 Area-Wide Devo
- July 16 Area-Wide Devo
- July 23 Area-Wide Devo
- July 30 Area-Wide Devo
- Aug. 6 Area-Wide Devo
- Aug. 13 Area-Wide Devo
- Aug. 20 Acappella at the Music Hall for Westbury Christian Schools

AREA WIDE SINGLES EVENTS: TBA

SCIENTIFIC FACTS?

In 1974 Donald Johanson discovered a 40% complete skeleton in Ethiopia dubbed with the name "Lucy". We are taught the word and implications of atheistic educators that "Lucy" is 3.2 million years old. This is considered to be scientific. They seldom tell you is that the main part of the skeleton was found with the elbow sticking up thru the ground. The knee was found approximately 2 miles away and about 200 feet in the ground.