



be ready always to give an answer
I Peter 3:15

earnestly contend for the faith
Jude 3

Fishers of Men

May 2012

Dalai Lama SDSU, SouthWestern College, Balboa Park

Intense. Perhaps the best word to describe this month's outreaches. Most of our effort was given to the Dalai Lama who spoke to a sold out crowd at SDSU on the 19th, a Thursday morning. For nearly 2 weeks we handed out 1,000 specially prepared full color tracts on the Dalai, Buddhism, and the Gospel of God, at SDSU. We handed out another 1,000 to those who waited in line and did some open air preaching as well to a captive audience. This was done as I Peter 3:15 tells us, with an attitude of concern and respect.

Many listened and some even came up to us with further questions. This outreach video is now on YouTube with a link to the tract. Just go to YouTube, type in "The Dalai Lama and 3 Preachers at SDSU". In the description to the video is a link to the tract.

We also had a very successful outreach in Chula Vista at SouthWestern College. Students were very open to the gospel. We hope to go there again soon.



This is Anthony. Very involved in ministry in San Diego. He teamed up with us for the Dalai Lama event. Here doing open air preaching.



Pastor Gil with his back to us doing open air preaching after we gave out all our tracts.



Most ignored us but many listened. Here I'm discussing the Holiness of God that Isaiah experienced in Isaiah the 6th chapter. Thousands were in line waiting.

NEWSLETTER

Challenge Ministries is a non-profit Christian ministry dedicated to the defense and proclamation of the Gospel and Biblical truth.

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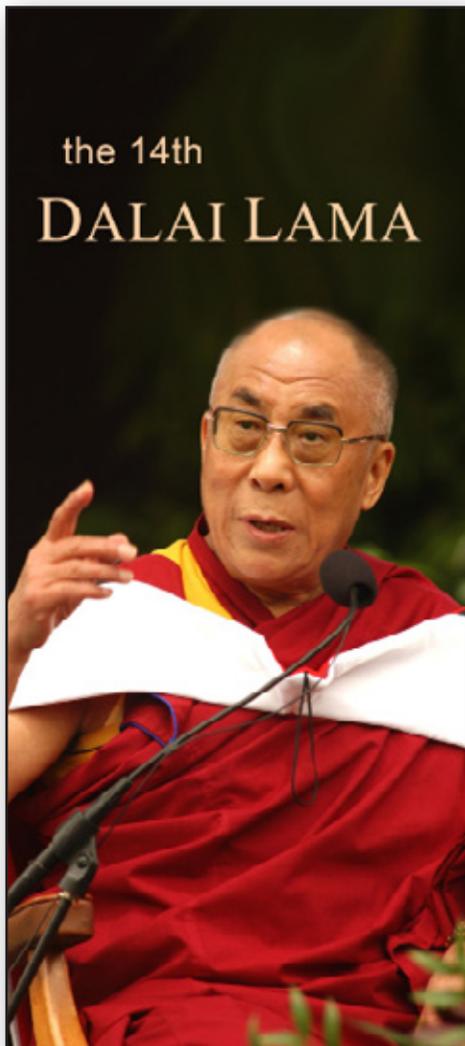
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*All contributions are tax deductible

Dalai Lama Tract

This is the cover of the Dalai tract and the first two columns of text on the inside. Pray that some will believe the Gospel.



The 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, is the spiritual leader of Tibet. He was born in Tibet to a farming family in 1935. At 2 years of age he was recognized as the reincarnation of the 13th Dalai Lama, Thubten Gyatso. It is believed that he is one of the enlightened beings who have postponed their own nirvana and chosen to take rebirth in order to serve humanity. In 1989 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. After Pope John Paul II and Billy Graham, he is probably the most recognized religious figure on our planet. He is the voice of Buddhism to the nations and is often called the "god-king" of Tibet.

In 2003, Richard Gere introduced him to a crowd of 65,000 at Central Park as:

"One of the great beings perhaps ever to walk on this planet, his holiness the Dalai Lama."

Millions of Buddhists around the world look to the Dalai Lama as a guide on how to achieve happiness and meaning in life.

The Dalai Lama's web site says that his two greatest commitments are:

"Firstly,...the promotion of human values such as compassion, forgiveness, tolerance, contentment and self-discipline.

Secondly,... the promotion of religious harmony and understanding."

The following is a quote from the Dalai Lama which was made at an inter-faith seminar and posted on his web site:

"Both sides should discuss and clearly express what they think about the other's view and opinion. ... Therefore, it is very important to live in harmony and analyze where the opinion of the other lies. The best way to do this is to engage in dialogue, dialogue and dialogue."

The Bible likewise directs Christians to give an answer with an attitude of respect:

"... be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." 1 Peter 3:15

This brief dialogue, (which the Dalai Lama encourages), is written to point out that from reason as well as a Christian perspective, Buddhism is ultimately a philosophy of hopelessness and ruin. However, there is real hope and true happiness on the narrow path that leads to life, which is found only in Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God.

God Exists or God Does Not Exist?

The greatest error of the Dalai Lama and Buddhism is the denial of the existence of a personal God in whom they are accountable. Although this is a basic premise of Buddhism, none-the-less, many followers are indifferent to this, the greatest of all truths, and are unconcerned if there is or isn't a God.

This is clearly seen in the Dalai Lama's answer to a question that he was asked on the banks of the Ganga river in North India in 2001. 40,000 were gathered to hear the Dalai Lama speak. At the end of his talk a man said:

"I understand Buddhism does not believe in God. What is your opinion about God? Does God exist or not?". His Holiness laughed, grabbed the hands of the two spiritual leaders on each side of him, lifted them in the air, fixed his gaze upon the audience, and said emphatically, "God exists or God does not exist. Leave it for us. Your task is to learn how to live peacefully."

One Buddhist web site gives three reasons why Buddhists don't believe in God. They say that the god idea is based in fear, there is no evidence to support the idea, and man's destiny is determined by self effort and needs no God.

This popular web site stresses that Buddhists believe that self effort is greater than any god:

"... the Buddha saw that each human being had the capacity to purify the mind, develop infinite love and compassion and perfect understanding. He [the Buddha] shifted attention from the heavens to the heart and encouraged us to find solutions to our problems through self-understanding." (www.buddhanet.net)

This anti-god philosophy defies human experience, reason and science. All humans are instilled with a knowledge and understanding of God through the conscience and the creation. The complexity, order, and design of life screams of an infinite, all powerful God.

The Bible reveals that this supreme truth is so clear that we are without excuse if we reject it.

"because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse." Romans 1:19,20

Our rebellion towards God is so consuming that not only do we by nature reject Him but we are not even thankful and choose to worship the creation instead of the creator:

"For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures." Romans 1:21-25

Psalms 111:10 tells us that "the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom."

Karma or a Fallen Nature?

In true Buddhist tradition, the Dalai Lama shapes his followers thinking by charging that suffering is the result of Karma (actions).

What's Happening and What's Coming???

P.O. Box...????? I can't tell you the frustration that we've had for nearly 2 months with the Post Office. I've stressed to the Post Master I can't see any other reason that our Box being open then closed 4 times has been intentional and malicious. Perhaps a Mormon or JW working in the mail department.

Thank you, thank you, thank you... Some of you have sent your support 2 and 3 times only to have it returned "not deliverable". We very much appreciate your diligence in this matter and are very sorry for the frustration that you must also feel. Please accept our apologies. Because we both work full time jobs and have been intensely active lately in the ministry, we haven't been able to follow up as quickly on this problem as we had liked prolonging a solution. I believe it has now been resolved. We have received mail now for over a week. If any more issues arise we will use our home address in the future. Thank you again for bearing with us with your prayers and support.

In His service,

Jerry and Dianna