



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

HELPING CHRISTIANS KNOW WHAT
THEY BELIEVE AND WHY THEY BELIEVE IT.



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
AND PRODUCER

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF WHITE HORSE INN



WAY BACK IN NOVEMBER OF 1990, *White Horse Inn* aired its first broadcast on KKLA in Los Angeles. A group of us from various Reformation traditions got together to talk about theology in the light of contemporary challenges and opportunities. Convinced that contemporary Evangelical Christianity was losing its compass, we wanted to help Christians to know what they believe and why they believe it.

A theological talk show? Let's just say we didn't have agents beating down our door. The idea seemed pretty strange. Who would listen to a theological talk show? How could something like this last more than a week?

Yet here we are 30 years later, thanking God for his faithfulness. Through the generous support of friends like you, we've been able to reach countless people across the country and around the world with the great truths rediscovered at the Reformation.

In a review of our podcast on iTunes, a listener recently wrote to say that "in no uncertain terms, *White Horse Inn* changed my life!" Here is his story:

I was introduced to the podcast back in 2011 as a newly married, recent college grad, coming from a background of Evangelicalism that did its best to convince me that it's "all about your personal relationship with Jesus." Well, the WHI hosts totally destroyed that, and I couldn't be more grateful. God has used this program to completely re-orient my thinking. I had never heard

of the grand narrative of [S]cripture, the juvenilization of American Christianity, the importance of Word and Sacrament, the necessity of apologetics, or the need to know “what you believe and why you believe it.” The White Horse Inn has given me a glimpse of God’s grandeur and a hope in the work of his Son that has little to do with me... To say that I look forward to the day when my daughter and I can listen to an episode of the White Horse Inn together is a tragic understatement. She, her kids, and her grandkids will — God willing — have the White Horse Inn to thank for beginning a family tradition of knowing what they believe, and why they believe it. [“Thank you”] couldn’t even come close.

We’re so thankful to God for the incredible fruit that He’s produced through these weekly conversations, and we’re also grateful for the support of our faithful partners over the past three decades. Here are the programs included in this collection:

1990	Reforming the Church	2006	Christianity: A Faith Founded on Facts
1991	Knowing God’s Will	2007	Christless Christianity
1992	A Debate with Robert Schuller	2008	An Interview with R.C. Sproul
1993	No Other Gospel	2009	Biblical Ignorance
1994	Guilt, Grace, & Gratitude	2010	Justification & Imputed Righteousness
1995	A Quest for Reformation in Preaching	2011	Christianity & The New Liberalism
1996	The Crisis of Contemporary Christianity	2012	The Narcissism Epidemic
1997	Christianity & Popular Culture	2013	What is a True Church?
1998	Unity & the Gospel	2014	Youth Ministry in Crisis
1999	Finding a Church	2015	Same-Sex Attraction
2000	The Preached Word	2016	Karma vs. Grace
2001	Law & Gospel	2017	Has The Bible Been Miscopied or Mistranslated?
2002	God at Work: The Doctrine of Vocation	2018	Did Jesus Teach Justification by Faith Alone?
2003	Why Can’t We Just Read the Bible?	2019	Born from Above
2004	Grace Alone!	2020	American Gospel: Christ Crucified
2005	The Emergent Church Movement		

We hope you are encouraged by this collection and that these episodes help you to celebrate God’s faithfulness to *White Horse Inn* over the past 30 years. We also pray that He would continue to bless our efforts in the years to come.



MICHAEL HORTON

Founder and Editor-in-Chief, *White Horse Inn*



SHANE ROSENTHAL

Executive Producer, *White Horse Inn*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHITE HORSE INN SHOWS

(C30-01) REFORMING THE CHURCH

WHI-0008 | BROADCAST DATE: 12/30/1990

This episode of *White Horse Inn* was the eighth airing of our weekly broadcast since it began on Nov 11, 1990. On this special year-end show, the hosts discuss many of the problems facing contemporary Christianity and call for reformation by returning to the insights of the sixteenth-century reformers.

(C30-02) KNOWING GOD'S WILL

WHI-0041 | BROADCAST DATE: 8/18/1991

What does it mean to know God's will? Does this idea apply to specific details such as knowing which career path to take or whom we should marry? Are there consequences for stepping outside of God's will? Join the hosts as they discuss this often-misunderstood topic.

(C30-03) A DEBATE WITH ROBERT SCHULLER

WHI-0103 | BROADCAST DATE: 11/1/1992

Founding pastor of the famous Crystal Cathedral and author of *Self-Esteem: The New Reformation*, Dr. Robert Schuller has argued that "the first Reformation erred in that it was God-centered, rather than man-centered." In this two-hour conversation that sometimes sounds like old-fashioned "radio-theatre," Michael Horton and the *White Horse Inn* hosts challenge Dr. Schuller to defend the biblical basis of his views.

(C30-04) NO OTHER GOSPEL

WHI-0138 | BROADCAST DATE: 7/4/1993

Paul's stern challenge in Galatians 1-2 is an important one that is needed today. Is it possible that the church has become so enamored with the things of this world that it has forsaken the gospel? What does Paul mean when he says we need an alien righteousness? What can we learn from this today?

(C30-05) GUILT, GRACE, & GRATITUDE

WHI-0208 | BROADCAST DATE: 11/20/1994

“Grace is the essence of theology, and gratitude is the essence of ethics.” It sounds so simple, but we often find it difficult to arrange our thoughts, affections, convictions, and actions around these two poles. That’s the focus of this edition of *White Horse Inn*.

(C30-06) A QUEST FOR REFORMATION IN PREACHING

WHI-0248 | BROADCAST DATE: 10/8/1995

Tired of dull moralistic sermons? Are you longing to hear more about Christ rather than how you can improve your marriage or community? Is there a similarity between the sermons one is likely to hear in both liberal and evangelical churches? On this episode, the hosts discuss these issues and more with Rev. Dick Lucas, founder of *Proclamation Trust*.

(C30-07) THE CRISIS OF CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIANITY

WHI-0286 | BROADCAST DATE: 7/21/1996

On this program, *White Horse Inn* producer Shane Rosenthal asks attendees of a Christian convention whether they agree or disagree with various religious ideas and statements. What they don’t know is that some of these statements are actually direct quotations from the Bible. How will they answer? Tune in to find out.

(C30-08) CHRISTIANITY & POPULAR CULTURE

WHI-0325 | BROADCAST DATE: 4/27/1997

What are the effects of American popular culture on American Christianity? Is popular culture neutral or does it carry with it many non-Christian assumptions? Joining the program to discuss this question is Ken Myers, author of *All God’s Children & Blue Suede Shoes*.

(C30-09) UNITY & THE GOSPEL

WHI-0398 | BROADCAST DATE: 9/13/1998

On what basis can true unity among Christians be found? It used to be that evangelicalism provided enough of a center to gather Christians together. But, as the hosts explain on this program, the prospects for unity feel dim when Christians from across the continent seem to have forgotten that doctrine is the foundation of unity.

(C30-10) FINDING A CHURCH

WHI-0443 | BROADCAST DATE: 5/23/1999

What are the marks of a true church, and what kinds of questions should believers ask as they are looking for a place of worship? The Protestant reformers argued that a true church was a place in which the Word was rightly preached and the sacraments were rightly administered. But what did they mean by this? That’s the focus of this edition of *White Horse Inn*.

(C30-11) THE PREACHED WORD

WHI-0492 | BROADCAST DATE: 7/9/2000

According to William Willimon, Christianity is kind of like a foreign language that one is not born with, but must be baptized into. Unfortunately, many preachers today are attempting to “translate” the faith into familiar and comfortable terms that people are used to, but the result, he argues, is that things get “lost in translation.” William Willimon, author of *Peculiar Speech: Preaching to the Baptized*, joins the panel on this edition of *White Horse Inn*.

(C30-12) LAW & GOSPEL

WHI-0556 | BROADCAST DATE: 10/14/2001

Martin Luther once wrote that “the difference between the Law and the Gospel is the height of knowledge in Christendom. Every Christian should know and be able to state this difference.” In fact, he went on to say that “if this ability is lacking, one cannot tell a Christian from a heathen or a Jew.” On this episode, the *White Horse Inn* hosts help us to understand this crucially-important biblical distinction.

(C30-13) GOD AT WORK: THE DOCTRINE OF VOCATION

WHI-0599 | BROADCAST DATE: 8/11/2002

What is the doctrine of vocation and how can it radically transform our understanding of Christian worship and spirituality? The hosts discuss this with Gene Edward Veith, author of *God at Work: Your Christian Vocation in All of Life*.

(C30-14) WHY CAN'T WE JUST READ THE BIBLE?

WHI-0633 | BROADCAST DATE: 4/6/2003

Why are there so many denominations and why do so many Christians differ in their interpretation of important biblical passages? On this program, Michael Horton talks with D.A. Carson about some of the mistakes that people make when interpreting Scripture.

(C30-15) GRACE ALONE!

WHI-0711 | BROADCAST DATE: 11/14/2004

Does God help those who help themselves? Are we acceptable to God because of good works or because we at least “had faith”? In this edition of *White Horse Inn*, we’re taking a look at the Reformation slogan, Grace Alone, in order to get a better understanding of God’s unmerited favor.

(C30-16) THE EMERGENT CHURCH MOVEMENT

WHI-0726 | BROADCAST DATE: 3/6/2005

Who is Brian McLaren, and what is this new postmodern movement called “The Emergent Church”? This program will explore these questions, and we’ll also be featuring a number of interviews and sound bites from a recent Emergent Church convention. Is this new movement a helpful return to the ancient Christian faith? What are the movement’s pros and cons? Find out in this edition of *White Horse Inn*.

(C30-17) CHRISTIANITY: A FAITH FOUNDED ON FACTS

WHI-0784 | BROADCAST DATE: 4/16/2006

How do you respond to people who believe that Christianity is based on myths and is not factually true? We asked pastors that question at a recent pastors' convention, and their answers just might surprise you. Joining us in this special extended discussion is noted apologist Dr. John Warwick Montgomery.

(C30-18) CHRISTLESS CHRISTIANITY

WHI-0843 | BROADCAST DATE: 6/3/2007

Countless sermons in churches across the country focus on moralistic concerns and personal transformation. But has Christ gotten lost in the shuffle? Have we inverted Paul's warnings by intentionally preaching about ourselves, and not Christ crucified? On this edition of *White Horse Inn*, the hosts evaluate some of the ways in which contemporary Christians have become distracted from the person and work of Jesus Christ.

(C30-19) AN INTERVIEW WITH R.C. SPROUL

WHI-0909 | BROADCAST DATE: 9/7/2008

On this edition of *White Horse Inn*, Michael Horton talks with R.C. Sproul, Chairman of *Ligonier Ministries* and author of numerous books including *The Holiness of God*, *The Truth of the Cross*, and *Knowing Scripture*. Mike and R.C. discuss many of the themes relating to "Christless Christianity" and evaluate the health of the evangelical Christian church.

(C30-20) BIBLICAL IGNORANCE

WHI-0942 | BROADCAST DATE: 4/26/2009

In our own informal surveys conducted over the years, the majority of Christians we've interviewed cannot name the Ten Commandments or define crucial biblical doctrines such as justification or imputation. So why is biblical ignorance so common among Christians today? That's our discussion on this edition of *White Horse Inn*.

(C30-21) JUSTIFICATION & IMPUTED RIGHTEOUSNESS

WHI-1014 | BROADCAST DATE: 9/12/2010

What is the heart of the gospel message? On this program the hosts make the claim that the essential core of the good news is the doctrine of justification by an imputed righteousness, namely that we are declared righteous not because of anything we have done, but rather on the basis of the righteous life and sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. The *White Horse Inn* hosts also discuss how this doctrine is being ignored or outright denied in our time.

(C30-22) CHRISTIANITY & THE NEW LIBERALISM

WHI-1070 | BROADCAST DATE: 10/9/2011

Is Christianity primarily about what God is doing in your life right now, or what he did one afternoon 2,000 years ago? Is the idea of Jesus "in your heart" more important than Jesus "in the manger" or "on the cross"? Do you value your own personal experience of faith more than what God accomplishes externally through the proclamation of the gospel? In the not-too-distant past, theological liberals were the ones answering "yes" to questions like these, but increasingly American Evangelicals are moving in this direction.

On this program, the hosts discuss this troubling trend and offer some challenges to this “new liberalism” of our time.

(C30-23) THE NARCISSISM EPIDEMIC

WHI-1107 | BROADCAST DATE: 6/24/2012

Many churches in our day offer entertaining music, fluffy sermons, and demand nothing. In short, they give people what they want. But what if “what they want” is informed by a culture of narcissism? On this edition of the program, Michael Horton talks with psychology writer Jean Twenge, author of *Generation Me* and coauthor of *The Narcissism Epidemic: Living in the Age of Entitlement*.

(C30-24) WHAT IS A TRUE CHURCH?

WHI-1176 | BROADCAST DATE: 10/20/2013

How can you tell a true church from a false one? What are the distinguishing characteristics of a properly-organized church body? How do the answers to these questions differ in Protestant, Catholic, and Eastern Orthodox circles? On this edition of the program, the hosts will examine the substance of true faith and practice, specifically taking a look at the marks of a true church.

(C30-25) YOUTH MINISTRY IN CRISIS

WHI-1204 | BROADCAST DATE: 5/4/2014

According to the most conservative estimates, over 60 percent of those raised in evangelical homes end up leaving church at age 18. In some cases, the estimates range as high as 90 percent. So what are we doing wrong? Why are we failing to pass the faith on to the next generation, and what should churches and parents do to address this crisis? To help answer these questions, the hosts talk with J.I. Packer, Christian Smith, Thomas Bergler, and Kenda Creasy Dean.

(C30-26) SAME-SEX ATTRACTION

WHI-1277 | BROADCAST DATE: 9/27/2015

What should we think about the issue of same-sex attraction? Is it essentially the same as being gay? How does the issue of sexual preference relate to our identity as Christians, and how are we to talk about our differences with others in a world that is increasingly accepting of homosexuality and same-sex marriage? On this program, Michael Horton discusses these issues with Sam Allberry, author of *Is God Anti-Gay?*

(C30-27) KARMA VS. GRACE

WHI-1318 | BROADCAST DATE: 7/10/2016

What’s your view of ultimate justice? If you do a lot of bad things throughout the course of your life, will you have to pay for it somehow in the next? We recently asked college students questions like these, and throughout this program the hosts interact with their answers as they discuss the increasing popularity of karma in our time, and contrast it with the Christian concept of grace.

(C30-28) HAS THE BIBLE BEEN MISCOPIED OR MISTRANSLATED?

WHI-1377 | BROADCAST DATE: 8/27/2017

Many people today make the claim that the Bible has been revised, edited, and miscopied over the centuries, and that the translations we have with us today are not at all faithful to the original manuscripts. But is this really the case? On this program, Michael Horton discusses this important issue with New Testament scholar Daniel Wallace, editor of *Revisiting the Corruption of the New Testament* and contributor to *The Reliability of the New Testament: Bart Ehrman and Daniel Wallace in Dialogue*.

(C30-29) DID JESUS TEACH JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ALONE?

WHI-1441 | BROADCAST DATE: 11/18/2018

Sometimes Christians will say things like, “I’m not interested in all those heavy doctrines that Paul talks about. I’m only interested in the simple teachings of Jesus.” But did Paul reshape the Christian message, or was he actually a faithful apostle? To put the question more sharply, did Paul invent the doctrine of justification by grace alone through faith alone on account of Christ alone, or was this something that Jesus himself clearly taught in a variety of ways throughout his earthly ministry? That’s the focus of this edition of *White Horse Inn*.

(C30-30) BORN FROM ABOVE

WHI-1459 | BROADCAST DATE: 3/24/2019

In John 3, Jesus tells Nicodemus that unless he is born again, he can’t even see the kingdom of God. What are the implications of this idea on the popular concept of free will? Apart from God’s gracious intervention, do people have the ability to make a decision to join a kingdom which they cannot see? What does it really mean to be born again? We put some of these questions to pastors at a recent convention, and on this program the hosts will interact with their responses as they continue their series on the Gospel of John.

(C30-31) AMERICAN GOSPEL: CHRIST CRUCIFIED

WHI-1513 | BROADCAST DATE: 4/5/2020

On this program Shane Rosenthal talks with writer and director Brandon Kimber about his *American Gospel* documentary series. His first film, *American Gospel: Christ Alone*, explored the problem of moralistic preaching and issues related to the prosperity gospel. His new documentary, *American Gospel: Christ Crucified*, focuses on the nature of Christ’s atonement and presents a running dialogue between advocates of progressive forms of Christianity with a variety of more traditional Reformation perspectives.

