

# ***Church History***



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- *Introduction to Church History*
- *The Ancient Church* AD 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries
- *The Rise of Christendom* AD 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Early Middle Ages* AD 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Renaissance* AD 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Age of Enlightenment* AD 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Age of Revolution* AD 19<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Modern Age* AD 20<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Postmodern Age* AD 21<sup>st</sup> century



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- *The Age of Revolution* AD 19<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Modern Age* AD 20<sup>th</sup> century
  - *Modern Empire-Building*
  - *Post-War Religion*
  - *Conflicts of the "Greatest Generation"*
  - *The New Conservatism*
  - *Backlash to the New Conservatism (part 2)*



# *The Modern Age*

- There's always a pendulum swing in society  
1969 Woodstock

- The counter-culture movement had continued to grow, and multiple music and arts festivals were commonplace across North America
- To take advantage of this, the new "Woodstock Ventures" group was formed, focused on creating a huge musical festival in Woodstock, NY
  - Unfortunately, they couldn't find an appropriate venue in Woodstock, so they opted to hold the three-day event on a dairy farm outside of the town of Bethel, 43 miles away from Woodstock
  - They promised the local farmers and authorities that they'd have no more than 50,000 attendees but then sold 186,000 tickets in advance anyway only to have over 400,000 people actually show up, crashing through the gates to take part in the event without paying

**WOODSTOCK**  
MUSIC AND ARTS FAIR



JIMI HENDRIX



JANIS JOPLIN

♪ AUGUST 15-16-17 - 1969 ♪  
**THREE DAY PEACE AND MUSIC FESTIVAL**

★ **FRIDAY THE 15th** - Joan Baez, Arlo Guthrie, Richie Havens, Sly & The Family Stone, Tim Hardin, Nick Benes, Sha Na Na

★ **SATURDAY THE 16th** - Canned Heat, Creedence Clearwater, Melanie, Grateful Dead, Janis Joplin, Jefferson Airplane, Incredible String Band, Santana, The Who, Paul Butterfield, Keef Hartley

★ **SUNDAY THE 17th** - The Band, Crosby Stills Nash and Young, Ten Years After, Blood Sweat & Tears, Joe Cocker, Jimi Hendrix, Mountain, Keef Hartley

**AQUARIAN EXPOSITION**  
WHITE LAKE, NEW YORK



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- Acts ranged from hippie, drug-culture icons like Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, the Grateful Dead, etc. to anti-war folk musicians such as Arlo Guthrie, Joan Baez (who'd performed at the “free speech” rallies at UC Berkeley) and others

(NOTE: Even though the event was held quite near Bob Dylan's house, the musician didn't perform at Woodstock—in fact, he complained about too many hippies being in his backyard...)





# *The Modern Age*

- Funky little teaching moment—
    - When you promise 50,000, plan for 200,000, but get 400,000, logistical problems are bound to ensue
    - But even though there were several drug-related arrests, there was very little violence reported (unlike 1999's 30th anniversary event, which was rife with violence, sexual assault, drug use, etc., and had to be closed early as a result)
- (why do you think that happened?)





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  - But even though there were several drug-related arrests, there was very little violence reported
  - One exception to this was the violence that erupted when the vendors were beginning to run out of food for that many people
  - The “Food For Love” stand was running low on supplies of all kinds, so they raised the prices of their hamburgers and hot dogs from 25¢ to \$1.00 so attendees burned the concession stand down (ironically leaving them with even less food)



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    - When they heard about the food shortages, a New York City Jewish community center made and brought out sandwiches with 200 loaves of bread, 40 pounds of cold cuts, and two gallons of pickles which were distributed by a group of Catholic nuns

**WOODSTOCK**  
MUSIC AND ARTS FAIR





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- Most ironically, the *United States Army* airlifted food and medical supplies to Sullivan County to be distributed to the hungry attendees, after Governor Nelson Rockefeller declared it a disaster area
- The crowd were told by organizers, "Forty five Army doctors or more are here without pay because they dig what this is into!" missing the irony of Establishment-sponsored aid entirely



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    - When you promise 50,000, plan for 200,000, but get 400,000, logistical problems are bound to ensue
    - **One last little funky detail—**
      - Arguably the most iconic moment from the whole festival was when Jimi Hendrix closed out the event by playing “The Star-Spangled Banner” on his electric guitar
- (NOTE: It was originally *supposed* to be Roy Rogers, singing “Happy Trails,” but Rogers thought he’d be booed off the stage by “all those ~~expletive~~ hippies”)





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    - Arguably the most iconic moment from the whole festival was when Jimi Hendrix closed out the event by playing “The Star-Spangled Banner” on his electric guitar
    - But since Hendrix performed it at 9:00 am on the Monday *after* the event officially ended, only a fraction of the Woodstock attendees actually saw it —though roughly 794% of attendees later *claimed* to have seen it...



# *The Modern Age*

- There's always a pendulum swing in society  
1969 Woodstock

The “Jesus movement” took hold in America

- With all of this counter-culturalism growing in the United States—including a general drift toward a less organized, less conservative-structured religion—the “Jesus movement” grew as well
  - Contrary to the other “hippie” groups we've discussed, this movement was fairly Evangelical in its theology and scrupulously Biblically-based—it's just that the idea of a guy who looked like this and preached about love appealed to a certain kind of young person on a very different level than He had to their parents...
  - In fact, the argument could be made that with their new and sincere focus on social justice and unconditional love for *all* people (regardless of race, creed, or color) based on *Christ's* love, they were actually *more* Biblically conservative than their *parents* tended to be at times...





# *The Modern Age*

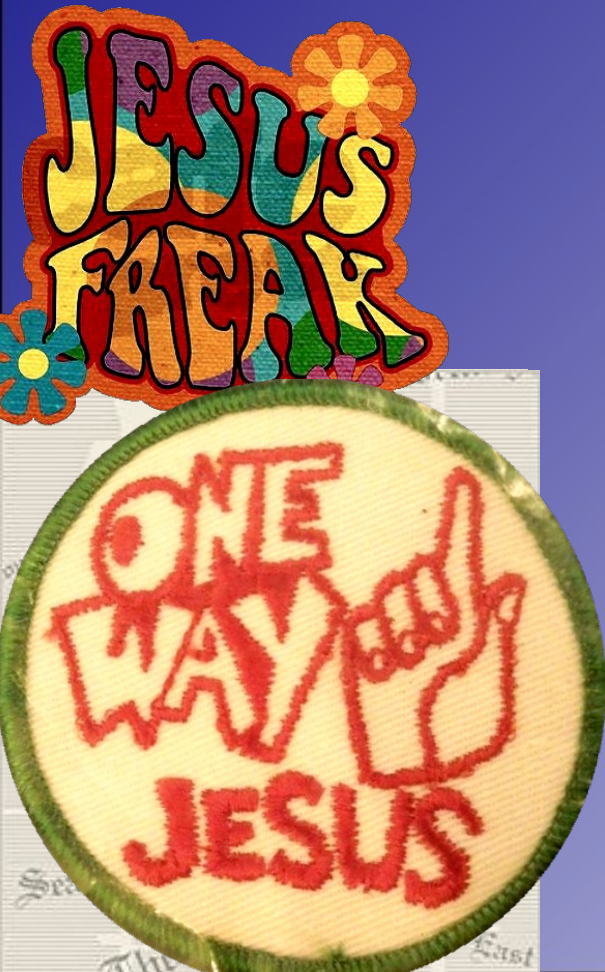
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- The “Jesus freaks” tended to use the new, modern, “readable” *Good News* translation in their worship and adopted the “One Way” sign to point to Jesus (echoing John 14:6, Acts 4:12, etc.)



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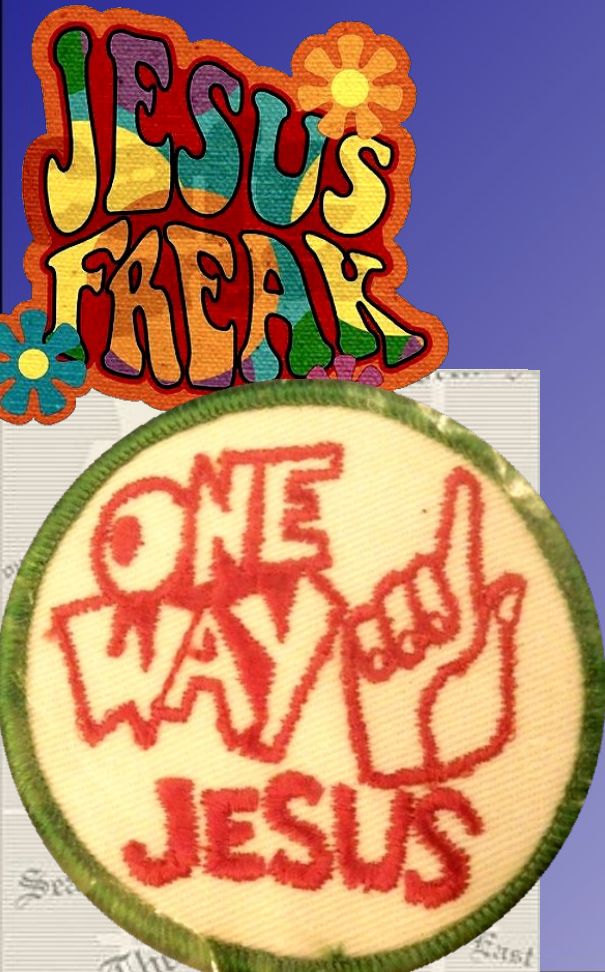
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- The “Jesus freaks” tended to use the new, modern, “readable” *Good News* translation in their worship and adopted the “One Way” sign to point to Jesus, and consciously *focusing* on Jesus and His ministry, instead of on a lot of the ecclesiology that had divided so many Christians for centuries (echoing 1 Corinthians 2:1-2, etc.)





# *The Modern Age*

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - So the “Jesus movement” eschewed traditional church-y worship forms and instead instituted its own, more organic, more relationally-oriented ones
  - So worship services became more communal and less ritualized, music became simpler and more about people's feelings about God (and God's feelings about His people), and choices of hairstyles and styles of dress became mostly irrelevant
  - What are the pros and cons of these shifts?



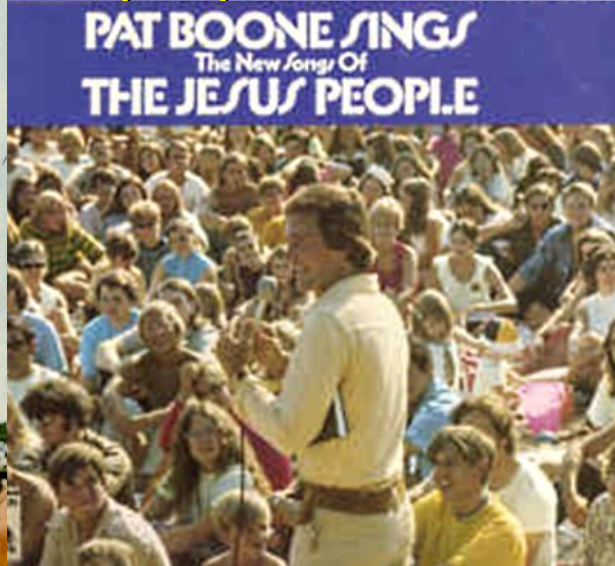
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  - The movement was so prevalent and connected so powerfully with contemporary youth culture that even traditional Evangelicals like Billy Graham took part
  - And he wasn't alone—and a generation of young people chose *revolution over rebellion...*





# The Modern Age

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - So the “Jesus movement” eschewed traditional church-y worship forms and instead instituted its own, more organic, more relationally-oriented ones
  - The massive cultural impact of the “Jesus revolution” was impossible to miss, but easy to misunderstand
    - Older conservatives just thought that their children had “gone hippie” and were into sex and drugs, and secular “acid freaks” just assumed more or less the same thing
    - Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice produced a secular musical about Christ with their *Jesus Christ, Superstar* in 1970  
(as Rice said, “We don’t see Christ as God but simply the right man at the right time at the right place... We are basically trying to tell the story of Christ as a man. I think he increases in stature by looking at him as a man...”)



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    - Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice produced a secular musical about Christ with their *Jesus Christ, Superstar* in 1970, and Stephen Schwartz followed that up the next year with *Godspell* in 1971
    - Neither production was coming at the life of Christ from a perspective of personal faith or conviction—on the part of the creators or the performers

(Schwartz went on record to say that his musical was more about the creation of a community of faith than it was about Jesus—who is traditionally portrayed in clown makeup, wearing a cheap Superman shirt—and actor Ted Neeley said that they were usually all stoned and laughing when they performed *Superstar*...)





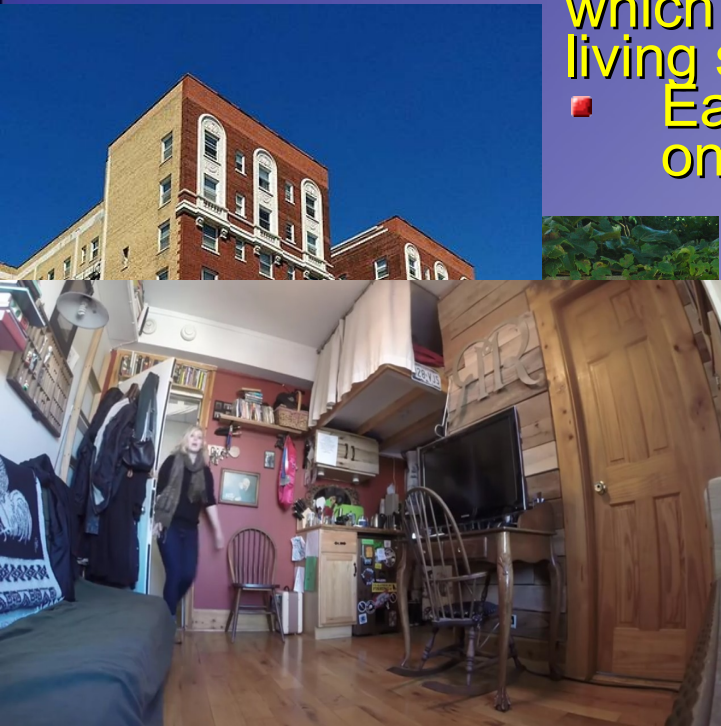
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    - Neither production was coming at the life of Christ from a perspective of personal faith or conviction—on the part of the creators or the performers—and yet God has used both of them to genuinely affect people nonetheless (for instance, in 2003, Ted Neeley said that 40 years of playing Jesus had changed him and brought him profoundly closer to God in his own life, and he continues to perform the character on tour even today)



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    - **One of the groups involved in the “Jesus movement” should be a familiar one to us here in our church—the “Jesus People” (AKA “Jesus People USA”)**
      - Founded in 1972, JPUSA is a Christian commune which purchased Chicago's Chelsea Hotel to provide living space for its members
        - Each member lives in their own small apartment on one of the ten floors of the building
- (NOTE: Married couples share a room, and their children are usually placed in rooms nearby on the same floor, if possible)
- (NOTE<sup>2</sup>: Members then usually work at any of JPUSA's several businesses, whose profits then go back to support the commune)
- If members ever want to use any money for themselves, they can request it from JPUSA's leaders







(NOTE<sup>3</sup>: They even have their own free clothing store to hand out whatever people need)

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CENTURY



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For nearly 30 years, JPUSA oversaw the Cornerstone music festival and published Cornerstone magazine

- In 1989, JPUSA joined the Evangelical Covenant Church to gain accountability

(NOTE: The commune had struggled in the 70s and 80s to understand the best ways of governing itself, and leadership became increasingly totalitarian and authoritarian—including controlling who was allowed to date whom, and using spankings for adults who broke rules or spoke out against JPUSA's leadership—and they realized they needed oversight)

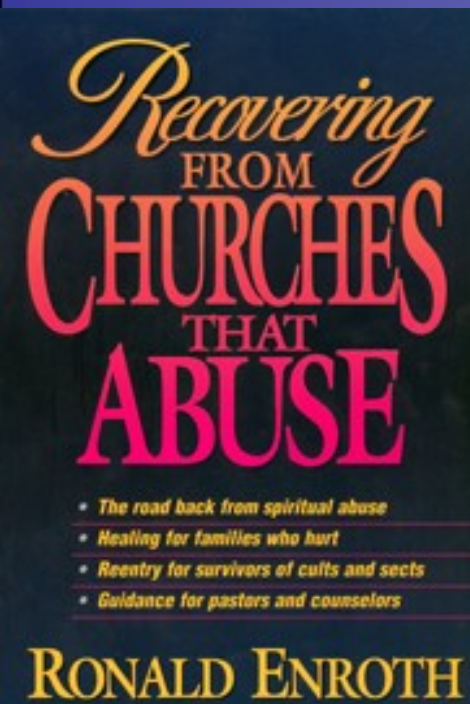


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    - **For nearly 30 years, JPUSA oversaw the Cornerstone music festival and published Cornerstone magazine**
      - In 1989, JPUSA joined the Evangelical Covenant Church to gain accountability
      - **In 1994, the book *Recovering from Churches that Abuse* shared testimonies from several former JPUSA members who claimed to have been physically and sexually abused over the years in the commune**  
(NOTE: Some experts supported the claims of the victims, while others said that JPUSA had been the victim of a smear campaign)



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- In 2014, the documentary *No Place to Call Home* premiered, citing 73 more cases of sustained abuse—mostly children—and both JPUSA and the ECC were sued by several former victims





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    - **Problems with abuse notwithstanding, JPUSA has still spent more than 45 years reaching out to the poorest people in Chicago, ministering to thousands whom many churches tend to ignore**
      - As their website says, “Community means communion of heart and spirit; it is a network of relationships. This implies a response to the cry of our brothers and sisters, especially the poorest, the weakest, the most wounded, and a sense of responsibility for them. And this is demanding and disturbing...”



# ***The Modern Age***

- There's always a pendulum swing in society
  - 1969 Woodstock
  - The “Jesus movement” took hold in America
  - 1970 Chick tracts began publishing



**BIG  
DADDY  
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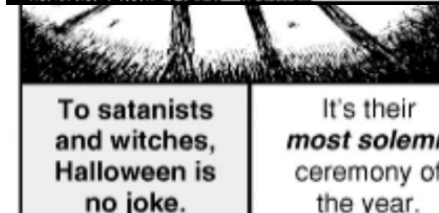
J.T.C.





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- Funky little teaching moment—
  - Published by newspaper illustrator Jack T. Chick, these free tracts combined the art styles of the underground, counter-cultural “comix” movement with an ultra-conservative Evangelical theological bent to present sensationalistic messages intended to draw people to accept Christ
  - Chick Publications estimates that it has printed more than 800 million tracts over the past 50 years
  - It was also named an active “hate group” in 2011 by the Southern Poverty Law Center



(because of its stance against witchcraft, homosexuality, “false” religions, etc.)



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  - **But because of its eye-catching visuals and sensationalistic arguments, Chick tracts have been a staple of hit-and-run evangelism efforts for half a century...**





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- There's always a pendulum swing in society

1969

Woodstock

The “Jesus movement” took hold in America

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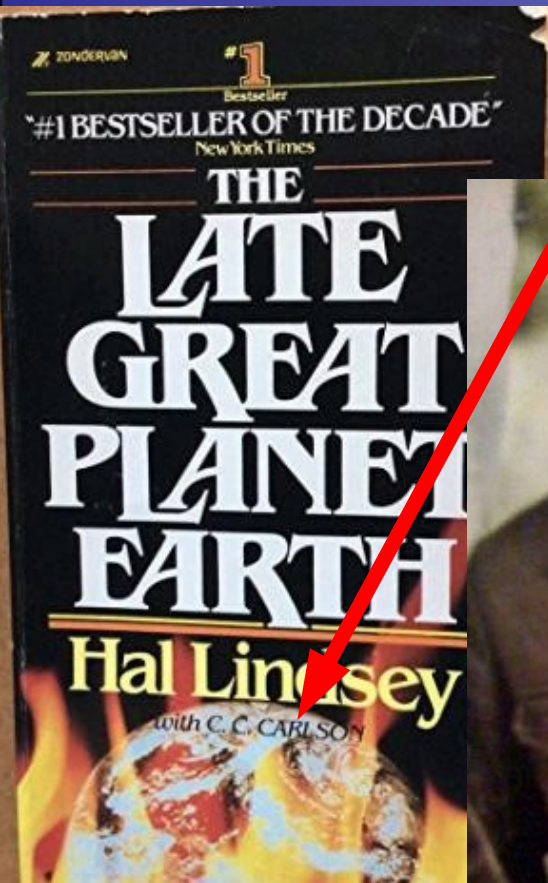
*The Late, Great Planet Earth* was published

- The book was written by rugged Korean War veteran and Campus Crusade leader Hal Lindsey

Actually, no it wasn't—it was predominantly, if not *entirely*, written by author C.C. Carlson  
—Carole C. Carlson

(NOTE: Zondervan had considered a female writer of prophecy books to be essentially unpublishable, so Carole was given credit as “helping” Lindsey—who had never written anything longer than a term paper at that point in his life—when she had actually served as “ghost writer” for the whole book)

(NOTE<sup>2</sup>: “Ghost writing” like this is more common than most people realize—especially among the works of Christian “celebrity” authors)



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*The Late, Great Planet Earth* was published

- The book was written by rugged Korean War veteran and Campus Crusade leader Hal Lindsey and presented a sensationalistic expression of literalist, premillennial, dispensational eschatology
- Starting with the creation of modern Israel in 1948, the book argued that within a generation the Great Tribulation would begin and Jesus would return
- The authors pointed to the Jewish victory in the Six Day War that had won them full access to Jerusalem, as well as the rise of the Soviet Union, earthquakes, weather changes, and even the possible destruction of the ozone layer as proofs that 1970 was clearly "the End Times" that would see the rise of a "one-world religion" that would oppress true believers
- The book sold 10 million copies by the end of the decade, and another 18 million copies in the 1980s





# The Modern Age

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - Bear in mind, this is pretty much the same societal audience that had lapped up Erich von Däniken's *Chariots of the Gods?* two years earlier
  - To a society whose children were sure that their parents had pretty much ruined the planet, and whose parents were sure that society was more or less going to hell in a handbasket, these sort of apocalyptic, “things are mysterious!” books resonated on a deep level

(NOTE: This is the same reading public that lapped up 1974's *The Bermuda Triangle*, which successfully popularized the statistically erroneous idea that the Bermuda Triangle has experienced an unusual number of unexplained disappearances of planes and ships, perhaps due to the influence of Atlantis, or ancient alien visits—and yes, my parents owned all three of these books, and I read them all at an impressionable age)



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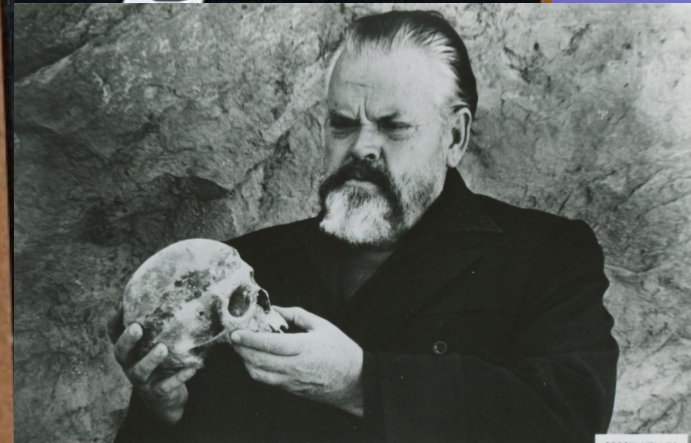
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- The book was so popular, in fact, that it was turned into a "documentary" movie in 1977, narrated by Orson Welles



THE  
LATE GREAT  
PLANET EARTH

Featuring ORSON WELLES Based on the book by HAL LINDSEY with C. C. CARLSON  
ROBERT AMRAM FILMS and RCR PRODUCTION Producers ROBERT AMRAM and ALAN BELKIN  
Written and Directed by ROBERT AMRAM Executive Producer MICHAEL F. LEONE Associate Producer JOY SHELTON DAVIS  
BIBLICAL SEQUENCES Written and Directed by ROLF FORSBERG Music by DANA KAPROFF  
A PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL ENTERPRISES RELEASE - Color by C.F.I.

20<sup>th</sup>  
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- For the "Jesus movement" generation, this was the Book of Revelation, and it has colored not only the writing of prophetic literature, but also the basic perspective on reality of everyday Evangelicals ever since

- For instance, in 1981, when both the Pope and President Reagan were nearly assassinated within a month and a half, people seriously wondered if it was an indicator of the "End Times"



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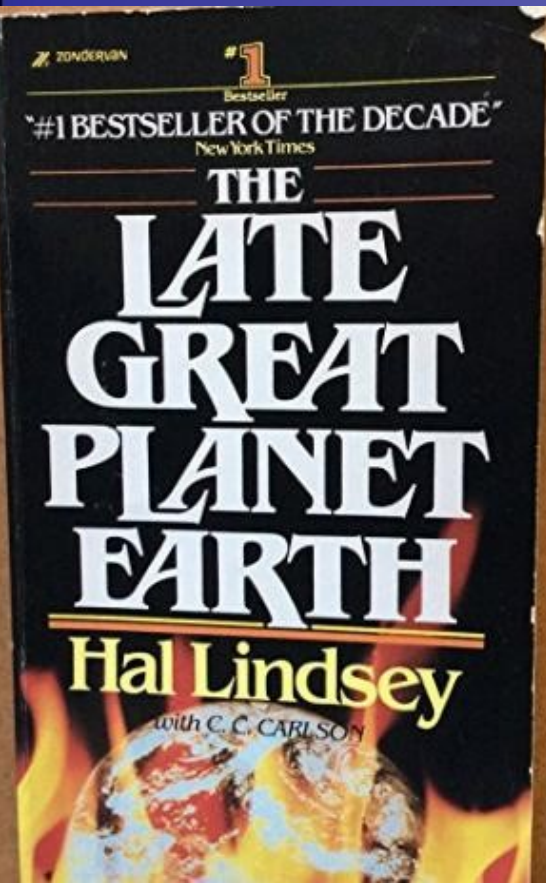
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    - Again—just how influential is mass media in the creation of a society's perceptions of reality?





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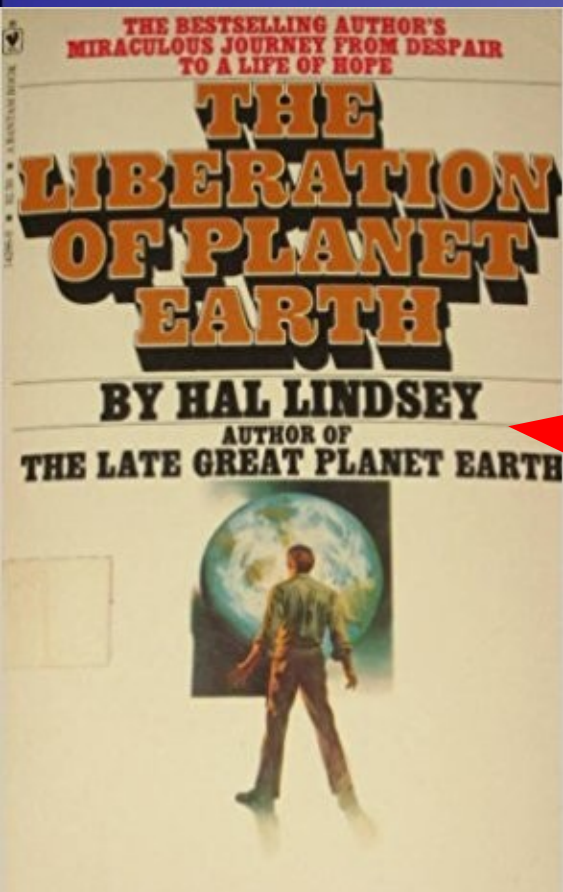
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- Lindsey (and Carlson) followed the book up in 1972 with *Satan Is Alive and Well on Planet Earth* and then in 1975 with *The Liberation of Planet Earth* and other volumes

(NOTE: You'll notice that by this time, Lindsey's name had become such a selling point that Carlson's name doesn't even appear on the covers at all any more)



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- Since then, Lindsey has expanded his prophetic ministry to television and other media, speaking about the role of Israel, the United States, and the anti-Christ (whom he at one point openly suspected of being Barack Obama)

(NOTE: As a rule of thumb, when TBN drops you because you're too pro-Israel, anti-Arab, and generally sensationalistic in your broadcasts, you're probably pretty “out there”)





# *The Modern Age*

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - By the way, TBN—the Trinity Broadcasting Network—was co-founded in 1973 by Paul and Jan Crouch, an Assemblies of God evangelist duo
  - The network became famous for Jan's odd style sense, Paul's flamboyant and very expensive taste in clothes, their extravagant—even garish—sets and furniture, and the sensationalistic, charismatic programming like their flagship show, *Praise the Lord*



# *The Modern Age*

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    - That shouldn't be confused with the *Praise the Lord Club* (AKA the *PTL Club*) which was the flagship show launched by Assemblies of God evangelists Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker's PTL Satellite Network in 1974





# The Modern Age

- There's always a pendulum swing in society

1969

Woodstock

The “Jesus movement” took hold in America

1970

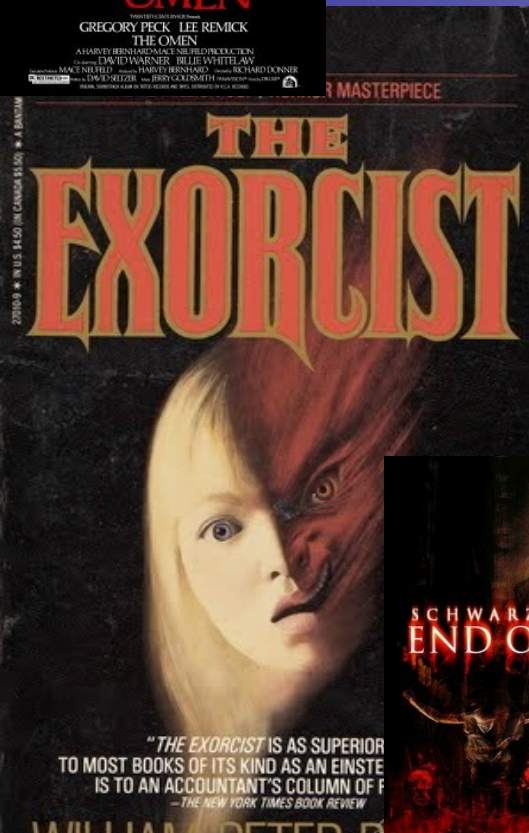
Chick tracts began publishing

*The Late, Great Planet Earth* was published

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*The Exorcist* was published

- Okay, it's fiction—so why is it important?
  - Because it was phenomenally successful in print and it spawned a phenomenally successful film franchise, starting in 1973
  - Remember how influential mass media is in the creation of a society's perceptions of reality?
  - Secular culture's view of religion was changed in the span of a two-hour movie
  - For the first time, religion popularly became about the *supernatural*—particularly, *horror*—and Catholic priests became the heroes of the supernatural, because they've got mystical powers
  - An entire genre of “spiritual horror” (and its sub-genre of “stop the Apocalypse”) was born, wherein the Bible is (mis)quoted and (mis)applied as justification for mystical action



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- Let's be honest—ask the average teenager (or, to be even more starkly honest, the average church-going adult), and their understanding of angels, demons, God, spiritual warfare, and the Apocalypse will probably be based more on shows like *Supernatural* than on the Bible

- And all of that started with *The Exorcist* back in 1971





# ***The Modern Age***

- There's always a pendulum swing in society
  - 1969 Woodstock
  - The “Jesus movement” took hold in America
  - 1970 Chick tracts began publishing
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  - 1971 *The Exorcist* was published
  - New American Standard Bible* was published

