The Writing on the Wall

Tag Archives: faith healing

South Carolina hospital touched by an Angel?

6 Jan
This one is definitely more of a God Sighting (http://hiscrivener.wordpress.com/index.php?s=\%22god+sighting\%22), but deserves its own post, because it’s just more. For those Wall Watchers with children, you'll understand.


A girl named Chelsea Banton was born five weeks prematurely, and doctors gave her 36 hours to live. They were wrong… miracle #1.

Before Chelsea was 2, she was admitted to the hospital for pneumonia, the first of several dangerous run-ins with the illness that have made her a familiar face in Presbyterian’s pediatric intensive care unit. Among other health problems in her medical history: hydrocephalus, requiring a shunt in her skull and, later, several shunt revisions; life-threatening viruses; and, this past July, fluid retention that required more than a week’s hospitalization and three liters of liquid to be drawn from her body.

She’s still here, on life-support, but here… miracle #2.

But in late October, things looked grimm and the family created a “plan of action” to take Chelsea off the ventilator if things got really bad. Things weren’t getting better, and the entire family was feeling pain, most of all, Chelsea.

For the rest, I'll just use the editorial from the Charlotte Observer, and let that – and this amazing picture – do the talking.

On the afternoon of Nov. 5, as family and friends prayed about the decision, a nurse practitioner called Colleen’s attention to a monitor showing the door to the pediatric intensive care unit.
“On the monitor, there was this bright light,” Colleen recalls. “And I looked at it and I said, ‘Oh my goodness! It looks like an angel!’

Colleen pointed her digital camera at the monitor to take a photo of the image, but the “first picture wouldn’t take.”

She tried again and succeeded. The image gave her a peace that stayed with her when hospital staff removed Chelsea’s oxygen mask. And then, “when they took the mask off of her, her stats went as high as they’ve ever been.

“Her color was good, and the doctors and nurses were amazed,” Colleen said. “The nurse practitioner who saw the image in the monitor said, ‘I’ve worked here 15 years, and I’ve never seen anything like it.’”

Chelsea was removed from intensive care on Nov. 14 and went home three days later.

This past Christmas, Chelsea turned 15. What number is that? I would say third time was the charm, indeed.

Tags: change, children, Christianity, faith, faith healing, family, God, Jesus Saves, movie, visitation, witness

○ Comments 3 Comments
○ Categories Denominational Fun, Networking, On Your Wall, Testify, WWJD

Gospel Legend could be singing “Home for the Holidays”

10 Nov

Thank you, Gospel Soundcheck on Beliefnet.com for this story, update and the latest in a withered string of them seen on the Wall. Finally!
For the Wall Watchers who have been pelting HiScrivener with questions on Rev. Timothy Wright’s condition…

1. First, thanks for the interest. Keep that action up.
2. Enjoy the headline. It seems the Gospel icon could be coming home just in time for Santa Claus.

I got an update on Rev. Timothy Wright from family friend and spokesperson Laurie Schneider, who says that Rev Wright may be heading home for the holidays. That’s great news! She told me by email, “He has sensitivity in both arms and hands. He is moving his neck and shoulders on a regular basis. He is in therapy [three] hours a day.”

Although this will be the first holiday season Wright will share without his beloved Betty by his side, at least he will be able to be in the home they shared to help provide solace. And remember, it’s still not too late to send a donation or prayers to Rev. Wright may be sent to the care of:

Grace Tabernacle Christian Center Church of God in Christ
1745 Pacific Street
Brooklyn, NY 11213

Tags: black church, evangelism, faith healing, gospel, music, prayer, testimony, Timothy Wright, tragedy, worship

○ Comments Leave a Comment
○ Categories Denominational Fun, Follow up, On Your Wall, Snap, Crackle and POP Culture

Cancer Blunder from Down Under: Stand by your man

28 Aug

In a selfless and sacrificial act, we have God doing what he does best amidst the horrendous claims, allegations and facts throughout the saga of fraudulent cancer victim and praise leader Michael Guglielmucci. His wife of seven years will stay faithful and...
committed to the dude while he processes through his own spiritual sex, lies and videotape

In a word, “WOW”.

“I know that I love him, I know that much,” [Amanda Guglielmucci] said. “We’re just not going to rush anything, we’re gonna walk through the process, however slowly it needs to happen, in order for the healing and restoration to be complete and then we’ll go from there.”

It can easily be argued that women stay with noted celebrities, politicians and athletes through their discretions because of money and notoriety. Amanda, whom we should just call “Superwoman” can’t say that.

Why? Michael Guglielmucci is not famous – he’s infamous! There is no money because his parents are ensuring the public all the proceeds from the majestic song, “Healer” are going to charity and every cent from the cancer donations are being returned (and high kudos for that). So what’s left?

Love – that of a wife and that of the healer he sang about with passion and vigor.

Jesus speaks through the Apostle Paul, “My strength is made perfect in weakness.” This story is Exhibit A. The Guglielmuccis are ridden with weakness, yet, this story emanates strength, fortification and a firm foundation. How? The power and love of God.

Listen, I have multiple issues of anger, frustration and bewilderment with Michael Guglielmucci, but what can you say – with a clear, Christian conscience – about Amanda’s faithfulness? Nothing but stand in awe of her support and in the faithfulness of Jesus.

“I never questioned it, when you love someone you trust them. I had no reason not to trust him,” she said. “Perhaps I feel a little bit foolish in this, hindsight’s a fabulous thing . . . but I’m trying not to beat myself up.” Mrs Guglielmucci even quit work to look after her ailing husband. Mrs Guglielmucci said her faith in God had remained unmoved throughout the ordeal.

OK, maybe stand and applaud a little. Good on ya’. Prayer for her saints, she’s going to need it.

Tags: accountability, cancer, Christianity, crime, evangelism, faith healing, fraud, God, hillsong, hypocrisy, Jesus, love, marriage, Michael Guglielmucci
Cancer Blunder from Down Under: Guglielmucci’s ‘Wiki’ Fingers

26 Aug

Most evangelists or pastors in the news these days are accused of having sticky fingers, but we have discovered a new realm of “DOH!” with Michael Guglielmucci and his panache for the extravagant faux pas. In case you haven’t heard, Guglielmucci conned the nations out of money by using an aggressive cancer to pay for a certain fetish he had, and boy does the news travel fast.


Now, I realize any concerned (or concocting) soul can edit this page, and saying “Well, I saw it on Wikipedia” is almost as credible as seeing Barry Bonds hit a home run as he says, “Oh no! I have never taken beef ‘roids!”

However, this mess travels fast! Newly added to his page are:

- Guglielmucci admitted that his claims about having an aggressive form of cancer, supposedly diagnosed in 2006 were untrue.
- He is no longer serving in active ministry, and is now seeking professional help.
- All of AdelaideNow’s stories are referenced (HiScrivener’s source of information on this tale of woe.)
And? Well, it’s what’s missing that is peculiar. That wonderful video of dude singing with his nose full of an oxygen tube? It’s gone. It was there last week when this mess began.

I wonder if Hillsongs took it down claiming the ubiquitous “copyright infringement” policy. And if they did, what a joke that would be. It wasn’t copyright infringement when they thought Guglielmucci was on the up-and-up. But now that he is on the down-and-out, not so much.

Stay classy, people.

At least, that’s what this dimwit did when his excruciating facial features and tomfoolery became evangelical legend (and a piece of fraudulent televangelist folklore).

Oh well, I’m sure there will be more from this story, but until then, a litmus test... let’s see how long this video stays online. HiScrivener sets the over/under at three weeks, which is three weeks longer than his freakin’ MySpace page should last. Can’t someone call the cops on that?! Place your bets, Wall Watchers.

Tags: abuse, accountability, cancer, Christianity, evangelism, faith healing, fraud, hillsong, hypocrisy, Michael Guglielmucci, music, public relations, televangelist, TV, worship
50% of MDs agree, “Maybe this God thing works”

Our latest submission to the “No. Really?” department is this axiomatic story from MSNBC (http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/26272687/) entitled “God vs. Doctor.”

Stand down cult watchdogs, this is not a story about Christian Scientists but rather doctors everywhere realizing that the proof of their medical degrees isn’t a match for the power of God. According to this study, “divine intervention can revive dying patients.”

You don’t say?! No, really. They said even more.

More than half of randomly surveyed adults — 57 percent — said God’s intervention could save a family member even if physicians declared treatment would be futile. And nearly three-quarters said patients have a right to demand such treatment.

“A right”?! Well, thank God we live in a democratic nation. For a minute there, I thought this really was Beijing. And now doctors everywhere are sighing in relief because they have an ‘out’:

“Sensitivity to this belief will promote development of a trusting relationship” with patients and their families, according to researchers. That trust, they said, is needed to help doctors explain objective, overwhelming scientific evidence showing that continued treatment would be
worthless.

Nice. I always thought there was something farfetched about that whole “Lazarus come forth (http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john%2011&version=31)” and being raised from the dead at the very request of Jesus ballyhoo. But this story clearly wipes the cobwebs from my comprehension and the next time I hear this message, I can shout “Amen” with a clear conscience.

Thanks, MSNBC.


○ Comments 1 Comment
○ Categories Above the Fold, Keep it real, Testify, The Obvious Files

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Unsettled Christianity

One blog to rule them all, One blog to find them, One blog to bring them all and in the darkness bind them.

December 23rd, 2008 by Joel

More on the Angel in the Hospital: Photo captures image of an 'angel' in hospital hallway

When Chelsea Banton was born five weeks prematurely, doctors predicted she had 36 hours to live.

Proving them wrong was the first miracle for Chelsea, now an Independence High School freshman.
“She spent the first four months in a neonatal intensive care unit,” recalls her mother, Colleen Banton of Mint Hill.

Before Chelsea was 2, she was admitted to the hospital for pneumonia, the first of several dangerous run-ins with the illness that have made her a familiar face in Presbyterian’s pediatric intensive care unit.

Among other health problems in her medical history: hydrocephalus, requiring a shunt in her skull and, later, several shunt revisions; life-threatening viruses; and, this past July, fluid retention that required more than a week’s hospitalization and three liters of liquid to be drawn from her body.

*Always the skeptic, but I don’t know who to answer this.*

Prayer has helped sustain the whole family.

“We had been praying every day, my oldest daughter and I and Chelsea,” Colleen Banton said. “…Praying for a miracle.”

That miracle, Colleen believes, came Nov. 5 – seven weeks after Chelsea was admitted to the hospital for pneumonia.

What originally seemed like a bad cold nearly killed her.

“She was on life-support from the moment she got there,” her mother said.

That was Sept. 21. Over the next six weeks in the hospital, Chelsea faced one threat after another: pneumonia in her left lung, then her right lung, then sepsis, blood clots, staph infections, E. coli, a collapsed lung and feeding problems.

In late October, doctors met with the family to discuss “a plan of action,” Colleen said. One of the decisions she had to make was whether she would take Chelsea off the ventilator. Earlier, doctors had removed Chelsea from the ventilator several times, but had replaced it when the struggle to breathe became too difficult for the teen.

But a family meeting Oct. 31 was a turning point.

“At that point, the family… agreed that when she did come off the ventilator again, (they) weren’t putting it back in,” Colleen said. “Whatever happened, would happen.”

On Saturday, Nov. 1, “they took her off the ventilator and she did good,” her mother said. “She was breathing on her own.”

The next day, “her stats went down,” and doctors put her in an oxygen mask.
But over the next few days, Colleen noticed her daughter “wasn’t getting better. Things were kind of lingering.”

And Chelsea, who had been having anxiety attacks and crying throughout her hospital stay, was having more of them.

“I said, ‘She’s been through enough,’” Colleen remembers. “I said, ‘Can we just take her mask off? She’s been through enough.’

“I wanted to do what the Lord wanted me to do. And I really felt like I’ve had her for 14 years, and if it’s time for her to go to heaven, then I know she’ll be healed.”

The mask didn’t come off immediately, though. They waited until family members had a chance to come to see Chelsea – perhaps for the last time.

On the afternoon of Nov. 5, as family and friends prayed about the decision, a nurse practitioner called Colleen’s attention to a monitor showing the door to the pediatric intensive care unit.

“On the monitor, there was this bright light,” Colleen recalls. “And I looked at it and I said, ‘Oh my goodness! It looks like an angel!”

Colleen pointed her digital camera at the monitor to take a photo of the image, but the “first picture wouldn’t take.”

She tried again and succeeded. The image gave her a peace that stayed with her when hospital staff removed Chelsea’s oxygen mask.

And then, “when they took the mask off of her, her stats went as high as they’ve ever been.

“Her color was good, and the doctors and nurses were amazed,” Colleen said. “The nurse practitioner who saw the image in the monitor said, ‘I’ve worked here 15 years, and I’ve never seen anything like it.”

Chelsea was removed from intensive care on Nov. 14 and went home three days later.

Her mother believes it was a miracle – attended by a very real angel bathed in light at the door to the pediatric intensive care unit.

“What was so ironic… is it was a rainy day,” Colleen said. “It had been overcast all day. And the sun only came out at that point.”

To those who doubt her story and photograph, Colleen Banton says: “If they doubt it, that’s fine. … But I know what I saw, and the picture’s untouched. I didn’t make it up. That’s just something that I believe.”
“I believe that more people have changed since this happened. I know I have. I look at things differently than I used to – because I know God is in control.”

On Christmas Day, Chelsea will turn 15 – another miracle considering all of the medical trials she’s faced, according to her mother.

“I’m learning,” Colleen Banton said, “that every day she’s alive is a miracle.”

Photo captures image of an ‘angel’ in hospital hallway | CharlotteObserver.com.

Post By Joel (8,783 Posts)

Joel Landon Watts is a Masters of Theological Studies student with a focus in literary and rhetorical criticism of the New Testament. His interests include exploring the role of mimesis in human civilization, specifically in the study of religion and media, as well as science fiction and the way in which it has allowed mythology to be explored in light of scientific ideals of the past century. His first book, Mimetic Criticism of the Gospel of Mark: Introduction and Commentary, is expected to be published by Wipf and Stock early next year. He is currently co-editing a book on moving from Fear to Faith (Energion, 2013).

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14 Responses to “More on the Angel in the Hospital: Photo captures image of an 'angel' in hospital hallway”

1. Dec 23 2008 at 5:11 pm

wickle says

You know, I’m usually pretty skeptical of these things, too, especially because of the abuse of “angelic voices” by the Charismatic movement and such.

Still, I don’t want to deny it as a possibility. I’ll keep an open mind on this one … after all, it seems like we’re dealing with people giving God the glory for what’s happened, and the angel isn’t giving us any un-Scriptural messages.

Reply

2. Dec 23 2008 at 12:11 pm

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Reply

3. Dec 25 2008 at 5:01 am
Rose says

some people will believe the story about the angels in a hospital, some people will not, but the fact is that the girls is alive and her family is happy.

Reply

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Dec 25 2008 at 12:01 am

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Reply

5.

Dec 25 2008 at 7:08 am

Scott says

It’s a believable story, but I want the other pictures because that picture is just a reflection obviously. I mean you can see the window on the reflection of the floor.

Reply

6.

Dec 25 2008 at 2:08 am

Scott says

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Reply
BADGER says

At first I thought this could be real. But then I noticed there is not reflection on the floor below the object. Makes me second guess my initial thoughts.

Reply

BADGER says

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Reply

Polycarp says

Badger,

I am not saying that it is real – but angels are not vampires, and as far as I know, have no ‘rules’ against having reflections. If it was pure energy of the divine, who what if it needs a reflection?

Reply

BADGER says
Tammy says

Unless I could enter that area myself and see that corner in light of anything such as a flashing light from an almost blown bulb in the reflection of a watcher mirror, etc., I have no reason to doubt what these people saw in that Unit, especially since it was a nurse practitioner who saw it first. They would know that area much better than anyone else would and how likely this would show up. I saw the mother’s interview on FOX and what impressed me is she did not say the angel healed her daughter, but that she felt it was a sign that God was going to take care of her daughter no matter the outcome, she stay alive or die. I think the picture is pretty cool, but the mother’s testimony carries much more weight as it is impossible to please God without faith. Mom definitely had that. As far as the reflection issue, if it is a reflection of the Glory of Our God, no other reflection is needed.

Reply

11. Dec 30 2008 at 9:52 pm

Tammy says

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Reply

12. Dec 31 2008 at 4:09 am

Polycarp says
Tammy, I have not made my decision yet – no one has asked – but there has yet to be a solid explanation as to it – beyond that of something unexplainable.

Reply

13.
Dec 26 2008 at 12:29 pm

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Reply

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  - KJV (67)
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  - NLT (102)
  - NRSV (9)
  - RSV (6)
  - Septuagint (40)
  - The Voice (6)
  - TNIV (4)

- **Church History** (1313)
  - Athanasius (21)
  - Augustine (20)
  - Boethius (2)
  - Creeds (27)
  - Cyprian (10)
  - Doctrine (938)
    - Apologetics (15)
    - Baptism (40)
    - Church Discipline (6)
    - Church Government (38)
    - Communion (30)
    - Godhead (152)
    - Hermeneutics (27)
    - Holiness (31)
    - Inerrancy (113)
    - Justification (24)
    - Resurrection (22)
    - Theology (498)
  - Fourth Century (28)
  - Gregory of Nazianzus (2)
  - Gregory of Nyssa (3)
  - Hippolytus (6)
  - Ignatius of Antioch (13)
  - Irenaeus (19)
  - John Cassian (5)
  - John Chrysostom (54)
- John of the Cross (8)
- Justin Martyr (11)
- Marcellus of Ancyra (12)
- Melito of Sardis (8)
- Origen (10)
- Papias (1)
- Polycarp of Smyrna (14)
- Reformation (108)
- Tertullian (29)
- The Mystics (22)
- Theophilus of Antioch (4)
- Vincent of Lerins (3)

• **New Testament** (350)
  - Acts (15)
  - Corinthians (4)
  - Ephesians (11)
  - Galatians (12)
  - Hebrews (26)
  - John (40)
  - Jude (1)
  - Luke (14)
  - Mark (67)
  - Matthew (16)
  - Peter (17)
  - Philemon (4)
  - Revelation (54)
  - Romans (25)
  - Thessalonians (8)

• **Old Testament** (262)
  - Daniel (5)
  - Deuteronomy (24)
  - Exodus (4)
  - Genesis (87)
  - Isaiah (15)
  - Jeremiah (11)
  - Jonah (2)
  - Joshua (2)
  - Judges (5)
  - Leviticus (7)
  - Nehemiah (12)
  - Proverbs (7)
  - Psalms (23)
  - Ruth (2)
  - Samuel (5)
  - Song of Solomon (7)

• **Other Posts** (1919)
- **Devotional** (571)
  - Charities (30)
  - Poetry (7)
  - Quotes (67)
  - Sermon Notes (16)
- **Scholarship** (1030)
  - Books (537)
  - Deuterocanon (81)
    - Baruch (4)
    - Maccabees (8)
    - Psalm 151 (2)
    - Sirach (23)
    - Tobit (8)
    - Wisdom (16)
  - German (12)
  - Intertextuality (5)
  - Linguistics (11)
  - Mimesis (44)
  - Philosophy (39)
  - Pseudepigrapha (65)
    - Book of Jubilees (4)
    - Dead Sea Scrolls (17)
    - Enoch (8)
    - Psalms of Solomon (19)
  - Publications (68)
    - Thesis (21)
  - Rhetoric (39)
  - Semiotics (11)
- **Society and Religion** (4571)
  - Abortion (132)
  - Atheism (139)
  - Christian Education (78)
  - Controversial (560)
  - Debate/Discussion (368)
  - Gender Issues (99)
  - Homosexuality (109)
  - Media (58)
  - Religion and Politics (1578)
  - Science (328)
- **Technology** (739)
  - Bibleworks (20)
  - Biblioblogging (472)
  - Logos Bible Software (16)

Blogroll
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Divine intervention?

by duncan

Chelsea Banton was born 5 weeks premature with developmental disabilities and has battled serious health problems all her life.

Two months ago, Chelsea, now 14 yr old, was dying in hospital with pneumonia. Told by doctors there was no hope, her mother agreed to allow her life support system to be switched off. Then as she sat by her side and waited for Chelsea to take her last breath she saw a bright light appear on a security monitor and within an hour the dying girl began to recover.

Chelsea is now at home and has celebrated both her 15th birthday and Christmas. Her mother is convinced the bright light was an angel sent to save her daughter.

Full Story...