

## Qualifications and Disqualifications of Teachers and Overseers in God's Word

### With Disqualifications of Bill Gothard Illustrated

These materials were prepared in the Spring of 1980 to assist in discussions with the elders and Pastor of the LaGrange Bible Church where Bill Gothard was ordained, commissioned, was an active member, and had widely advertised that he was under the authority of this local church and under the discipline of the Board of Elders according to the church's constitution. The LaGrange Bible Church rejected all requests to hear these charges. Bill Gothard resisted as well failing to agree to this hearing in order that the matters might be fully resolved quickly and fully with an end result in view of spiritual help and instruction being provided to him.

<b>God's Word and Standards for Overseers, Teachers and Ministers of the Gospel</b>	<b>Disqualifications, Violations by Rev. Bill Gothard (BG)</b>	<b>Supporting Evidence</b>
<p>Confessing and forsaking of sins to experience God's mercy and God's cleansing from all unrighteousness</p> <p>"...but he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity."</p> <p>Proverbs 28:13, 14 I John 1:9 Ezekiel 33:all; 18: all</p> <p>"I am afraid that when I come again my God may humiliate me before you, and <u>I may mourn over many of those who have sinned in the past and not repented of the impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced</u>... I have previously said when present the second time, and though now absent I say in advance to those who have sinned in the past, and</p>	<p>Bill Gothard has for now 40 years resisted repenting of the impurity, immorality and sensuality that is evidenced by the testimony of many directly involved, the testimony of many who observed and attempted to confront him, and the evidence of damaged lives of the young staff women who moved to Oak Brook Headquarters to serve Christ by serving in the Bill Gothard ministry.</p>	<p>By 1975 to 1980, Bill Gothard had moved a number of young single staff women to the Crazy Bear Lodge where they lived in private apartments in one of several buildings which were occupied by Bill's brother and a few other staff men and Bill occupied his private cabin in the forest.</p> <p>Bill Gothard often came to the bedrooms of these young single staff women late at night after they had dressed for bed. Several reported (with witnesses) seeing Bill Gothard entering their rooms, even when not invited. One reported to these interviewers he would come in while she was in her nightgown and caress her and fondle her, having her sit on his lap while visiting with her.</p> <p>When Bill Gothard was confronted by Gary Smalley about these accounts, Bill defended his actions claiming he was "dating the girl" (though he had failed somehow to ask the girl's father for permission to date his young daughter). One young</p>

<p>to all the rest as well, that if I come again I will not spare anyone...” Paul to church at Corinth. II Cor. 12:21; 13:2</p>		<p>girl involved with Bill Gothard described her confusion “he always told me he was treating me like my father” while I was away from home.</p> <p>One young staff woman complained to her apartment neighbor (who knew Bill Gothard often came calling late at night) “I’d have to lock my door because I didn’t want him coming in my apartment at night when I was on my way to bed.”</p> <p>From conference call notes, Nov. 1, 1983 involving Dr. Earl Radmacher (President of Western Seminary, Portland, OR), Gary Smalley (long time staff and friend of Bill Gothard), Pastor Richard Hagenbaugh, interviewing three staff of Bill Gothard after their exit from the organization. Two were single women violated spiritually and sexually over a number of years.</p>
<p>Competes according to the rules. “...he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules.” II Tim. 2:5</p> <p>“...lest somehow after preaching to others, I myself should become disqualified” I Cor. 9:27</p> <p>“But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death. James 1:14-15</p>	<p>BG has consistently rejected the ministers and prophets which God has sent to him, stonewalling them and driving them away from contact with him. He would also at times invent and spread false stories about some who attempted to confront him.</p> <p>BG has consistently rejected good and repeated attempts to discuss basic doctrinal problems in many of his teachings with very qualified pastors and theologians.</p> <p>BG has always rejected every request to have his personal behavior and ministerial qualifications examined by his church of membership which ordained and commissioned him to this ministry.</p> <p>BG has not been blameless nor maintained a clear conscience or clean hands, continuing to peddle religious and education books written, edited and published by men and women involved in ongoing</p>	<p>See report titled “<b>History of Attempts to Confront Bill Gothard Regarding Disqualifications from Ministry and Bill Gothard’s Rejection...</b>”</p> <p>See report titled “<b>History of Attempts to Confront Bill Gothard Regarding Disqualifications from Ministry</b>”</p> <p>See report titled “<b>Authorship and Publication of Ministry Materials by Men and Women Active in Immorality</b>”</p>

	<p>immorality, raking in millions of dollars each year from those publications.</p> <p>BG has struggled with his own ongoing sexual addiction as well as permitting the ongoing spiritual violation and sexual violation of young single staff women working in the ministry.</p>	<p>See report titled “<b>Bill Gothard’s Detailed Knowledge of Immorality</b>”</p> <p>See report titled “<b>Bill Gothard’s Discipleship of Brother with Report of Outcomes</b>”</p>
<p>Stricter judgment for Teachers. James 3:1</p> <p>Without blemish, without stain, without wrinkle. Ephesians 5:27 (church)</p> <p>“What sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness...be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.” (individuals)</p>	<p>When men like Bill Gothard and his brother, become involved with young, single staff women in intimate living quarters and long hours of hard labor in a close work environment, isolated from their families, after drilling into these young girls the dangers of violating a “chain of command” doctrine, the dangers of getting out from under their “umbrella of protection” (e.g. their authorities, including their employers, bosses, which Bill Gothard and his brother were), these men are able to take advantage of and violate these girls in their privacy, their dignity, their standing as children of the heavenly Father.</p>	<p>“And whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me; but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.” Matthew 18:6; Luke 17:2; Mark 9:2.</p>
<p>“Does not handle the Word of God <b>deceitfully.</b>” II Cor. 4:2</p> <p><b>Eisegesis:</b> “introducing one’s own presuppositions, agendas, or biases into and onto the text.”</p> <p>“able to teach” I Timothy 3:2</p> <p>“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, <b>rightly dividing the word of truth.</b>” II Timothy 2:15</p>	<p>BG regularly utilizes <b>eisegesis</b> and rarely would exercise exegesis correctly utilizing the context of the Scripture text. For one example only:</p> <p>BG takes the OT reference of David’s statement regarding his intention to “not lift up his hand against the Lord’s anointed” (reference to King Saul, I Sam. 12:3, 5; 24:6, 10; 26:9, 11, 16, 23)) and applies it to himself as self-protection against any and all persons with any complaint or charge against him for his contrary doctrine or unrighteous behavior.</p> <p>BG’s use of this teaching is false and harmful to the health of the New Testament church training other pastors, teachers and elders to utilize the same wrong</p>	<p>Ref. to “not lifting hand against Lord’s anointed”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Refers only to doing physical harm. David rebuked Saul before all his soldiers (26:13-25), David took Saul’s spear and jug of water from beside his head to embarrass him. (26:11, 16, 22).</li> <li>2. Samuel spoke out publicly about King Saul’s disobedience to God, calling the King’s behavior as rebellion like witchcraft and idolatry (I Sam. 15:3, 15, 24)</li> <li>3. This phrase is never used anywhere in the New Testament by any apostle or church leader. It is error to use it in the context of the New Testament church.</li> </ol>

<p>“...holding fast the faithful word which is <b>in accordance with the teaching</b> so that he will be <b>able both to exhort in sound doctrine</b> and to refute those who contradict.” Titus 1:9</p>	<p>defense against accountability they most desperately need. Bill Gothard should repeatedly be asked to repent of his use of it, and publish his recantation to 50,000 pastors on his mailing list as well as in all available Christian papers and magazines.</p>	<p>4. All overseers, teachers, elders, pastors are all subject to rebuke, reproof and discipline “without partiality” in regard to their position or reputation. I Timothy 5:19-24. Jesus teaches we are to judge righteously. John 7:24.</p> <p>5. In the NT, every believer in Christ is “anointed by God” I Cor. 12:13; I Jn. 2:27; II Cor. 1:20-22</p>
<p>“Is not dishonest.” II Cor. 4:2.</p> <p>“...<b>but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame</b>, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth <b>commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.</b>”</p> <p>“Does not speak lies in hypocrisy as do those who depart from the faith, seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron.” I Tim. 4:2</p>	<p>BG will NOT acknowledge his full responsibility for the sexual violation and spiritual ruination of young single female staff which he authorized and personally ordered to be shipped to the ministry’s Crazy Bear Lodge in Watersmeet, MI where BG already had detailed knowledge of ongoing immorality involving his own brother and other young single staff women also working for BG at this location.</p> <p>BG is correctly characterized as one who regularly “prevaricates” when asked direct and personal questions.</p> <p><b>“pre-var-i-cate”</b> <i>intransitive verb</i> \pri-ˈver-ə- kāt, -ˈva-rə-\ : to avoid telling the truth by not directly answering a question (Merriam-Webster).</p> <p>“to <u>speak</u> falsely or misleadingly; deliberately misstate or create an incorrect impression; lie. (Dictionary.com)</p> <p>He is highly experienced and a professional at prevarication, and the accounts summarized briefly in this piece illustrate what facts and details he hopes to avoid disclosure or admission to.</p>	<p>A total number of 14 senior and long term staff were involved with the immorality uncovered around Bill Gothard in 1979-1980. This gross and perverse immorality had continued daily for at least seven years that Bill Gothard knew about it and possibly as long as a dozen years. A good number of these women and men worked closely with Bill Gothard, traveled to Seminars with Bill Gothard, and lived in close proximity to Bill Gothard on a daily basis as they worked hand in hand to write, edit, proof, and publish the many materials of the ministry sold to millions of unsuspecting participants in the Basic Seminar, Advanced Seminar, Minister Seminars, ATI educational and training materials.</p> <p>See report titled “<b>Authorship and Publication of Ministry Materials by Men and Women Active in Immorality</b>”</p> <p>BG’s primary fear is that any acknowledgement of sins and failures on his part will lead his Board, his home church, pastors across the nation, and millions of alumni to conclude he has by his offensive and unconfessed behavior to so many persons, along with his many teachings which are clearly contrary to the teachings of the Scriptures, they will conclude he has disqualified himself from any public ministry. Bill Gothard therefore conceals, deceives, and accuses others in continued defense of himself, dangerously</p>

		<p>postponing his judgment to the Judgment Seat of Christ. II Cor. 5:9, 10, 1-10; Romans 14:10; I Peter 4:17; I Cor. 5:9-13; 6:1-11.</p>
<p>“Not walking in craftiness.” II Cor. 4:2</p> <p>“Remind them of these things, and solemnly charge them in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless and leads to the ruin of the hearers.” II Timothy 3:14-16</p> <p>Not double tongued. I Tim. 3:8 Man of his word. Matthew 5:34-37</p>	<p>It became known in 1980 that Bill Gothard and his father William Gothard Sr. who had both been fired/terminated in earlier years from various Christian ministries, had vowed together years earlier to develop this “ministry” in such a way that they would never be subject to termination by a Board or ministry again.</p> <p>This would explain the weakness of their repeated choices for Board members, their practice of manipulating the Board itself to their own decisions and preferences. It also explains their avoidance of reporting true problems in the ministry as well as a dangerous disregard for seeking the counsel of and submitting to the prayerful consideration of direction from God Himself for ministry decisions and actions.</p>	<p>Bill Gothard is widely known for developing his defenses by changing the meanings of words. He develops his teaching doctrines in much the same way.</p> <p>Bill Gothard knew he was dealing with fire, many fires, in 1976 to 1980. When asked if there was “immorality” going on, he might say “No” if he determined you were asking if “full intercourse” was in progress. God’s Word uses clear terms of carnality, impurity, immorality and sensuality (II Cor. 12:21) which describe slavery to sin and the flesh in Scripture which Gothard referred to as something less and fixable as an “impropriety,” an “indiscretion,” or “inappropriate behavior” or “defrauding,” all to defuse any and all serious inquiry put to him directly.</p> <p>When Bill Gothard acknowledged to staff men and his Board of Directors his 13-14 years of sexual addition of masturbation, he would not define it as what Christ described as “looking at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”</p> <p>Why in May and June and July of 1980 did Bill Gothard make such an effort to force return to the ministry one of the ministry’s possessions, the pile of violent and raunchy video movies used by those involved in immorality on his staff, movies which featured violence against women, sexual promiscuity featured and promoted by these films?</p>



<p>Clean hands. Psalm 24:4</p>	<p>God, we have conducted ourselves in the world and especially toward you.” II Cor. 1:12.</p>	<p>ministry in rejection of Christ’s teachings on how to resolve conflicts between believers (Matt. 18:10-20).</p> <p>BG, additionally employed two men in 1981 to travel by jet to present false accusations to the home church of a previous staff member in a secret meeting, being sure to again reject the teachings of Christ in Matt. 18. BG has not confessed this wrong nor has he corrected the damage and the revenge he purposely intended to deliver. Romans 12:17-21</p>
<p>“We have defrauded no persons, taken advantage of no persons.” II Cor. 7:2; 12:17.</p> <p>A pure heart. Psalm 24:4</p>	<p>BG has been seen often in intimate physical contact with young female secretaries which many have confronted him about over many years. BG instructed young women to telephone him at night when they felt tempted sexually.</p>	<p>BG has often required candidate staff to sell their homes before they move into homes provided by the ministry, leaving those staff vulnerable and with no ability to easily return home after serving the ministry, and removing the ability to rent out their homes for additional support revenue.</p> <p>BG’s communications with his very young single executive secretary had persuaded her that BG had desires and plans for their marriage, which in reality he had none. It did lower her defenses to his taking advantage of her company for his emotional and physical desires and the eventual seduction by his brother.</p>
<p>“Does not forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth.” I Tim. 4:1-6</p>	<p>BG terminated employees who developed love interests and desired to be married. BG negotiated with single women staff to “be their Abraham” so he would have authority to select their husbands for them. BG commonly displaced staff women’s fathers and insisted on directing single women regarding their dating and marriage choices, under the known threat they could be terminated by pursuing marriage on their own without his involvement.</p>	<p>BG introduced nationwide policy at Headquarters and all Area Committees that meals could no longer include bacon, ham or tuna, being “unclean meats” BG focused on one staff man whose family farmed and raised hogs as a business. He insisted the staff member press his father, brother and Uncle to stop raising hogs and get out of the business altogether. This offense and damage has never been confessed or corrected.</p>

<p>“Knows how to rule/care for his own house...so he will know how to take care of the church of God” I Tim. 3:4-5</p>	<p>Fourteen (14) of the longest serving staff of BG who worked closest to him and lived and traveled with him regularly, all were involved in gross perversion and immorality, one being his own brother whom BG had taken on as special effort to “disciple” him in the ways of the Lord and assist in his spiritual growth.</p>	<p>What experiences of management does BG have of his own family members, what demonstration of discipleship of his own long serving staff members and “close friends,” 14 of whom were ruined morally after years of hearing and following BG’s teachings under his close tutelage? What special insight and wisdom would Bill Gothard have to instruct Pastors and Teachers at Seminars for how to care for the church of God?</p>
<p>Given to hospitality. I Tim. 3:2</p>	<p>Bill Gothard would most often turn down requests for staff to host their visiting friends or family in the homes they lived in while serving at the ministry.</p>	<p>Bill Gothard was completely opposed to traveling staff staying an extra one or two hours in any city following a Basic Seminar event to attend church with their hosts on Sunday morning, rather requiring them to spend Sunday mornings in the airport. When any staff pushed back or violated that rule, he was not happy about it. Bill Gothard would most often schedule staff meetings on Sunday nights so that staff could not attend or become involved with local church fellowships and relationships.</p>
<p>Good behavior, not a striker or brawler. I Tim. 3:2 I Cor. 6:1-8</p>	<p>Bill Gothard has often threatened revenge, repercussions and lawsuits against those who complain or publically warn the church and the public about him. In 1981 Bill Gothard hired a large prestigious law firm downtown Chicago to subpoena a long time staff (who had been terminated the year before by the organization with no given cause or reason). Bill Gothard had his law firm spend an estimated \$100,000 to take his deposition for 40 hours in a 5 day period. Bill Gothard did not offer to pay for this man’s lost time and wages for having to respond to Bill Gothard’s “brawling.” This ex-staffer was not involved with any of the lawsuits being filed against Bill Gothard by his</p>	



	own brother, certain of his ex-staff and regional city committees.	
Blameless. I Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:5-9	<p>“Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the person through whom they come!” Luke 17:1; Matthew 18:7</p> <p>BG is fairly quick and effective to blame others. He is very slow to acknowledge his own blame and responsibility and has failed to correct the damage he has done in the lives of so many.</p> <p>When we fail and do damage to others, we can return to “blameless” by entering into “godly sorrow” that produces a changed life including repentance, vindication of yourselves, indignation, fear, longing, zeal, avenging of the wrongs done (putting them back right to every extent possible), demonstrating to the watching world and the offended that you have returned to a position of innocence, clean hands, washed in the blood of the Lamb. II Cor. 7:9-13</p>	<p>Bill Gothard is very far from blameless today. He has obfuscated, blamed others, redefined the terms of sin to his own justifications, and rejected every attempt to bring him to accountability.</p> <p>Instead, he makes very large efforts to continue on his way claiming he has God’s blessings and offering as evidence incoming donations, large and growing attendance at ministry events and the large number of young people who are attending his ministry events or schools.</p> <p>If he would argue that large amounts of money continues to come in, that argument would also apply to the Mormon Church, Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, mafia and illicit drug sales.</p> <p>If he would argue that there are large volumes of people entering into his programs and attending his events, that is the same argument for popular rock bands, the football games and popular self-help motivational preachers experiencing tremendous growth in attendance and book sales.</p> <p>Bill Gothard’s own preparation for giving an account to God for every word and every deed done in the body can and should, for his benefit, be worked through here and now in a humble way, trusting God for His mercy, healing and reconciliation with the many who have been greatly damaged by his very bad behavior and his contrary doctrine which includes his elevation of his speculations and rules and commandments of man up against the true knowledge of Jesus Christ who is the only Way, the only Truth, and the only Life.</p>

<p>Vigilant. I Tim. 3:2</p> <p>1 Samuel 3:1--4:22 Eli and his wicked sons</p> <p>Eli was the high priest of God of the nation of Israel under whom Samuel the young boy grew up under his training. Eli had two sons Hophni and Phinehas who also served as priests though they were known publicly as worthless men (1 Sam. 2:12). When they offered the sacrifices to God, they took for themselves as much of the offering as they desired (1 Sam. 2:13-14; Lev. 7:29-34). The outcome of this ongoing behavior caused the people who were worshipping God to despise the offerings which they were bringing to God (1 Sam. 2:17). The repeated wicked behavior and the violations of the instructions of God by these men caused people to disrespect the worship of the Lord. Additionally, the two sons of Eli also committed ongoing fornication with the women who were also serving in the Temple (1 Sam. 2:22). Eli was well aware of his sons' wickedness. The report of their wickedness was known and discussed by the people (1 Sam. 2:23-24) and Eli was</p>	<p>BG was told often over a 14 year period of ongoing and repeated immorality of his brother and a number of his single female staff members, later declaring he was unaware of what was going on and therefore innocent of allowing the ongoing immoral environment.</p> <p>(Eli continued)</p> <p>two sons and warned them in his attempt to persuade them to not sin before God (1 Sam. 2:23-24). Yet, that was not enough. Eli was in a position of authority and responsibility as high priest and judge over Israel. In addition to his warning and with repeated wickedness, Eli should have terminated from their temple service for which they were no longer qualified. Instead he let them continue to serve. God's eventual response to this worsening situation to send a man of God to speak to Eli. He was clear that the offense was that Eli had honored his sons above honoring the Lord (1 Sam. 2:29). Eli was in a position of responsibility to God in service of the people of God. Because Eli failed to remove his sons from serving as priests, Eli committed sin for going beyond a mere warning and to demand that they quit serving as priests while guilty of so much wickedness and sin before the Lord.</p>	<p>See report titled “<b>Bill Gothard’s Detailed Knowledge of Immorality Prior to 1980</b>”</p>

<p>well aware of it (1 Sam. 3:13). At one point, under this public pressure, Eli met with his</p>		
<p>Not lifted up with pride. I Tim. 3:16</p>	<p>BG absolutely loved the applause of the crowds and learned how to extend it as long as he could. BG rejected pleas and advice on how to limit the applause of the audiences. He argued that it was his duty to allow them to offer their gratefulness to him for the benefit they were enjoying in their lives from his teachings!</p>	<p>In a scheduled video-taping of the Basic Seminar in Los Angeles, BG was specifically asked if he would utilize a few speaking devices to limit the live audience to a shorter applause so it would match the natural polite applause at Seminars that utilized the video tape. He rejected each idea leaving video Seminars to have to endure an extra 1, 2, and 3 minutes of applause on the tape which they were not inclined to join. Very embarrassing to ministry staff on site.</p>
<p>Above reproach, no basis for anyone to say anything bad about us. Titus 1:6, 7; 2:8; II Cor. 4:2, "...commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God."</p>	<p>BG's personal misbehavior, mistreatment of other believers, and his ungrateful and abusive response to God sent ministers and prophets, is abhorrent and shameful behavior. BG's life over 40 years is characterized by 1,000s of Christians having very much "bad to say" about his behavior and the damage he has done to their families, their own lives, including ATI program students, youth mistreated in various ministry centers, staff and volunteers who worked directly for or with BG at the Headquarters.</p>	<p>A number of the alumni of Basic Seminars and students exiting the ATI programs of Bill Gothard are reporting the details of their experiences at a web based blog turned website at <b><a href="http://www.RecoveringGrace.org">www.RecoveringGrace.org</a></b></p> <p>This website and those ex-ATI students who are offering help and counsel to those leaving the Bill Gothard ministry programs are discovering there are a very large number of families and individuals who have become very confused by their training, education and experience at the various Bill Gothard ministry organizations.</p>
<p>Not self-willed. Submissive to Authorities. Titus 1:7</p>	<p>The 1980 staff of BG soon learned he was secretly traveling to hold meetings with the parents of their daughters who had been violated sexually and spiritually at his ministry headquarters. The purpose of these meetings with parents was to inform them of the sexual violation of their daughters by his brother and</p>	<p>The 1980 and 1981 Board of Directors reported in their meeting notes and discussions that they could not get BG to submit to their authority as BG wrote many and sometimes large bribery payment checks to disgruntled and complaining ex-staff. This Board complained they could not get BG to stop coming to</p>

	<p>then ask the parents to allow their daughter to enter into marriage with the very same man that violated them sexually and spiritually!!! This he did without consulting or gaining support from his Board of Directors, or consulting with God.</p> <p>While BG was blaming his staff for rebellion and reporting the views of visiting Christian leaders that the ministry staff was being “disloyal” and rebellious, BG’s own Board of Directors reported what they viewed as the root problem, also in their Board notes of Dec. 11, 1980:  “Bill has not demonstrated that he is under the authority of the board. On May 14 (1980) when his administration collapsed, he publicly stated that he was under the authority of the board. Repeatedly we have advised him and urged him to leave the headquarters and evaluate his record and his possible restoration. Throughout the summer and fall, he was constantly involved in developments and telephone conversations that resulted in more problems for us to solve.”</p> <p>In the ministry Board of Director’s notes (page 5, Dec. 11, 1980 notes), the Board again discusses their same concern about their fear of what BG was thinking, living, and teaching to the public on the topic of “authority.” The notes from this meeting state:  “Some of the principles Bill is committed to are not Biblical. His principle on the chain of command and authority need careful evaluation in the light of God’s Word. Bill asserted before the Board on November 19<sup>th</sup> that the fifth commandment – honor father and mother – is the most important commandment in the Bible. This has no support in Scripture and certainly</p>	<p>the ministry Headquarters and could not get him to dis-engage with continuing to try to solve problems which he was unable and incapable of resolving, having lost all credibility. The Board questioned BG’s teaching of the Chain of Command doctrine, realizing BG’s own confusion about his relationship with family and ministry authority was a large contributor to a contrary doctrine.</p> <p>The IBYC Board of Directors in Dec. of 1980 (after accepting his resignation only 5 months earlier) were again discussing the same question: “Has Bill demonstrated to the Board’s satisfaction that he is under their authority as he teaches others should be under authority?” Dr. Sam Schultz in that same meeting asked his fellow Board members, “Gentlemen, I ask you, can we with a clear conscience before God endorse Bill for public ministry for 1981?”</p> <p>One more section from the Dec. 11, 1980 Board of Directors notes comment on their concern about financial questions and their inability to get BG to submit to their authority: “Bill’s ineffectiveness in attempting to establish wholesome relationships with people on staff during the last five years was repeatedly evident in the meetings with staff members at various times. In an effort to clear his relationship, he even endorsed a \$50,000 check <i>without board approval or authorization</i> (my emphasis). This kind of irresponsible action has resulted in almost endless payments of thousands of dollars which in secular language would be called ‘hush’ money or bribes.”</p> <p>See Board of Director file notes for 1980-1982</p>
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<p>Not soon angry. Titus 1:7</p>	<p>In Bill Gothard’s case, he may be slow to anger but he maintains his anger and retribution against his enemies vigorously and over a very long time. He continues his violation of the instructions of the Lord Jesus who taught, “...and forgive us our trespasses as we also have forgiven those who have trespassed against us...For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.” Matthew 6:12, 14-15</p>	<p>In December of 2009, Dr. Gary Smalley and Dr. Bill Gothard telephoned Tony G, one previous staff member who left the ministry in 1980. The purpose of the call was “to see what it might take to have reconciliation between Bill Gothard and Tony G.”</p> <p>When Bill Gothard asked what that might take, Tony suggested that among a number of conflicts still standing between them, Gothard might start by recanting publically the false, libelous 19 page letter which outlines 26 evidences that Tony is “an agent of Satan”, which he/Gothard had authored and had the ministry publish and distribute to many across the nation, including to Tony’s parents and Tony’s home church, all without any process of following the teachings of Jesus Christ in Matthew 18.</p> <p>Bill Gothard, in the call, denied ever having written any letter to anyone that long and quickly denied that he would ever characterize anyone as “an agent of</p>

		<p>Satan.” In the call they agreed that Tony would send a copy of Bill Gothard’s letter to Gary Smalley to copy to Bill Gothard.</p> <p>A few days later Gary Smalley and Bill Gothard telephoned Tony with Bill Gothard declaring he had now read the letter, agreed with it still, and would like to add a whole number of additional charges to that letter!!! Of course it became clear to all that reconciliation was no longer in the mind or heart of Bill Gothard. The call ended.</p>
<p>Not pugnacious, quick to argue, threatening. Titus 1:7</p>	<p>Is known to issue “curses” to those who have irritated him the most seriously, he informing them that with such rebellion to authority, lifting their hand up against the Lord’s anointed (Bill Gothard) that they will never experience anything but failure in their life.</p>	<p>Dr. Earl Radmacher reported that when he was meeting with Bill Gothard in 1981-1982 that Bill Gothard would call and verbally deliver various threats if anyone would challenge or publish warnings to the church to not attend Basic Seminars because Bill Gothard was disqualified as a minister.</p>
<p>Just. Titus 1:7</p> <p>The opposite of “just” would be unjust, showing partiality to people for personal aggrandizement, showing preferential treatment of the strong, beautiful, wealthy, influential.</p> <p>James 2: 1-10</p>	<p>Shows favoritism to select people, usually pretty young women that are inclined to do anything he might want or need to please him. His own staff openly talk about “Bill’s Harem” and “I’m Bill’s Little Pet” (IBLP).</p> <p>BG prefers time with, recruits and employs persons with specific attractiveness and physical features and personality over those with equal talent and desire to serve the Lord that are not as pretty or attractive.</p> <p>James 2:1-10 “...do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism...But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.”</p> <p>I Cor. 12:22-26. “...the head cannot say to the feet, I have no need of you. On the contrary it is much truer</p>	

	<p>that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary...But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked, so that there may be no division in the body, but that he members may have the same care for one another.”</p>	
<p>Devout. Titus 1:7</p> <p>Love must be “<b>without hypocrisy</b>” (Romans 12:9,</p> <p>“...by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron... In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, <i>constantly</i> nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following. I Timothy 4:2, 6</p>	<p>In 1979-1981, BG’s most every decision, most every action was in direct violation of not only God’s Holy Word, but were in direct violation of every one of BG’s own teachings of “7 Universal Non-Optional Principles.” Bill Gothard demonstrated repeatedly each day over weeks, months and years that he has no personal belief in any of the 7 Universal Non-Optional Principles.</p> <p>In 1980 and 1981, every action and every behavior BG personally took was a specific and repeated rejection of every teaching featured in his own teachings in every lesson and every seminar in the previous 19 years.</p> <p>Bill Gothard covered up the sin of others and BG covered up his own sins. Prov. 28:13</p> <p>Bill Gothard lied and deceived his own chain of authority and umbrella of protection, repeatedly.</p> <p>Bill Gothard lied to his Christian brothers who came with genuine concern for his welfare.</p> <p>Bill Gothard failed to maintain peace and fellowship with his own immediate family, his flesh and blood.</p> <p>Bill Gothard falsely accused others to defer blame and responsibility from himself.</p> <p>Bill Gothard sent false accusers to the Emmaus Mennonite Church in Kansas in 1981 at ministry expense.</p> <p>Bill Gothard exhibited no genuine love, failing to make any effort to seek reconciliation with his own brother and has attempted to worship</p>	<p>BG has rejected God’s Word, continually failing to obey the most basic and clear teachings of the Bible featured in his own public teaching.</p> <p>BG has continued to lie and deceive until this very day regarding his own personal immoral behavior toward single women staff of IBYC. It became obvious his teachings on Moral Purity were not helpful to him or to the 14 ministry staff closest to BG who repeatedly failed morally over long periods of time.</p> <p>Bill Gothard has not exhibited during this time or since to those from that time period, any evidences of any characteristic of a Christian person. His actions and decisions were consistently and clearly of the flesh (Gal. 5:16-21) and in opposition to what is taught in the Scriptures about a believer who is walking with the Spirit of God (Gal. 5:22-25).</p> <p>Bill Gothard clearly rejects “authority” and is not subject to any known authority in his life. In the few short years of 1980 and 1981, BG demonstrated publicly and clearly that he would NOT subject himself to any authority at all including...</p> <p>The IBYC ministry Board of Directors His own teachings of the Basic Seminar His ministerial peers and prophets whom God has sent to call on him</p>

	<p>God ignoring the conviction of the Spirit of God. (Matt. 5:22-24).</p> <p>Bill Gothard has lived with and ignored specific disqualifications of any true minister of God, failing to submit to any serious review of his credentials required by Scripture for a Teacher (James 3:1) and an Overseer (I Tim. 5:19-25). By this BG has failed to trust God to raise him up again, often referred to in his own teachings as “death of vision.”</p> <p>He is no longer above reproach, maintains a dirty conscience, is not blameless, does not have clean hands, and is far from living an exemplary life.</p>	<p>His local church which ordained him The Scriptures God Himself</p>
<p>Holding fast the faithful Word which is in accordance with sound doctrine. Titus 1:9. “...not adulterating the Word of God...” II Cor. 4:2</p> <p>Able to Teach, Rightly dividing the Word of God. I Timothy 3:2</p>	<p>BG regularly and widely elevates his own personal opinions and private views of religious life and makes them equal to and superior to the Word of God. Examples include his teaching that circumcision is morally required of males today. Men must not wear beards, Christians must not eat pork and tuna, etc.</p> <p>BG abuses and adulterates the Word of God, taking texts out of their context and using them to support his own speculation and for support of his philosophy of 7 Universal Non-Optional Principles (laws). He seems to have no understanding of the basic rules of interpretation of the Scriptures (known as hermeneutics in theology) which are basic rules for reading and understanding any literature at all.</p>	<p>“Based on evidence, we have to conclude that Bill Gothard is a legalist according to the third and fourth definitions previous listed. Several Bible teachers have observed that legalism inevitably leads to license, because it frustrates the work of the grace of God. Instead of being cleansed and made holy by God’s Spirit, legalism depends on one’s own efforts; since man is not up to the task, sin invariable boils over in the human soul....Gothard’s teaching on circumcision is but one among many examples of his legalist bent, but it is notable in that his view on this topic is specifically condemned in Scripture....As we discussed Bill’s teaching on circumcision, he continued to misuse Scripture in an effort to support his view. For example, he partially quoted the Apostle Paul in Romans 2:25, “for circumcision verily profiteth...” We countered by placing the partial verse in its context – Paul’s point was that Jews who were relying on Jewish rituals for justification were doomed to failure. The balance of the verse that Gothard omits refutes the very point Gothard was attempting to make. “for circumcision verily profiteth, IF THOU KEEP THE LAW, but if</p>



		<p>thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision.” Since everyone is a transgressor of the law, circumcision is of no value....Paul was thoroughly repudiating the idea that anything done either to the flesh or in the flesh has any value in achieving righteousness.”</p> <p>From meeting with Bill Gothard October 4, 1997 from 7:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. involving BG staff John Stephens, George Mattix and Nathan O’Brien, with Don Veinot of Midwest Christian Outreach. See background and additional detail in book “A Matter of Basic Principles” by Don Veinot, Joy Veinot, Ron Henzel, p. 134-135 in Chapter “IBLP, Institute in Basic Legal Practices.”</p>
<p>Does not teach or pay attention to “commandments of men” and thereby turn away people from the truth. Titus 1: 13-16.</p> <p>“Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you. And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law. You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace...who hindered you from obeying the truth?” Gal. 5:1-7</p>	<p>BG regularly and widely elevates his own personal opinions and private views of religious life and makes them equal to and superior to the Word of God. Examples include his teaching of circumcision, men must not wear beards, Christians must not eat pork and tuna, husbands should practice abstinence from sexual relations with their wives over lengthy periods of time etc.</p> <p>In his development of new law systems and using references to the Old Covenant Law for support of his own rules, views and laws, BG is at direct and great risk of adding to and taking away from God’s Word (Prov. 30:6; Rev. 22:18-19).</p>	<p>BG continues to insist on creating rules and systems of rules for ATI and IBLP ministry centers students, staff and volunteers including such rules as the style and color of young girl’s underwear. One must wonder who has been assigned by Bill Gothard to do the inspections!</p> <p>A well-known evangelist and revival preacher, Richard Owen Roberts of Wheaton, IL, spoke often to the IBLP staff and employees in their chapels at BG’s invitation. In the middle of a week-long engagement of speaking to daily chapels, BG had a staff man telephone Mr. Roberts to ask him if he would completely shave his very distinguished beard before coming to the next chapel!! Mr. Roberts declined, having worn a beard most of his life at his wife’s preference, and having spoken many times to BG’s staff at their scheduled chapels. In a private meeting with Mr. Roberts the next day, BG insisted the Scriptures taught that a righteous man must not wear a beard and that he would not allow Mr. Roberts to teach his staff any longer.</p>

		That offensive abuse of a man of God by BG must be privately and publicly confessed as the most shameful and most unbiblical behavior and must now be permitted inside of the church of Jesus Christ.
<p>“We are not like many, peddling the Word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.” II Cor. 2:17</p> <p>“What is my reward then? <i>Verily</i> that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel.” I Cor. 9:18</p>	<p>During these many years of BG’s detailed knowledge of ongoing immorality with his own young and talented staff women, and his continuing to send new and additional young women to the Crazy Bear Lodge, Bill Gothard used them in long hours of work to author, edit, and publish his Seminar and Religious and Educational materials that would be sold to the unknowing public for \$1,000,000s of dollars each year. For this team of women and men to be disqualified and terminated from Bill Gothard’s ministry over incidents of ongoing sexual violations and perversions would have suddenly stopped the publishing of these high revenue publications. To keep this team hard at work to author, edit and publish his “spiritual works,” while you know they are experiencing sexual violations, that is ill motivated, is not “in sincerity” and that is immoral.</p>	<p>When “The Pineapple Story” book was first published by IBYC (now IBLP), it sold to Basic Seminar attendees for \$3.00 / copy. In the 1970s we were told one week at a seminar that we now needed to charge \$5.00. When we asked why the price had changed suddenly, the quick, clear and reinforced answer was, “we cannot spend our time counting \$1.00 bills each night.” With a \$5 charge the counting of cash revenue went to 1/3 of the time required. It should be noted that each seminar staff team had a high speed electric cash counting machine that was quite quick already. It should also be noted that the price today is \$9.99. You would think that would even be harder and take longer to count then the \$3.00!</p>
<p>Does not introduce “another gospel” which would lead anyone away from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ. II Cor. 11:1-5, 10:18</p> <p>Colossians 1:27-28</p> <p>“...how much more will the blood of Christ who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?” Hebrews 9:14</p>	<p>The basic teaching outline of Bill Gothard, e.g. the “7 Universal Non-Optional Principles” along with the never ending sets of formulas, steps, and prescriptions for resolving all of life’s common problems, which teachings and system altogether create two problems:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. These teachings and system of prescriptions displace the “all sufficiency and exclusivity of Jesus Christ” for the believer.</li> <li>2. Bill Gothard has adapted his teachings in response to complaints so that his teachings and system for living the Christian life are “co-mingled” with his concepts and re-definitions of grace and faith, mixed in with his</li> </ol>	<p>For spiritual growth in the life of the Christian, that trust and response to God is still by faith so it is according to grace relying upon the promises of God. Romans 4:16, Colossians 2:6.</p> <p>Bill Gothard’s basic reliance on Principles (= to law), the basic approach, re-definitions, and prescriptions for believers to live the Christian life all compete with, dilute, confuse and compel followers to adhere to what becomes a religious system and miss the dynamic experience of fellowship with the indwelling Christ and the walking with the Holy Spirit of God who indwells every believer.</p>

<p>“If you have died with Christ to the elementary principles of the world, why, as if you were living in the world, do you submit yourself to decrees...in accordance to the commandments and teachings of men? These are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body, but are of NO value against fleshly indulgence.” Colossians 2:20-23</p>	<p>formulation of steps (man-made) to carry out living the Christian life. Co-mingling the gospel with just such a system might well be the most damaging and consequential outcome, and becomes “another gospel” which cannot deliver the spiritual life that is in Christ alone.</p>	<p>Jesus stated emphatically His exclusive claims to being the only Way, the only Truth, and the only Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6</p> <p>“Walk by the Spirit and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.” Galatians 5:16</p> <p>“I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.” Gal. 2:20-21 Grace is nullified when I embrace and adhere to the 7 Universal Non-Optional Principles (laws) or any other religious system or philosophy.</p>
<p>Does not lord it over the flock I Peter 5:3</p>	<p>As the Author of the Chain of Command teaching, along with the supporting teaching of Umbrella of Protection with its many dire warnings, Bill Gothard’s every wish is every one’s command!! Who would stand on any of their own persuasions in how God is leading them when Bill Gothard inserts himself into the affairs and details of your life? Romans 14:1-23</p> <p>This control and micro management of other’s people’s lives extended to church attendance and responsibilities, relationships, housing, dress code, communications by single women to their parents at home, etc., ad infinitum.</p>	<p>In the evidence provided, you will see where Bill Gothard relished offering to young staff women that he should serve as “their Abraham” and assist them by picking out the boy they should become married to. How could they say “No” when their job was on the line?</p> <p>Many watched young staff men and women develop an interest in each other or in others back home for dating and marriage. So many were soon relieved of their jobs and sent home from the ministry because it violated Bill Gothard’s plan for their life.</p>
<p>Proves to be an example to the flock. I Peter 5:3; I Cor. 11:1</p>	<p>As a parent, as a youth minister, as a pastor of one of the local flocks of God’s people, would you encourage any of your youth to follow Bill Gothard as an example to your flock when you learn of and can verify the behavior of Bill Gothard that includes:</p> <p>...visiting the apartments of young single girls late at</p>	<p>Would you encourage any of your youth to follow Bill Gothard as an example to your flock when you learn of and can verify the behavior of Bill Gothard that includes:</p> <p>...when under a testing of his faith, he fully rejects every one of his 7 Universal Non-Optional Principles, defaulting to his own efforts of the flesh</p>

	<p>night after they had dressed for bed?</p> <p>...inviting young staff women to visit his cabin in the forest dressed in skimpy nightgowns to sit on his lap while they visited together?</p> <p>...self-acknowledged fourteen years of sexual addiction to masturbation and commission of adultery in his mind and heart?</p> <p>...involvement in his own immoral behavior, allowing continued immoral behavior of his closest team members, and keeping that same team of people working hard to design, author, edit and publish ministry materials to millions of unsuspecting people including on such topics as "How to Have Moral Purity."</p>	<p>to survive and beat back all sincere and serious efforts by Christian leaders to hold him accountable in his behavior and his doctrine?</p> <p>...rejection of all God appointed authorities in his life including the ministry Board, his local church Board of Elders, and a continued rejection of all prophets which God has sent to confront him regarding abhorrent behavior and irresponsibility?</p>

**A few summary thoughts:**

The Apostle Paul said in I Cor. 11:1, "Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ."

Peter explains the revelation of God to all shepherds, overseers, Teachers of God's children, "Shepherd the flock of God among you...according to the will of God, not for sordid gain, but with eagerness, not as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock." I Peter 5:2-3

Would you want your children, your grandchildren to imitate Bill Gothard in these many examples of unholy living?

When your children and grandchildren in years to come study their heroes of the Christian faith such as Joseph, Abraham, Joshua, Gideon, shepherd David and others, they will likely and especially study one Bill Gothard whom they knew personally.

In their study and research of Bill Gothard's life, they will easily come to these documents with this detailed evidence and supporting personal testimony of witnesses, and they will find your name and their home address attached to the cover letter. They will want to ask you what you did in response to these charges of unconfessed sins, uncorrected wrongs, with serious damage as a result to individual lives and whole churches.

What will you tell them?

You will no longer be able to tell them you did not know the facts.