

**Transcript of the three Exclusive Brethren priests' contributions to the BBC's
Everyman programme, 18 March 2003.**

GC = Garth Christie
KD = Kevin Dormer
GP = Gordon Pollard
I = Interviewer

GC Well, we, we're often referred to as Exclusive Brethren because we practise separation from evil; if you like, the exclusion of evil.

GP I think we would have a saying, which is "in the world, but not of it", and that would be our pathway.

KD We're not taking a higher position than anybody because we take the position we are more responsible than any others. That's one thing we would say - we are the most responsible people on this earth.

KD We're, we're fully aware of the devil. You might say that I, I myself have been caught by the devil, many times. We've all seen and come short of the glory of God.

I Where do you see him in the world?

KD Well, it's quite simple. In, in the media, as one, that would be where the devil would, would be because of his influence on, on mankind, the television, the radio.

GP The brethren used to go to university, but that was pointed out through, through the leader, at that time, that it was not protective at all. In fact many that went to university have left us, and many that are still in fellowship with us regret ever going through that sort of learning process. The influences at university are not helpful, at all, in a moral sense. We're trying to lead a life discerning between what's right and wrong, refusing evil, choosing good, and that's where, why the reason we don't go to university.

GC Withdrawal - that's where a serious sin comes to light. 1 Corinthians 5 speaks about certain serious sins, and we would then have to withdraw from a person if they weren't repentant, if they weren't getting right about it.

KD Owen would have understood the consequences of his act, his actions. We are bought (sic) up, we are, we are taught from a young age. It's a standard we abide by.

KD I was the most unsettled person you would ever have met nine months ago. I was uncouth. I was a nasty person. But, thank God, He worked in my soul, and I mean every word of what I say. I'm still tested. I'm still a normal man. I still have desires to do things that aren't in accord with Scripture. And I think my colleagues would say the same. But it's something that just holds you, it's a conscience, it's a work of God in a soul you can never, ever get rid of once it's set there.

GP The whole IT system, if you like the computer area, is marked and running into the Man of Sin, in Revelation. The number 666 I'm sure you'll know about, and there it is, bar codes and everything. So we seek just simply to live a life separate from that.

KD It's where they can actually lead to, and what they can lead to, is the problem that we have with them.

GC You think of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself - how He was here on earth. He was the most approachable, humble, lowly man. It says, "I am in the midst of you as the one that serves", and that's how these men are. They don't hold their lives as dear to themselves. They put themselves at the service of others.

GP It becomes apparent because of moral power and authority, and the upholding of everything that's gone before in the great men that have led us in the Recovery from JND down to the present day.

GC They've been prepared to come down to our level and, if you like, lift us out of the mire, help us forward.

GP She actually left home on (sic) her own free will, her own choice, to go off with a man; and she returned to her father's house after eight months of being away, and because of matters being unclear in what has transgressed during that time, she was provided with a fully furnished bungalow (which belonged to Brethren), and she was provided with what she needed to be able to live. She was provided with a telephone, she was provided with a car to get to her job which was found for her by the Brethren, and she was visited daily by persons that would take an interest in consideration for her in every way, once a day, every day, and after five weeks she returned to her family as restored.

KD Every case is looked at on its own merits, as it is in every walk of life. You can't just - there's no statement, flat bang statement that says this is what happens, that if at - that that's the case. Each case is looked at, is looked at its own merits.

GC If he was determined to go his own way, and say he was unfaithful to his wife, say he committed something like adultery, which we would regard seriously, obviously there would be a separation, normally that would be a legal separation.

KD They knew full well that their actions would eventually lead them away from the fellowship. I think that would be very fair to say that. It's my job, as it is with Garth's and Gordon's, to represent the spirit of the Gospel to these people who have lost their way. When someone goes out of fellowship, as you'll know, it's a major, major change for them. They're not equipped for the world. Therefore we like, we like to help them and, as I say, protect them.

KD None of us would have known that Mr. Hales, currently, was going to be the next Man of God. It's something that when I say is God given. His gift is undeniable. His grasp of the truth, his grasp of mankind. His deportment is one of a magnanimous, benevolent spirit.

GP There has been in the local areas certain matters that haven't been dealt with correctly, and this is what you speak of, of a Review; and if there is anything to be looked at then, as we say, it's been looked at.

GP In some cases that they've acted unwisely, or hastily, and not been thorough enough and perhaps not shown the spirit of the Glad Tidings as the way that we've been shown in the mercy of God.....

KD Mr Bruce himself would say, you know, if he was given some facts about a matter that weren't accurate he would say' "Well, OK, I have misjudged that, but I can go, I, by the facts I've been given".

GC If somebody makes a mistake, a matter of administration, they would confess that. They would realize that they've sinned in that way and they would have, they would take [words unclear] count about it. They would be expected to say, "I'm sorry if I've caused some unnecessary problem".

GP It's been acknowledged that action was rather hastily arrived at. But we're very thankful that he's fully happy back with his family.

GC He's taken up his privileges again and is very happily back in fellowship with us, showing that, you know, that's the way the Lord works. We all need saving. The Lord Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost.

KD I actually have been to see Andrew and Christine over the last, some time, two and a half to three weeks ago. I sat down with them in the lounge and I said, "Look, Andrew and Christine, we would love you back, we would really love you back. It's where you deserve, it's what you deserve, it's where you should be". And you know, we are reviewing their case at the moment and we will put up our hands and say, "Yes we're wrong" if we were wrong.

GP If a person is opposed, very opposed, to the Brethren, for example to expose the grandchildren to them we would be very careful. That is that the whole concept of the family which is what we enjoy, what we seek to preserve, is protection, and this is what is not found in the families around us, and we just long and desire to provide that protection from every element of what's adverse.

GC The teaching of the Lord Himself was such that separation in certain cases might have to be practised, but the Lord makes it up and he says that we can expect persecutions, and in the coming age life eternal. That's what really matters. If you look at the big picture, what's eternal is what really matters.

GP Well, the Lord is coming again, and that's what we look for. In the meantime we've got to fulfil the place that He has given us, in the holy fellowship of God's Son; and but we look and prepare ourselves really for the coming of the Lord Jesus.

GC We believe the Rapture is imminent and after the Rapture you get the Lord's appearing.
