

NAR 101 (New Apostolic Reformation)

Founder: C. Peter Wagner (1930-2016)

Global Movement

- Exploding in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the US
- Radically transforming the church

Teachings

- God has restored the offices of prophet and apostle to the church
 - Apostles sometimes called ‘generals’
 - Sometimes this language is used to mask what they are doing - biblical Christians would be troubled by the term ‘apostle’
 - Prophets sometimes referred to as ‘intelligence agents’
- Similar authority to Jesus’ apostles and the OT prophets
- These people will receive new revelation from the Lord
- Through this new revelation, the prophets and apostles can learn to work miracles
- These prophets and apostles can then set up God’s kingdom on the earth
 - Most people believe Christ will return to establish His kingdom on earth
 - NAR teaches that this is the church’s job
 - Through spiritual warfare techniques
 - “Strategic level spiritual warfare”
 - Engage in spiritual warfare against high-ranking spiritual forces that control geographical areas of the earth - ‘territorial spirits’
 - One technique: prayer rooms to ‘clear the heavenlies’ so the Gospel can go forth in those cities - these are scattered throughout various geographical regions
 - Some say the church will full set up the kingdom, others say partially
 - Similar to ‘Dominionism’
- Most people are not aware how these teachings have penetrated churches (especially pentecostal and charismatic churches)
- Churches are expected to submit to the ‘regional apostle’
- It’s called a ‘reformation’ because they believe that the church is missing two very important offices to carry out its mission: apostles and prophets

Marks of an NAR Church

1. They have Apostles
2. They are trying to bring the kingdom of God to this earth
3. They are fixated on experiencing God’s presence and achieving what they believe is their God-given destiny
4. They are fixated on revival - to the NAR, the next big breakthrough is just around the corner

5. They emphasize unity in the church at the expense of biblical doctrine
6. They deny the sufficiency of God's Word, in fact, they claim that what their 'Apostles' say is on par with Scripture

Influential Leaders in the NAR

- Bill Johnson - Bethel Church Redding, CA
- Mike Bickle - International House of Prayer in Kansas City, MO
- Brian Simmons - Stairway Ministries in Wichita, KS
- Randy Clark - Global Awakenings
- Heidi Baker - Iris Global
- Lou Engle - The Call
- Rick Joyner - Morningstar Ministries
- Cindy Jacobs - Generals International
- Todd Bentley - Fresh Fire
- Bob Jones - (NO ASSOCIATION WITH BOB JONES UNIVERSITY)
- Bill Hamon - extremely influential prophet

Dangers:

- This goes far beyond traditional pentecostal / charismatic teaching
- They are saying that the office of apostle and prophet are active today and THEY MUST BE ALLOWED TO GOVERN THE CHURCH
- Division - church splits
- Overdependence on apostles and prophets

Ministries the NAR has Influenced:

- The National Day of Prayer

Buzzwords and Phrases:

- Warfare Prayer
- Generals
- Anointing
- Joel's Army (a reference to Joel 2)
- Manifest Sons of God
- 7 Mountain Theology - Religion, Family, Business, Education, Government, Media, and Arts & Entertainment
- Dominion
- Mandate
- Mantle
- New Wineskins
- Fivefold Ministry (Ephesians 4:11-13)

Resources:

- Podcast: <http://www.piratechristian.com/fightingforthefaith/2016/9/new-apostolic-reformation-101>
- Book: 'A New Apostolic Reformation' by Holly Pivec
- International Coalition of Apostolic Leaders - icaleaders.com
- International Coalition of Prophetic Leaders - icops.ca
- http://thinktheology.co.uk/blog/article/whats_wrong_with_the_passion_translation
- <http://www.piratechristian.com/berean-examiner/the-six-hallmarks-of-a-nar-church>