

GOOD NEWS!

THE STORY OF THE NEW EVANGELICALS

A Book Proposal by Samuel L. Blumenfeld

America is on the threshold of an unprecedented religious revival which will make all previous revivals seem tame and parochial in comparison. The evangelical mood is spreading, and the Christian Gospel is being preached, and accepted, as never before outside of the established church by men who have broken away from religious formalism. The movement includes Protestants, Catholics, and Jews, people of all races and ethnic groups. Through the exertions of dedicated youth missionaries the movement is spreading into South America and across the Pacific into Asia. Through the use of satellite television and the idiom of modern music, the Gospel is being preached to more people than ever before in history and in a manner that relates powerfully to popular culture and modern spiritual needs. Miracles are taking place: astonishing healings and conversions. In the midst of it all, the Evangelicals see the existence of Israel as the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy and the key to modern geopolitics. This is one of the most exciting times in the history of religion in general and of Christianity in particular.

The movement has spiritual, cultural, and political ramifications. Since 1967, its tempo has increased, its reach extended, its message intensified. It promises to produce profound changes in how millions of people see themselves and the world. For many it represents the true fulfillment of Christ in a troubled and decadent age of materialism and spiritual bankruptcy. It offers hope of better things to come in the face of science's failure to bring heaven on earth.

Despite unprecedented wealth and material progress, the secular world lives in a state of unending anxiety, terrorism, moral chaos, social disintegration, political corruption and tyranny. The power of the New Evangelicals is in their ability to lift thousands of people out of secularism's inherent malaise and spiritual dead ends and to infuse their hearts with a new sense of life's purpose and promise.

The book will examine this spectacular movement, interview its prime movers, analyze its message, and explain why it is happening now. It will also prepare the reader to understand what is going to happen in the next ten years. For example, during the Moscow Olympic Games of 1980, the Youth With A Mission organization plans to send into the Soviet Union 5,000 young Evangelicals to spread the word of Christ and witness to the KGB! What impact this will have in the Soviet Union in the 1980's is simply incalculable.

Here are some of the topics the book will cover:

The Born Again phenomenon

The rise of Pat Robertson and the Christian Broadcasting Network

The new surge in Biblical study

The revival of Covenant Theology: the Personal Relationship with God

Harald Bredentsen, leader of Charisma

Jews for Jesus

The central role of Israel in Biblical prophecy

The Bible as a guide to modern geopolitics

Catholic Charismatics

The new God-centered businessman

Born Again in prison: the conversion of hard-core criminals

Love songs to God in the pop idiom

Gospel preaching in comic books

Miraculous healings on a grand scale

Revival meetings: from tents to stadiums

Satellite television: the new force in spreading the Good News

The differences between Christianity and the Eastern religions

Christian meditation

The Youth Missionaries: the work of Loren Cunningham

Spreading the Gospel in the Communist world

The new City of God and the rejection of Secular Humanism

The growth of Christian schools and universities

The established church and the Evangelicals

The move away from religious formalism

The meaning and power of prayer

Mao Tse Tung's role in preparing China for Christ

How the movement is financed

The word Gospel means Good News -- which conveys the spirit of the movement: its optimism, its fervor, its ready acceptance by so many. The book will be written for the widest possible audience, in an easy journalistic style, from a favorable but intellectually detached point of view. Thus, it should appeal to both believers and skeptics. In any case, the purpose of the book will be to inform the reader about the most important, exciting, and fascinating religious movement of our time and what its lasting or temporal effects might be.