



DO WE HAVE A CHOICE?

By Albert James Dager

This November, Americans will go to the polls to decide which course the United States will take for the future—a decision that can radically alter the very nature of our government. The Constitution has been shredded to varying degrees by both major political parties in Congress and the White House, and even by the U.S. Supreme Court. But now, more than ever, America stands at a crossroads that could fundamentally transform us from a nation of free people (relatively free compared to past generations) to a nation of serfs enslaved to a mindless, burgeoning bureaucratic overlord known as the Government of the United States of America—a government that seems bent on surrendering our sovereignty to a global agenda.

Presently the two houses of Congress are divided. The Senate majority party is Democrat; the House of Representatives majority party is Republican. The office of president is occupied by a Democrat. Should both houses end up in the majority for one party, and should that party also control the administration, then the ideology of the party in control could essentially alter the destiny of America.

Of course, all is in the Lord's hands. But it is still up to Americans to decide for themselves which ideology they would prefer.

Congress is a mixed bag but, generally, Democrats lean to the left of the political spectrum and Republicans lean mostly to the middle-right. The left includes liberals, socialists, Marxists and communists. The middle-right includes those who are somewhat more committed to constitutionalism, but are willing to compromise some values in the interest of security and fiscal solvency. They reject the more right-leaning values of the Tea Party.

The most visible and ideologically-important office for which voters will choose is that of the president. This year the choice is between the Republican Party's Mitt Romney, and the incumbent Democrat Barack Obama. Which poses the greater threat not only to the welfare of the nation, but to the purity of the Gospel?

Notice I asked, "which poses the greater threat," not "which offers the better opportunity." There is a reason for this.

IS MITT ROMNEY A MORMON?

Is there any question that he is a Mormon, which has been widely addressed in the media? There is no question. Romney publicly and proudly professes his allegiance to Mormonism.

Some have expressed alarm, fearing that Romney will change the nature of marriage by imposing polygamy upon the nation. His grandfather practiced polygamy which, in his day, was sanctioned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormonism). I suspect this particular charge may have originated among same-sex marriage proponents to throw off voters who believe in the sanctity of marriage. In the process, they ignore the fact that Obama's grandfather was a polygamist. Regardless where it started, the chances of polygamy ever becoming legal in the United States is slim-to-none, with the emphasis on "none." There is no huge lobby for polygamy as there is for same-sex marriage.

But Romney's Mormonism should concern us in a few respects. For one, he is not just a Mormon; he is a Mormon bishop, fully aware of all the aberrant Mormon doctrines. The greatest percentage of people within any religious or non-religious group that adhere to conservative political values are those within the Mormon religion. A 2009 Gallup poll found that

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Media Spotlight is a ministry to the Body of Christ, bringing understanding of the ways in which the world shapes our thinking and lifestyles through the influence of the mass communications media.

God's Word exhorts, "buy the truth and do not sell it" (Prov. 23:23). Therefore we do not sell *Media Spotlight*. Begun in 1977, *Media Spotlight* was the first ministry on a national scale to address the ungodly nature of the secular media—motion pictures, television, toys, games and myriad other things that contribute to Christians living no differently than the rest of the world.

The mass media have impacted the Body of Christ as much as they have society. Many Christians are so dependent upon the media that they aren't aware of how lukewarm they have become. We have many testimonials from readers who tell us that, because of *Media Spotlight*, they have become aware of the effect the media have on their thinking, and are now more selective in their choices.

But the problem of ungodliness is not exclusive to the secular media. Of major concern are the religious media that present messages contrary to God's Word. *Media Spotlight* addresses the impact that religious teachers have upon believers in Christ, whether for good or for evil.

It has escaped the understanding of many Christians that what they believe is more often shaped by the teachings and traditions of religious men and institutions than by Scripture. Most teachers in the institutional churches rely more upon their theological disciplines than on the pure Word of God. Yet the wisdom of the world is no substitute for God's Word, even if offered from the pulpit or in the Christian media.

Jesus tells us in Matthew 24:24 that in the last days false christs and false prophets would arise and would show great signs and wonders, "so that, if possible, they will deceive the very elect." He also states in Matthew 24:12 that in the last days the love of many toward Him would grow cold because evil would increase in the world. If we believe Him, then we would be foolish not to guard ourselves against deception. There is little time to waste in the short span of life granted us by God. We must choose today whom we will serve. **MS**

Scripture quotations in *Media Spotlight* are from the King James Version of the Bible, rephrased in modern U.S. English unless otherwise stated.



A Personal Note

Dear Friends,

Can you believe it? Within a month after Al's hard drive failed on his computer, Jean's hard drive failed on her computer. We had to go through the whole thing again. Fortunately, all that was lost were some e-mails and her address book. All the data was backed up, but we still had to go through the process of

restoring all the programs on a new computer that a brother in Christ provided for us. But, again, we were set back a good week. We defer to the Lord's timing.

You will notice that we are trying something new—a wrapper to protect this issue from the ravages of mishandling. But there is another reason. We still hear from some who say they haven't received the latest copy. Might this be because someone doesn't like what we have to say? (We're not indicting anyone in the postal service, *per se*.) Let us know if your copy has arrived in better condition than before.

We suppose this issue could be called an "Election Issue." Several of our articles deal with controversies that have divided this nation in half.

It seems that every four years for the past few decades we have said that the coming election could determine how far away from the principles of the founding fathers we will stray. More important, we've been concerned about the survival of the nation economically as well as politically among the world powers. And even more important than that, our concern has been about how we might survive as a nation guided by the biblical principles upon which Western Civilization was founded.

Truthfully, this election is by far the most significant in the nation's history along all those lines. And no matter who gets elected, the Body of Christ is going to be affected adversely, which you will see as you peruse these articles.

Yet adversity for the Body of Christ is to be expected. We are merely pilgrims in an alien land, emissaries of the Kingdom of God to a country that hates our King.

It isn't that either candidate would overtly persecute true believers in Jesus, but one, a professing Christian who is wholly given over to godless Marxism, has already demonstrated a greater affinity toward the enemies of the faith, which has emboldened those enemies to continue their onslaught against godliness in the nation. The other, a devout and proud-of-it Mormon, has caused evangelical Christians—particularly leaders—to give credibility to one of the largest and fastest-growing anti-Christ religions in the world, and to overlook the spiritual dangers that exist for those who trust them.

Although many true believers see these evils as something to be feared, we must not forget that it is the Lord who establishes all authority. Whoever takes the White House, and whatever transpires in both the earthly and spiritual realms, they will ultimately work for the spiritual good of God's people.

A time of disunity within the nation is upon us. Who among us will embrace it as a blessing from the Lord? Who among us will cling to the world system out of love for the pleasures it offers? Will we long for the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic of Egypt? Or will we persevere along this path in the wilderness with our eyes toward the Promised Land?

Our thanks to those of you who have been so kind in helping us continue through these difficult times. Your prayers and gifts to the ministry are appreciated more than you can know.

In Jesus' love,

Al and Jean
Al and Jean

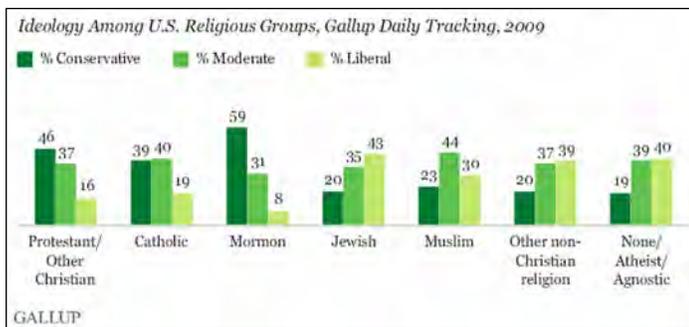


Marxism vs. Mormonism

(Continued from page 1)

59% of Mormons consider themselves conservative, while 31 percent consider themselves moderate. The remaining 8% consider themselves liberals.

The closest to Mormonism in these regards is Protestant and other Christians at 46%, 37% and 16% respectively, followed by Roman Catholic—39%; 40%; 19%. The least conservative are atheist/agnostic, followed by Jewish, other non-Christian religion, and Muslim in that order. (See chart below.)



The problem with Mormonism is not the effect it may have on the nation as a whole, but upon the religious and philosophical beliefs of individuals. Mormonism’s aberrant religious tenets are well publicized, and Romney’s detractors on the left are using them to bring disrepute on his judgment.

The Mormon Candidate, a program on the left-leaning Current TV cable network that aired on August 19, focused heavily on Romney’s grandfather’s polygamy as if that would have any bearing on Romney’s political decisions. Yet *Becoming Barack*, another special on Barack Obama that aired on Current TV immediately before the piece on Romney, made no mention of Obama’s grandfather’s polygamy or his father’s Marxist ideology.

In view of Mormonism’s rejection of polygamy today, we needn’t be overly concerned that Romney’s grandfather was a polygamist. However, *The Mormon Candidate* also featured an interview with Peggy Hayes, a former Mormon woman who accused Romney of trying to have her born-out-of-wedlock baby removed from her under threat of excommunication. As her bishop, Romney wanted Hayes to give up the baby to the Mormon Church. Mormons strongly believe that children fare better in a home with a father and a mother than with a single parent. Statistics do bear out that belief, but if Romney, as a Mormon bishop, tried to have his church take the baby from this young mother, that was patently wrong of him. I would even call it evil, unless the mother was clearly a threat to the baby’s welfare.

It should be stated, however, that Romney denied threatening Hayes with excommunication.

Mormonism holds to a form of dominion theology, believing that it is the destiny of Mormonism to inherit the earth as the only true church. Whether this dominionist ideology would influence Mitt Romney isn’t clear. Nothing in his past political career as governor of Massachusetts would hint at any desire to stuff his administration with Mormons who might desire to wage a pogrom of destruction against people of other beliefs. Nor, for that matter, could such a pogrom succeed in light of the strong diversity of ideology in government and the mass media.

My concern is not for the political ramifications of a Romney presidency, but the credibility it could give to a false religious system, particularly among Christians who are ignorant of Mormonism’s aberrant doctrines. We’ve reported in the past how Glenn Beck’s influence among evangelical Christians has resulted in such credibility. The Christian right is backing Romney almost 100% because they see his candidacy as the best chance to remove Barack Obama from the White House.

During his acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention, Romney purposefully extolled the virtues of his Mormon religion.

According to news reports, Christian delegates to the Republican National Convention no longer see Romney’s Mormon beliefs as an issue. They believe that defeating Obama is more important than doctrinal disputes.

Mike Huckabee, a Southern Baptist pastor before he entered politics, said, “I care far less...where Mitt Romney takes his family to church than I do about where he takes this country.”

Ralph Reed, an evangelical leader political organizer, and founder of the Faith and Freedom Coalition, stated, “Unlike the other side, we have not gathered in this city to elect a messiah. We already have a messiah.”

One of the largest Christian publications, *Christianity Today* featured a column on just this subject. Entitled “Is There Anything Wrong With Voting for a Mormon for President?” three views were offered. Stephen Mansfield, author of *The Mormonizing of America* (Worthy Publishing, 2012) stated:

Millions of voters are now confronting a new moral question: “Is there anything wrong with voting for a Mormon President?”

The answer is “No.” In the 2012 election, voting for Mitt Romney—yes, a Mormon former bishop—is certainly a moral option for followers of Jesus Christ. For those who want a pro-life, pro-free market, pro-business, pro-defense, and “America first” champion, Mitt Romney is their man. It is no sin or dishonor of God to vote for him, even though his Latter-day Saint religion is far from orthodox Christianity.

To believe otherwise is to commit to a perfectionism that would make it nearly impossible to live in this world. If a candidate must be precisely aligned with our religion before we can vote for him, biblically faithful Christians will not be able to vote for either man in the upcoming election. Nor could they have voted for Washington,

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Atheists attack religions of Obama and Romney

American Atheists, Inc. (AAI) has erected billboards in Charlotte, NC, site of the Democratic National Convention, attacking Christianity and Mormonism. Some billboards attack Christianity without mentioning Mormonism. Some of the slogans on those billboards state: “CHRISTIANITY: Sadistic God; Useless Savior” and, “Promotes hate, Calls it ‘Love.’” Some say, “MORMONISM: Magic Underwear; Baptizes Dead People; Big Money, Big Bigotry.”

The billboard attacking Mormonism was originally planned to be erected in Tampa, FL, site of the Republican National Convention, but AAI couldn’t find a billboard company in Tampa that would put it up.

Amanda Knief, managing director for AAI, told Fox News, “We chose Christianity and Mormonism for these billboards because those are the religious faiths of the two presumed candidates for president.”

“The president of the United States is in a position to make life-changing decisions for all Americans,” she said. “We believe it is perfectly reasonable to ask whether each candidate will choose to follow his religious faith or the U.S. Constitution when making those decisions.”

COMMENTARY

First, the billboards don’t ask the candidates anything; they merely attack Christianity and Mormonism. Second, whoever came up with the mistaken idea that Christianity and the Constitution of the United States are at odds with one another? A true believer in Jesus would follow the Constitution without compromise and this would be in perfect alignment with his faith. Not that Christianity is a political movement; it’s not. But biblical faith requires believers to respect and treat with kindness people of all religious and philosophical persuasions.

The official tenets of Mormonism do the same, but we cannot come to the defense of such an anti-Christ religion that masquerades as “the only true religion.”

But what about the two most hot-button issues today—abortion and same-sex marriage?

In the case of abortion the left has successfully bamboozled the American public to think that a woman’s right to choose is a constitutional issue when in truth abortion is not sanctioned by the U.S. Constitution. On the contrary, the Constitution has nothing to say about abortion. The Declaration of Independence, however, crafted by virtually the same men who crafted the Constitution does say that one of the unalienable rights granted by the Creator God is life. It is perfectly legitimate to assert that the right to life is an inherent motive behind the drafting of the Constitution.

Like the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution is one of the founding documents of the United States, and its sole purpose is to establish the rule of law governing the federal government, and the governments of the several states as they relate to the federal government. The 10th Amendment to the Constitution states:

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

The 10th Amendment is the reason there is not, nor can there legitimately be, national laws that either sanction or prohibit abortion or same-sex marriage. It is up to each state and the people themselves to determine whether to grant legal status to either of these. That is what the clamor is about in many of the states today. Some states have legalized same-sex marriage while other states have prohibited it. The legislatures of each state may take up these issues, but if the people by referendum vote in favor or in opposition to them then the will of the people becomes the law for those states.

Because of the strong influence of the left in government and the media, some referendums have had to take the form of amendments to state constitutions in order to make it nearly impossible to implement the legalization of same-sex marriage. That is what we are dealing with in Washington State leading up to the elections this November.

Abortion, on the other hand, was granted constitutional protection by the U.S. Supreme Court in the 1973 landmark case of *Roe v. Wade*. That decision was decidedly unconstitutional because it imposed a law that is not delineated in the U.S. Constitution. Dissenting legal experts would say that the proper disposition of the case would have been to refer it back to the state courts which, in turn, should have left it up to the legislatures or the people of each state. Instead, the Supreme Court ruled out state bans until the last ten weeks of pregnancy, while ruling abortions legal during the first three months. That decision was entirely arbitrary and had no constitutional basis.

Legally, the only impact any U.S. legislator or administrator can have upon such issues is to use the so-called “bully pulpit” to impose his views on them, hoping to move the state legislatures or the people to support those views.

So the AAI’s insistence that a candidate for the U.S. presidency choose to follow the U.S. Constitution rather than his faith is spurious. Even the most devout Christian cannot legally impose his will upon the people. Congress, not the

president, is charged with enacting law. Sadly, however, because of weak political hacks occupying so many seats in the two houses, presidents have gotten away with enacting laws by fiat via “executive orders.”

All three branches of the federal government are guilty of lawlessness in the discharging of their duties. And atheists such as the AAI, who wish to impose their own brand of morality upon the citizens of this nation have been gaining stronger and stronger footholds in their attempts of late.

This, too, is God’s judgment for the nation’s sins and rejection of His Son. ❖

Catholic Church ad calls on members to vote righteously

The Roman Catholic Church has produced a television ad that calls upon Catholics to vote to protect that church’s sacred rights and duties. In dramatic fashion, with ominous-sounding music in the background, the ad artistically portrays a blacksmith forging letters that are combined to spell out the issues facing not only Catholics, but moral and right-thinking people of all persuasions.

The opening graphic states:

IN GENERATIONS PAST, THE CHURCH HAS ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO COUNT ON THE FAITHFUL TO STAND UP AND PROTECT HER SACRED RIGHTS AND DUTIES. THIS GENERATION OF CATHOLICS MUST DO THE SAME.

The message continues: This November Catholics across the nation will be put to the test. Many issues in America require hard work. But how do we know if we are building in vain?

“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.” (Psalm 127:1)

Catholics across the nation will have an opportunity to shape the future for our generation and generations to come.

Many issues are at stake but some issues are not negotiable.

“The protection of life ... from...conception, until natural death.” (Pope Benedict XVI)

Marriage should be reinforced not redefined.

Forcing the Church to buy insurance that goes against her teachings is a violation of religious freedom.

“When the government tampers with a freedom so fundamental, one shudders to think what lies ahead.” (Cardinal Dolan)

Your vote will affect the future and be recorded in eternity.

Will you vote the values that will stand the test of fire?

These last words fade in over the scene of an American flag draped over a small table upon which lie the hand-forged words “Marriage” “Life” “Freedom” as the blacksmith’s hand lays down his hammer.

The closing graphic tells us that the ad was created by Catholics Called to Witness, an organization “Inspiring Catholics to Live Their Faith.”

COMMENTARY

This ad gives you goose bumps. It is so well conceived and presented.

And it demonstrates the sorry state of affairs in which many non-Catholic churches find themselves.

As an ex-Catholic (a devout one at that) I’m well aware of the failings of the Roman Catholic Church and its false teachings. We cannot turn a blind eye to the hypocrisy and criminal acts committed by the Roman Catholic Church throughout the centuries, particularly its history of persecuting true believers in Jesus. Nor can we neglect the scandals of sexual deviancy and monetary greed that have plagued Romanism of late, especially in light of the cover-ups engaged in by the Vatican at the highest level.

In truth, as gripping as this ad is, it deals only with the threat to the church’s “sacred rights,” and does not address the individual’s sacred rights which are of greater importance. It is people the Lord seeks to save, not institutions.

That said, at least the ad addresses the national sins of abortion and sodomy’s assault on the institution of marriage, which is more than can be said for most Protestant denominations today. The same scandals that have brought disrepute upon the Catholic Church are just as rampant in non-Catholic churches; they just haven’t received the same degree of scrutiny from the media. Unless, of course, they have occurred in evangelical churches. The Protestant churches that are largely given over to leftist politics and liberal theology have virtually escaped the media’s attention.

But that’s another matter. What concerns me regarding the issues dealt with in this ad is that it has been left to Roman Catholicism to take a strong public stand against abortion and same-sex marriage.

Not that there are no voices within even neo-evangelicalism that are pressing the issues. James Dobson, for one, has always been vocal against society’s evils. But the vast majority of professing Christians in America are either on the leftist side or on the fence.

Let’s be honest. The two most outwardly moral “Christian” religions in America are Roman Catholicism and Mormonism. Regardless of the scandals that have plagued both, as institutions they openly espouse righteous living.

This to the shame of Protestantism. ❖

Bacon scattered on Muslim prayer site

When 1,500 Muslims arrived at John D’Amto Field in Staten Island for their Eid-ul-Fitr day celebrating the end of Ramadan, they found pieces of raw bacon scattered across the field along with a note that referenced an anti-Muslim website. Muslims believe that any contact with the flesh or blood of pigs would defile them and prevent them from entering into Paradise without undergoing a cleansing process.

NYPD is attempting to locate the person whom they may charge with a hate crime.

COMMENTARY

Blind hatred of any people is evil no matter what may motivate it. It is understandable that many people are suspicious of Muslims due to the worldwide fomenting of terrorism in the name of jihad. Add to this that the Muslim community has consistently refused any serious attempt to call Muslim terrorists what they are, but instead blame anti-Islamic sentiments as justification for terrorism, and the patience of many has worn thin. But that doesn't excuse anyone from acting hatefully toward Muslims.

Even during the Millennium the nations will continue to worship false gods and they will not be destroyed for it as long as they bring gifts to the Lord in Jerusalem during the Feast of Tabernacles (Mic. 4:5-7; Zech. 14:16-19). If under the Lord's government people will remain free to worship as they wish, who are men to take action against anyone, Muslims included, for engaging in their worship of a false god? ❖

LGBT organization praises Obama for appointments; encourages more

The Lesbian and Gay Victory Institute (LGVI) has launched the Presidential Appointments Project under the heading, "Help the president lead the nation." Encouraged by Obama's and Biden's announcements supporting same-sex marriage, the LGVI in turn is encouraging members of the LGBT community to apply for public service in the Obama administration. Citing Obama's appointment of 250 openly LGBT professionals to full-time and advisory positions in the executive branch, the LGVI wants even more representation in appointed positions and on boards, advisory committees and grant-reviewing groups across the country.

Obama has appointed 41 to serve in the executive office of the president alone, and has 30 on presidential boards and commissions. The Department of Education, which adopts policies affecting schools at every level has not fewer than 24 openly LGBT appointments. Virtually every administrative department has been staffed by LGBT appointees.

The 250 to date is more than those of all previous administrations combined, and has prompted Andrew Sullivan, writing in the May 21, 2012 issue of Newsweek, "The First Gay President." Sullivan is a proud homosexual who was moved by Obama's announcement in support of same-sex marriage, stating that Obama was in favor of it long before the 2008 election.

COMMENTARY

Of course Obama has always been in favor of same-sex marriage. The truth escapes him unless it suits his political agenda. He may call himself a "Christian," but for the sake of how the faith is represented to the world he should be outed as an unbeliever.

Would the world think less of faith in Christ if Christians called Obama a false brother? Probably, but so what? Why should we expect the Body of Christ to win a popularity contest?

We may justifiably call out those who profess faith in Christ while openly promoting sin, but our hearts should ache for people like Barack Obama—self-deluded, lost souls who cannot understand that if one is going to appropriate the name of Jesus Christ before the world, one must uphold truth and holiness. One must call sin what it is, and not build one's political empire on the platform of sin.

I realize my words about Obama have been harsh these past few years of his administration, but that doesn't mean I don't pray for him and long to see him come to knowledge of the truth. To do so would cost him his status in the world, but it would mean greater rewards for him in the only administration that really counts—the Kingdom of God.

As much as we hate what he stands for, we cannot hate the man; we must keep praying for his salvation. And as much as we must speak against his ungodly beliefs and practices, we must still harbor respect for his position, however gained. ❖

Christian colleges sue over HHS mandate

Opposition to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate requiring employers to provide health insurance coverage of so-called "emergency contraceptives," or "morning-after pills" that induce abortion has been growing among Catholic and other Christian institutions. Wheaton College recently had their lawsuit against HHS's mandate dismissed by a federal judge but prompted a rewrite of the compliance deadline. Wheaton and other schools (23 others) were given one year under the Obama administration's "safe harbor" policy to comply, effectively leaving the schools uncertain what the future holds for them.

On August 23, two evangelical colleges, Biola University in California, and Grace College in Indiana, filed a joint lawsuit against HHS in response to the Obama administration's recent rewriting of the mandate to include religious institutions.

Grace College and Biola University are seeking a judicial review of the government's violation of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, the First and Fifth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, and the Administrative Procedure Act. They claim that these violations "coerce thousands of religious institutions and individuals to engage in acts they consider sinful and immoral in violation of their most deeply held religious beliefs."

The suit alleges that "The regulation—the HHS Preventive Services Mandate—illegally and unconstitutionally coerces Grace College and Seminary and Biola University to violate the Sixth Commandment under threat of heavy fines and penalties. The Mandate also forces the Schools to fund government-dictated speech that is directly at odds with the religious message they wish to convey to their students and to the broader culture."

The schools also allege that the government has been selective in their enforcement of the mandate by granting exemptions to various other groups including large corporations, while refusing to exempt most religious groups.

COMMENTARY

God's judgment comes in various forms. For a long while Christian institutions of learning have strayed from the purity of the Gospel in many ways, such as imposing psychological integration into their curricula. They mandate that students take psychology courses, studies in unbiblical or extra-biblical religious philosophy and practices, etc. Now they are being mandated to act contrary to the consciences of their administrators.

Of course the government is seriously wrong to require anyone to act contrary to their consciences. People of good conscience are not generally going to act contrary to the morality expressed in Scripture simply because man's conscience is a God-given quality. People with seared consciences are the ones to be concerned about; they are the ones who mandate their own concept of morality (read amorality or immorality) upon others. A seared conscience is what the Obama administration is displaying with its forced compliance to the HHS mandate requiring the provision of abortion-related services and goods.

Yet the consciences of many within the Christian institutions are seared to the requirement of our heavenly Father to keep His Word unviolable before others. They have integrated man's wisdom with God's Word; they have strayed from the purity of the faith; they have destroyed the faith of believers who, trusting they were receiving a biblically pure education found themselves victims of higher criticism.

And now they get all righteous about one particular moral issue.

Certainly we hope and can pray that they not be forced to violate their consciences in this area. But how many other areas in which the people's consciences may be violated are yet to be realized by this perverse government?❖



It is to laugh...

We all need a good laugh now and then, and the following excerpt from a July 10 "Political Digest" article in the *Seattle Times* about Barack Obama calling for Mitt Romney to disclose more tax returns almost brought me to the floor:

"What's important, if you are running for president, is that the American people know who you are and what you've done, and that you're an open book," Obama said in an interview at the White House with WMUR, a New Hampshire television station. "And that's been true of every presidential candidate dating all the way back to Mitt Romney's father."

Both of these men need prayer—especially the one who wins in November.



**Our heavenly Father is not a slave driver.
If we are pressured or on the verge of a meltdown
from serving Him, then we are not ministering in the
power of the Holy Spirit, but in our own flesh.
Then it is time to take time with Him to know His will,
and trust that all will be accomplished according to
His purpose in His own time.**

* * *

**One of the largest voices in the political and moral
realm is that of NOW (National Organization for
Women). What we really need is an NOL
(National Organization of Ladies).**

* * *

**Often in news reports we hear of some low life
criminal attacking innocent people for any number of
reasons. Those reporting the news say something like,
"The gentleman who beat up the eighty-year old lady
was last seen..."**

**Do they not have a clue?
The word is a composite of two other words:
"gentle" and "man."
Such a person is definitely not a "gentleman."**

* * *

**Something is terribly wrong when a man like Todd
Akin can be vilified for misspeaking while affirming
the sanctity of life in the womb while his detractors'
lust for the blood of the unborn is looked upon as
somehow virtuous.**

* * *

**Jesus said, "A house divided against itself cannot
stand." Currently, the nation is virtually split in half
over many critical issues and over which candidate
should win the upcoming election.
How much longer will America stand?
Only God knows.**

* * *

**How come America had to apologize to Afghanistan
for inadvertently burning Korans, but we've never hear
any apology from their government for Afghani
soldiers and police turning against and killing
American troops who are training them?**

THE CHICK-FIL-A RUCKUS IS THE BIBLE HATE LITERATURE?

When Dan Cathy, president of the Chick-fil-A restaurant chain stated that he believes in the biblical view of marriage—that is, between one man and one woman—he unleashed a firestorm of protests. But he also garnered much support as hundreds of thousands of people across the nation heeded former presidential candidate Mike Huckabee’s call for “Chick-fil-A Appreciation Day” on August 1. In contrast, the LGBT community’s planned “kiss-in” day set for August 3 was a relative bust. Although the “kiss-in” received much prior media attention, there was little to be heard of it on or after the day it was held.

Cathy’s politically incorrect audacity to suggest that God’s Word should take precedence over man’s misguided thinking brought angry condemnation from public figures representing all walks of life including politicians who threatened to hinder Chick-fil-A’s ability to do business in their jurisdictions.

So-called “celebrities” have jumped on the anti-Chick-fil-A bandwagon as have media commentators, educators, and others. But the most ominous tone was set by some leftist politicians who threatened Chick-fil-A with the power of government to prevent them from doing business in certain areas.

Boston Mayor Thomas Menino accused Cathy of hatred and vowed to block a Chick-fil-A store from opening in his city. Chicago mayor Rahm Emanuel expressed similar sentiments, as did Chicago alderman Joe Moreno who threatened to block a Chick-fil-A’s opening unless the company filed a comprehensive anti-discrimination statement with the city.

Philadelphia City Councilman James Kenney wrote a letter to Cathy criticizing him for his comments.

“As an American you are legally entitled to your opinion, regardless of how insensitive and intolerant it may be, but as a fellow American and an elected member of Philadelphia City Council, I am entitled to express my opinion as well,” Kenney wrote. “So please—take a hike and take your intolerance with you. There is no place for this type of hate in our great City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection.”

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel told the paper that he supported Moreno’s decision. “Chick-fil-A’s values are not Chicago values. They’re not respectful of our residents, our

neighbors and our family members,” Emanuel said. “This would be a bad investment, since it would be empty.”

San Francisco mayor, Edwin Lee, tweeted a warning to Chick-fil-A not to open an outlet in his city: “Very disappointed #Chick-fil-A doesn’t share San Francisco’s values & strong commitment to equality for everyone,” he stated. “Closest Chick-fil-A to San Francisco is 40 miles away & I strongly recommend that they not try to come any closer.”

In Los Angeles, Mitch O’Farrell, a candidate for the L.A. City Council urged Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to “lead a delegation of local clergy and representatives of the LGBT community” to confront Dan Cathy with charges that his company’s stance is of a “destructive nature.” “I think city officials must play a larger

role,” said O’Farrell, “The longer this drags on, the more pain and anxiety it’s going to cause people. I think it’s time for leadership to step in.”

Villaraigosa stated his support for the LGBT community.

“I’m proud to support them as we call on Chick-fil-A’s leadership to reconsider their position and join the growing majority of Americans who support marriage equality,” Villaraigosa said. “In Los Angeles and in America, love and liberty will always triumph.”

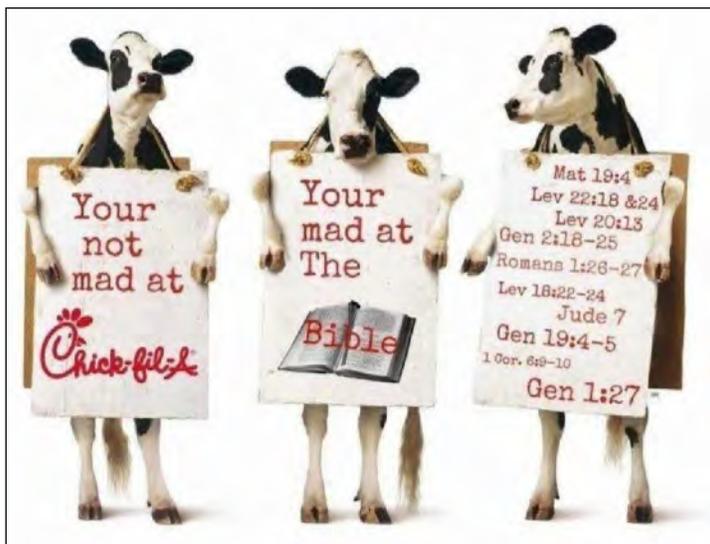
In spite of a shared political

philosophy, some left-leaning groups are taking a position contrary to that of those government representatives, choosing rather to support freedom of expression over their desire to see Chick-fil-A disappear. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) weighed in on Chick-fil-A’s side, contrary to its normally leftist stance against Christian voices. Adam Schwartz, senior attorney for the ACLU of Illinois, told Fox News, “When an alderman refuses to allow a business to open because its owner has expressed a viewpoint the government disagrees with, the government is practicing viewpoint discrimination.”

Schwartz stated that the ACLU “strongly supports” same-sex marriage, but suggested that if government can hinder a business for its stance against same-sex marriage, it can also hinder a business for being in support of same-sex marriage.

Law experts have concurred with the ACLU’s position.

“It’s also a very slippery slope,” said Jonathan Turley, a professor at the George Washington University Law School. “If a city council started to punish companies because of the



viewpoints of the chief operating officers, that would become a very long list of banned companies.”

Several experts on constitutional law have stated that to deny Chick-fil-A from opening a restaurant based on Cathy’s statement would violate the First Amendment. “It would be an open-and-shut case,” said Wilson Huhn, a professor and associate director of the Constitutional Law Center at The University of Akron School of Law. “You can’t do that. They cannot be denied a zoning permit based upon the viewpoint of their CEO.”

COMMENTARY

Individuals who disagree with Chick-fil-A’s policy on same-sex marriage have every right to boycott the company and to criticize its position. But when government officials actively work to deny the company the ability to operate, it is thought control by government.

Chick-fil-A’s president, Dan Cathy, was not proactive in his statement that he believes in traditional family values; he was responding to a question by a reporter for a Christian publication. Should he be denied his freedom of speech or conscience for stating his position? May Christians no longer discuss these things among themselves or in their own media without suffering the threat of sanctions by government? What other ideas might the government feel free to restrict?

This is not yet the Union of Soviet Socialist America. The ideological conflicts among philosophical and religious differences should be allowed to exist without the government taking sides and selectively punishing people for what they think or say. Even liberals would (or should) agree with that.

As the occupier of the Oval Office, Barack Obama has been conspicuously silent on the Chick-fil-A ruckus during this run-up to the November elections. However, his allegedly “newly evolved” position on same-sex marriage places him in the same camp as his friend Rahm Emanuel.

This radical posturing by government officials entrusted with representation of all the people reveals an anti-Christ mind-set. The same anti-Christ mind-set permeates the vast majority of people who hold positions of influence within American society. Yet as much as law experts and the ACLU are at this time suggesting that government discrimination against those who take a stance contrary to the government’s support for same-sex marriage is contrary to the First Amendment, the Chick-fil-A incident has exposed the anti-Christ mind-set of many, if not most, government officials, both elected and appointed. The single, most common word used to classify Chick-fil-A by those government representatives, and even by those who are defending the First Amendment, is the word “hate.”

To be on the side of the Bible, particularly in the conflict over so-called “gay rights,” is to be branded a “hater.” It doesn’t matter that Chick-fil-A has a record of practicing non-discrimination toward people in the LGBT community, both in hiring and in serving the public, or that Cathy has affirmed his company’s respect for all people, regardless of race, gender, or sexual orientation. The fact that he would affirm traditional marriage was enough for him to be branded a hater. That accusation is the foundation upon which will be built the

wholesale persecution of Christians and others who speak, however softly, in support of biblical principles contrary to the anti-Christ perversions of society.

Dan Cathy’s support for traditional marriage unintentionally exposed the insidious mind-set of the left which would love to see the Bible classified as hate literature. This on the basis that the Bible’s words describing God’s displeasure with sodomy and related sins might cause some people to engage in hate crimes against the protected class of sexual deviants.

Too far-fetched? Not possible in a “Christian country” like the United States of America? Don’t count on it.

Between leftist politicians and the leftist media, Americans are being programmed to think that sexual deviancy is normal and that sexual deviants should be a protected class. “Sexual orientation” is already included as a protected class in federal laws, and many states have followed suit.

Until recently there was no such thing as a “hate crime.” In response to unwarranted attacks on people considered members of certain protected classes, state, federal and local statutes have been enacted to add extra severe penalties on top of normal penalties for crimes against such people. The first such legislation was the Civil Rights Act of 1866 entitled, *An Act to protect all Persons in the United States in their Civil Rights, and furnish the Means of the vindication*. The primary intent of the Civil Rights Act of 1866 was to convey to black people the same rights enjoyed by non-blacks as citizens of the United States of America, and to protect them from unjust treatment from government and private citizens. However, the Act didn’t prevent individuals from practicing discrimination in the dispensation of goods and services. As late as the mid-1960s blacks were still prohibited from engaging in commerce and other activities, particularly in some of the southern states.

The Civil Rights Act of 1968 allows for federal prosecution of anyone who “willingly injures, intimidates or interferes with another person, or attempts to do so, by force because of the other person’s race, color, religion or national origin.” This applies to protection for individuals to engage in six types of federally-protected activities which include patronization of a public place or facility, renting or leasing a dwelling, applying for employment, attending school, voting, and acting as a juror.

The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 requires the United States Sentencing Commission to increase the penalties for federal hate crimes committed on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, or gender.

In 2009 Barack Obama signed into law the *Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act* which was attached to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010. This expanded the federal hate crime law to cover crimes against people based on their actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. The Act also eliminated the requirement that the victim be engaging in a federally-protected activity.

As of this date 45 states and the District of Columbia have laws against bias-motivated violence or intimidation.

(Continued on page 25)



Marxism vs. Mormonism

(Continued from page 3)

Jefferson, Lincoln, or Reagan....This demand for a perfect candidate would cause Christians to eliminate most presidential candidates in every election.

Yes it would. But how believing that one shouldn't vote for an adherent to an anti-Christ religion is perfectionism and would make it nearly impossible to live in this world escapes me.

Mollie Ziegler Hemingway is married to a former Mormon. She has this to say:

There is nothing inherently wrong with voting for a candidate who largely shares your political aims, no matter his or her religious views. It's perfectly fine to consider a candidate's religion, particularly to ensure that there are no beliefs with alarming implications for government policy.

It's good to heed the apocryphal quote summing up Martin Luther's understanding of civil governance: "I'd rather be ruled by a wise Turk than by a foolish Christian." For some voters, though, there is still danger in casting such a vote. That's because they confuse the role of a President with the role of a pastor. While both are positions of leadership, they serve very different functions.

Mitt Romney fully acknowledged the many distinctions between his Mormon beliefs and traditional Christianity in his May commencement address at Liberty University. "People of different faiths, like yours and mine, sometimes wonder where we can meet in common purpose, when there are so many differences in creed and theology," he said, going on to make the case that the different religions share enough moral convictions to meet in shared service.

Yes, there is a difference between president and pastor. But when one's religion poses as "Christian" it is a spiritual deception that can sink the faith of many. No Christian would be seduced into the religion of a "wise Turk."

Richard Mouw, president of Fuller Theological Seminary, and author of *Talking with Mormons: An Invitation to Evangelicals* (Eerdmans, 2012), says this:

As evangelicals, we should always take seriously what a candidate believes about important matters bearing on public life. It is a legitimate question, then, whether anything about Mitt Romney's Mormon identity should concern us as we decide how to vote.

I have no worries on that count. I have spent much time in dialogue with Mormon scholars and church

leaders during the past dozen years and engaged in serious explorations of basic Mormon beliefs and practices. I have found nothing in those discussions, or in my extensive reading of Mormon literature, that would keep me from voting for Romney.

Contrary to their description, these are not three views; they are three takes on the same view.

Humanly speaking, Mitt Romney seems a good, decent family man. He may or may not be the answer to the issues of abortion and the sodomite agenda. But most likely he would have no effect. It would take an act of Congress to stem the tide of evil that has engulfed the United States in these areas. And even then, it still rests in God's hands. He has deigned to allow this nation enough rope to hang itself, and we've been fashioning the noose to perfection over the past several decades. No ungodly person is going to stick out his neck beyond what he thinks prudent to preserve his stature in the world system.

Witness Romney's willingness to throw Rep. Todd Akin under the bus for a slip of the tongue, and demand that Akin drop out of the race for the U.S. Senate seat in Missouri. Romney (who was formerly pro-abortion) is so afraid of the leftist rage that he is ignoring the truth of what Akin had to say in defense of the unborn. In doing so he pandered to the left's ungodly demands for the destruction of Akin's political career.

Apart from the moral issues (on which Romney is evidently willing to vacillate, at least to some degree), it really comes down to which candidate would offer the better chance for fiscal solvency and solutions to the social and economic problems that face the nation. Romney's somewhat conservative position may offer a bit more hope. But even that is outside his scope of power. A true constitutionalist president would not step outside the bounds of law and circumvent Congress through executive orders, as so many presidents of late have done. He would allow Congress to enact the laws and use his influence to persuade Congress to do the right thing. Romney's pseudo-conservatism, as evidenced by his term as governor of Massachusetts, would still lean toward lawlessness.

America's Christians have gone the way of ancient Israel in placing their hope more in a man than in God. Israel clamored for a king because the people didn't want God to deal with them directly. They strayed from God's Word and fell to worshipping Baal, compromising their faith in the hope of receiving temporal benefits. For the sake of some hoped-for temporal benefit, many Christians would rather see an enemy of God whose temporal policies they like leading the country than an enemy of God whose temporal policies they dislike. They would sell their birthright for a bowl of savory stew.

IS BARACK OBAMA A MARXIST?

The "M" word is verboten among the leftist media who do not wish their true nature revealed. They prefer the words "liberal" or "progressive" to describe their ideology. But they are neither liberal nor progressive in the true sense of those words. They are Marxists—communists even, although not all of them are card-carrying members of the Communist Party USA. What makes a person a communist is not his paid-up membership in

the party; it is his political, economic and philosophic ideology. Granted, many communists eschew the militaristic and genocidal characteristics of the old Soviet Union. But apart from that, they still desire a strong collectivist government. And that is where we must focus our attention in regard to Barack Obama in light of many conservatives accusing him of being a Marxist.

Obama's Background

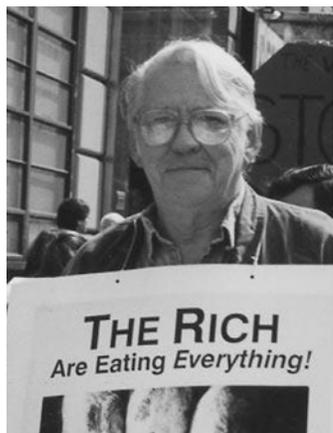
Whenever someone on the far left is identified as having associations with known Marxists and communists, that person's supporters cry foul and accuse his detractors of smearing the person through "guilt by association." But it is not mere guilt by association if it can be demonstrated that the person does, indeed, associate on the basis of a shared ideology.

A person is rightfully judged by those with whom he associates, not in casual friendship but in ideological identity. The following few (there are many more) ideological associations of Barack Obama are no secret; they are merely ignored by the leftist media and not mentioned by Obama or his handlers, and in some cases they are denied through lying and subterfuge.

The New Party

The New Party was founded in 1992 by Daniel Cantor and Joel Rogers who stated that through the use of a tactic known as "fusion" they would elect people on the far left by "fusing" the votes garnered by the New Party with the Democrat Party in order to drive the Democrat Party further to the left.

One of the more successful chapters of the New Party was in Chicago, where its main base of support was the community organizing group Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN). A hotbed of socialists and communists, the New Party was disbanded in 1998 after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that fusion is not a method of electing public officials guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. Prior to that, however, in January, 1996, Barack Obama joined the New Party and signed the "Candidate Contract" that promised he would promote New Party principles if elected. One of those principles is the Cloward/Piven Strategy designed to create economic crises in capitalist economies. Named after Columbia University husband and wife team, sociologists Richard Andrew Cloward and Frances Fox Piven, the strategy is to overthrow America's economy by overwhelming the government with entitlement demands in order to bring about radical change and the eventual destruction



Richard Andrew Cloward and Frances Fox Piven

of free market capitalism. This is the motivation behind the multi-trillion dollar bailouts that have put a tremendous strain on the American economy. Overburdening the government with entitlements was also the tactic used by ACORN.

In spite of documented evidence of his signing the contract with the New Party, Barack Obama has denied that he ever had anything to do with that organization, and his campaign called the charges of his membership "a crack-pot smear." No one in the mainstream media will touch the story.

Assoc. Of Community Organizations for Reform Now

ACORN was founded in 1970 by Wade Rathke, a worker within the National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO) which worked to flood welfare offices in major cities with so many applicants that, he hoped, it would cause a crisis that would alter America's "unjust" capitalist economy. As a result, the number of single-parent households on welfare skyrocketed from 4.3 million to 10.8 million from 1965 to 1974. The outcome was not what NWRO's founder, George Wiley expected. Instead of destroying capitalism his efforts further destroyed poor, inner-city families, particularly among minorities. Crime, illegitimate births, drug abuse, illiteracy, school dropouts and poverty increased dramatically. That was the legacy that Rathke took from the NWRO to found ACORN. One of ACORN's objectives was to flood voter ranks with the poor, welfare recipients, and social misfits in order to drive elections to the far left.

In July, 2007, ACORN settled the largest case of voter fraud in the history of Washington State after submitting fake voter registrations. ACORN's subversive tactics eventually resulted in loss of funding by government and private donors.

In 1991, Barack Obama took time off from his law practice to work with a voter-registration drive for Project Vote, a partner organization of ACORN. Because of his success he became a trainer at ACORN conferences in Chicago. In his 1996 bid for the Illinois Senate, Obama listed ACORN at the top of the list of key supporters for his campaign.

When the scandals broke about ACORN's dishonest voter practices and other improprieties Obama vehemently denied that he ever had any association with ACORN. That, too, was a lie which was exposed when the leftist *New York Times*, of all organizations, uncovered information about him being an ACORN trainer.

Socialist Scholars Conference

The Socialist Scholars Conference (SSC) was founded in 1981 by Bogdan Denitch, Stanley Aronowitz and others from out of the 1960s SSC.

The Socialist Scholars Conference is an annual gathering of movers and shakers in the Marxist world. This includes Frances Fox Piven (the Cloward/Piven Strategy); Leo Panitch, co-editor of *The Socialist Register*, and author of *Renewinig Socialism: Democracy, Strategy and Imagination*; and Robin Blackburn, co-editor of *New Left Review*.

In his book, *Radical-in-Chief: Barack Obama and the Untold Story of American Socialism*, veteran journalist Stanley Kurtz reveals Obama's socialist roots:

Late on the afternoon of April 1, 1983, a twenty-one-year-old Barack Obama made his way into the historic Great Hall of Manhattan's Cooper Union to attend a "Socialist Scholars Conference." Within twenty-four hours, his life had transformed. There at that conference Obama discovered his vocation as a community organizer, as well as a political program to guide him throughout his adult life.

The secret, well understood by leading organizers (Barack Obama included), yet still unknown to the vast majority of Americans, is that contemporary community organizing is largely a socialist enterprise—a novel adaptation of Marxist principles and practices to modern American realities. Marx himself was a great organizer, and America's leading community organizers are Marxists.

Kurtz did not set out to prove Obama a Marxist, but wanted to find out exactly where he stood along the political spectrum. He was stunned to find out the degree to the left to which Obama leans.

Frank Marshall Davis

Not having a father present in his life, Obama in his teenage years looked for someone to fill that role. In his memoirs, *Dreams from My Father*, Obama describes a man he calls only "Frank," to whom he looked as his mentor. The *London Daily Telegraph* confirmed that "Frank" is Frank Marshall Davis, a hard-core member of the Communist Party and sometimes writer of pornography. Davis, whose motto was, "Never trust white people," had a profound effect on the young Obama's views on race and politics, which would lead Obama to a twenty-year relationship with another mentor, the racist and America-hater, Jeremiah Wright.



Just as the media have ignored or obfuscated all the other Marxist associations of Barack Obama, it has never seriously addressed his close relationship with Frank Marshall Davis.

William Ayers

One of the most telling of Obama's associations is that with former Weatherman Underground bomber William Ayers, who is now a professor of education at the University of Illinois-Chicago. Obama and his 2008 campaign dismissed claims that he had had any relationship with Ayers. Obama's spokesman at the time stated:

Senator Obama strongly condemns the violent actions of the Weathermen group, as he does all acts of violence. But he was an eight-year-old child when Ayers and the Weathermen were active, and any attempt to connect Obama with events of almost forty years ago is ridiculous.

This was obviously an obfuscation. Obama condemned the violent acts, not the Weathermen. No one attempted "to connect Obama with events of almost forty years ago." They were connecting Obama to Ayers, not to the bombings Ayers committed. That is how liars address the truth. They switch the subject.

Even recently, in relation to his past violence Ayers has said he wished he had done more.

No one has said that Obama was "heavily" associated with Ayers. But that isn't the point. The point is that the association they had reveals that they hold to the same political and philosophical ideology—Marxism. Else why would Ayers have contributed \$200 to Obama's campaign for the Illinois State Senate and host a meet-the-candidate gathering in his home for Obama during his campaign? Someone as committed to an ideology as is Ayers doesn't contribute to those whose ideology is either opposed or unknown to them.

When Obama was asked about his association with Ayers during an April 2008 Democrat debate, he stated:

This is a guy who lives in my neighborhood, who's a professor of English in Chicago, who I know and who I have not received some official endorsement from. He's not somebody who I exchange ideas with on a regular basis. And the notion that somehow as a consequence of me knowing somebody who engaged in detestable acts 40 years ago when I was 8 years old, somehow reflects on me and my values, doesn't make much sense.

This is more obfuscation. It doesn't matter whether or not the exchange is on a regular basis. To exchange ideas isn't the same as debating or disagreeing; it is a means to gain from someone their ideas that can help solidify one's own ideas. It doesn't mean the two will agree on everything, but it does mean they have an affinity for one another's ideas.

Obama and Ayers served together for three years on the board of the Woods Fund of Chicago, an anti-poverty organization. They also appeared together on academic panel discussions, one of which was organized by Michelle Obama.

In spite of all these facts, and more, the mainstream media have never taken Obama's Marxist connections seriously. Even Hillary Rodham Clinton couldn't get the message out, though she tried when she ran against Obama for the Democrat Party nomination for president.

Space doesn't permit all that could be said about Obama's Marxist ideology. Suffice it to say that no Marxist can be a true believer in Jesus. Even Karl Marx would attest to that. Marxism by its very nature is anti-Christ. Its atheism is the foundation for fomenting class warfare and division within many areas: black vs. white; rich vs. poor; workers vs. employers; atheism vs. religion (particularly Christianity), and many others.

CONCLUSION

I realize more is revealed about Obama's Marxism than Romney's Mormonism, but Romney doesn't obfuscate his devout adherence to that false religion, while Obama has done nothing but obfuscate his Marxist philosophy.

Romney's squeaky clean image may, in fact, be his downfall. Today's climate of disdain for convention among so many, particularly the young, has often resulted in ridicule of anything that even has the appearance of godliness, even if in truth the person is ungodly. As for Obama's image, it is perfect for those who prefer form to substance. People still like "religious" figures to occupy the vestiges of power in this country; but they don't want someone who is dogmatic about their faith (which Romney is). And for the most part Americans still root for the underdog; that is what gives Obama's hidden Marxist ambitions such allure.

In all honesty we must admit that the conditions which gave rise to Marxism in all its forms were created by people who, for the most part, would have identified themselves as Christians. Most today have had no direct knowledge of the virtual slavery in which many poor people lived in the West until labor unions were created. To deny that injustices existed then, and even to some degree continue to exist today, is to deny truth and reality.

Our heavenly Father's desire is that all men treat others with love and deference to their needs. But it is not His desire that this be achieved through lying, deceit and the promotion of strife. There can be no equality under the auspices of man-made government, no matter how "conservative" or "liberal" that government might be. True equality rests in submission to the Word of God. This cannot be achieved without trust in Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord. And even then, it becomes necessary to mature in the faith over time before we even understand what that means in terms of our self-denial and sacrifice for the sake of others. But the Lord instructs us:

Servants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ, not with eye service, as men pleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, doing service with good will as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good thing any man does, he shall receive the same from the Lord, whether he is slave or free.

And you masters, do the same things to them, forbearing threatening, knowing that your Master also is in Heaven; neither is there respect of persons with Him. (Eph. 6:5-9)

Many wealthy have indeed taken advantage of those who work for them. Many employees have, to varying degrees, sabotaged their employers, from stealing office supplies to selling company secrets to competitors. There is no more virtue in poverty than there is in wealth. And the greediest people may often be found as much among the poor as among the rich.

Leftists champion only the cause of the workers, often to the detriment of the company, even if it means destroying the company, leaving the workers without jobs.

Conservatives champion capitalism, often ignoring the plight of those taken advantage of in their weakness, also often resulting in the loss of jobs.

Regardless of where along the political spectrum they lie, the powerful place their own desires above the welfare of all others.

DO WE HAVE A CHOICE?

Believers in Jesus may think there is no choice in deciding for whom to vote. Whose side should we be on—the Marxist or the Mormon?

I am reminded of Joshua who was confronted by the Angel of YHWH:

And it happened, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to him, "Are You for us, or for our adversaries?"

And He said, "No, but as captain of the army of YHWH I have now come."

And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshipped, and said to him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?" (Josh. 5:13-14)

That this "man" received Joshua's worship and told him to remove his shoes because he was on holy ground makes it clear that this was the pre-incarnate Christ.

In this world we are not to take sides; we are to be on the Lord's side. It is our flesh that prompts us to fight against flesh and blood.

This doesn't mean we ignore the evil around us. It merely means that we must learn to trust that God will give to us all we need in temporal matters if we seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Regardless what other Christian voices for neo-evangelicalism say, can a true believer in Jesus vote in good conscience for a man whose god is an affront to the true God? Is the god of Mormonism more to be desired than the god of Islam? Is the risk to souls worth the salvation of the nation (if that is even possible)?

Is the Body of Christ living in such fear that we are willing to vote (once again, and *ad nauseam*) for someone we perceive to be the lesser of two evils? Is a hoped-for relief from the big government socialist policies of the left greater than our willingness to stand on God's Word and not give any quarter to the enemy? These questions should be pondered carefully.

Although we acknowledge that God establishes all authority, the truth is that Satan's choices are often the only ones available to us, particularly within the realm of politics. Which of Satan's choices would you choose?

Every believer must go before the Lord and ask for His guidance whether or not to even get involved in this political morass. Consider whether the Lord would have us give our support to one anti-Christ over another anti-Christ.

My flesh tells me what I would like to see for the sake of the nation. Truthfully, I am impressed with Romney's presence which is much like that of an angel of light. But in my spirit I trust that the Lord will give to the United States of America the government that He deems proper, considering the spiritual condition of the nation as a whole.

If the righteous must suffer along with the unrighteous, then all the more must we trust Him. ❖



Review by Albert James Dager

If one didn't hear it through the grapevine, one might never know that there is a motion picture screening across America that takes a critical look at Barack Obama. It looks at his political philosophy while questioning why he has taken some radical measures that seem to favor foreign nations over the United States. The reason one might not hear of it is because it is being largely ignored by the mainstream media. Those who do address the documentary film, based on Denish D'Souza's 2011 book, *The Roots of Obama's Rage*, dismiss it as unworthy of serious consideration. Ignoring the documented facts that point to Obama's Marxist background, critics have chosen to focus on what they consider a tenuous connection between Barack Obama and his absentee, anti-colonialist father, Barack Hussein Obama, Sr. They dismiss the idea that Obama's father could have any significant effect on Obama's political philosophy because their paths crossed only once—in Hawaii when Obama was ten-years-old—since his father abandoned his family. With that dismissal they choose to ignore the numerous and more weighty evidence that points to Obama's hatred of America and his Marxist leanings. To establish the older Obama's influence on his son, D'Souza is careful to point out that, in spite of having been abandoned by her husband, Obama's mother took pains to make sure her son knew about him and understood his beliefs. Even after marrying Barry Soetoro, she still loved Barack, Sr., and lauded his Marxist ideology to her son.

D'Souza also draws on Obama's narrations of excerpts from Obama's book, *Dreams from My Father*, suggesting that Obama harbors a deep-seated animosity toward Western Civilization. Obama's upbringing outside the United States and his mother's prompting him on his absentee father's Marxist virtues caused young Barack to adopt an anti-white, anti-Western attitude. D'Souza points out that the title, *Dreams from My Father*, rather than *Dreams of My Father*, demonstrates that Obama adopted his father's Marxist vision for the world as his own.

None of the critics address the core issues of Obama's upbringing and Marxist influences other than his father which 2016 documents. Why do they not address them? Simply because they cannot dismiss them so easily.

The film opens with D'Souza demonstrating how his own life parallels that of Barack Obama. They were both born the same year, 1961, and graduated from university in the same year,

1983. Obama was raised outside the United States, as was D'Souza who hails from India. They both witnessed the effect of Western colonization upon their respective countries. But whereas D'Souza came to appreciate the benefits that Western colonization had upon India and other nations, Obama saw colonization as evil and with little or no redeeming value. D'Souza believes Obama mistakenly associates the United States with colonization when, in fact, this country has never seriously practiced colonization. So might it really be more of an "anti-white" bigotry that drives Obama?

D'Souza's interview with Obama's brother, George Obama, who lives in poverty in Kenya, may provide a clue as to why Barack doesn't follow his own dictum of "share the wealth" when it comes to his own family in Kenya. George Obama laments the loss of white culture in Kenya and South Africa, and contrasts how the nations that have insisted on throwing out white culture entirely are suffering, while others that have built upon that culture are prospering.

He is gracious toward Barack, not expecting him to share his wealth with him because, after all, Barack has his own family to take care of, and if Barack helps the world he helps George.

The documentary asks why Obama's energy policy has been to stunt America's production of off-shore oil and the pipeline, touting "environmental concerns," while giving billions of dollars of taxpayer money to Brazil, Mexico and other Latin American countries to build their off-shore drilling platforms. Why, too, is Obama intent on diminishing the United States' military capability and unilaterally thinning our deterrent nuclear force while stymying efforts to hold Iran accountable for its nuclear buildup and ignoring the nuclear arsenals of China, Russia and other nations antagonistic toward the United States?

These are just two of numerous questions asked, and which the critics have ignored, likely in the hope that this indictment of Obama as an anti-American Marxist will just go away.

Yet in spite of the hard questions asked, 2016 is not polemic. It doesn't take a harsh stance against Barack Obama, but confines itself to mostly matter-of-fact evidence of the dangers his administration poses to the welfare of America.

The film ends with the rhetorical question of what will America look like in 2016 should Barack Obama win a second term in the White House?

(Continued on page 21)

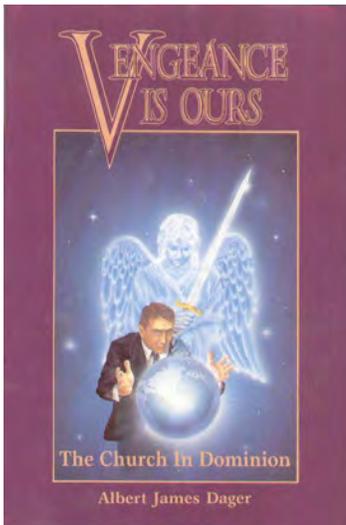


Sword PUBLISHERS CATALOG OF BOOKS & VIDEOS

The products in this catalog have been carefully selected to provide knowledgeable and accurate information on subjects that are of vital importance to the Body of Christ. Some are not available in bookstore and/or are produced by little-known publishers. We cannot vouch for every thought presented. We urge you to test all things. Do not substitute any of these for Bible study.

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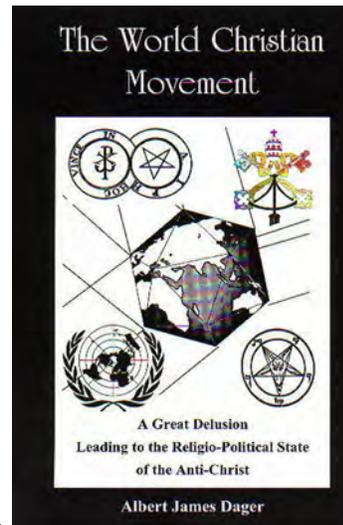
**VENGEANCE IS OURS:
The Church in Dominion**
Albert James Dager - 283 pages

A militancy is stirring in the breasts of some Christians in response to the evils that beset society. Tens of thousands attend spiritual warfare seminars hoping to learn how to "take dominion over the earth." A call for vengeance on God's enemies and a restructuring of society under God's Law is being heard.

But is it the Christian's responsibility to take control of society and reconstruct it in accordance with God's Law?

Vengeance Is Ours is the only book available that analyzes the various forms of dominion theology, from Manifested Sons of God to Christian Reconstruction.

B-1001 Paperback \$10 - 1 lb.



**THE WORLD CHRISTIAN
MOVEMENT: A Great Delusion
Leading to the Religio-Political
State of the Anti-Christ**
Albert James Dager - 233 pages

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is being compromised as we learn that it is no longer proper to proclaim Jesus Christ as Savior unless done so within the context of the world's pagan religions. We are told that God speaks through Buddha, Mohammed, Confucius and other "holy men."

Major Christian voices are sounding this siren song of compromise and denial of Christ. Will you recognize the deception in your church? This book offers the only information available on the World Christian Movement—an important subject

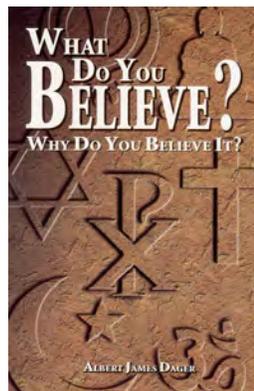
B-1055 Paperback \$14 - 1 lb.

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE? Why Do You Believe It?

Albert James Dager - 102 pages

What we believe, whether a religious or secular philosophy, impacts our lives. What you believe is important not only to you, but to those whom you influence in life. Yet most people cannot offer empirical evidence for their beliefs, resting rather on emotion and their upbringing. Can you give a reasoned explanation for why you believe what you believe? Can you say for a certainty that your beliefs are superior to all others? You may accept or reject what the author says, but at least you will be able to assess your own beliefs as true or false.

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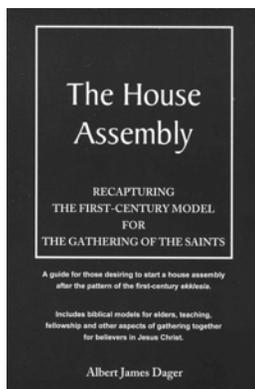
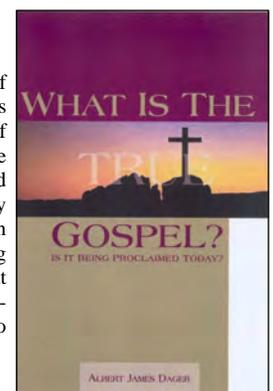


WHAT IS THE TRUE GOSPEL?

Albert James Dager - 110 pages

Jesus proclaimed what He called "the Gospel of the Kingdom." He then commissioned His disciples to go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom to all the nations. But even from the beginning there have been false gospels proclaimed by those claiming to be messengers of God. Today we are witnessing a great apostasy based largely on institutional traditions. Many false gospels emanating from pulpits, radio, and television—even many that seem to glorify Jesus—differ from the Gospel proclaimed by Jesus. This book points the reader back to Scripture to discover the original Gospel.

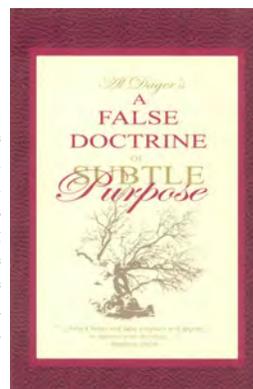
B-1081 Paperback \$8 - 1 lb.



**THE HOUSE ASSEMBLY: Recapturing
the First-Century Model For The Gather-
ing of the Saints**
Albert James Dager - 221 pages

Many Christians are experiencing the inevitable results of religious institutionalism: denominational traditions; abusive pastors; false teachings; anecdotal sermons; favoritism and other unscriptural teachings and practices. This book is a guide for those desiring to start a house assembly after the pattern of the first-century *ekklesia*. Includes examples of the author's experiences in the house assembly, as well as biblical models for elders, teaching, fellowship and other aspects of gathering in love.

B-1074 Paperback \$12 - 1 lb.



**A FALSE DOCTRINE OF SUBTLE
PURPOSE**
Albert James Dager - 106 pages

Thousands of churches and tens of thousands of pastors are being strongly influenced by the writings of Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Community Church in California. His two best-selling books, *The Purpose-Driven Life* and *The Purpose-Driven Church*, have taken churches by storm. But are Warren's teachings and methodologies truly biblical? This book reveals many of Warren's unscriptural teachings. It is not a polemic against Warren, but a careful analysis of his teachings and methods lauded not only by Christians, but by the world. (*Media Spotlight* articles)

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Dusty Peterson 171 pages

Sexual abuse of children is more prevalent in all denominations than is realized by most. This book exposes the degree of abuse and how it is growing, while offering scriptural advice on how to avoid it for your children. A must read.

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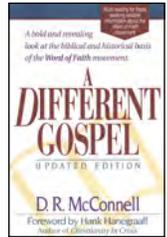


A DIFFERENT GOSPEL

D.R. McConnell 225 pages

An exposé of the word-faith movement from a theology instructor at Oral Roberts University. Traces the origins of word-faith from E.W. Kenyon's science-of-mind connections to the plagiarism of Kenneth Hagin and beyond.

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Bill Randles 209 pages

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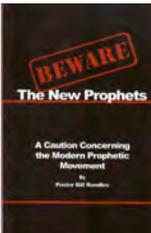


BEWARE THE NEW PROPHETS

Bill Randles 132 pages

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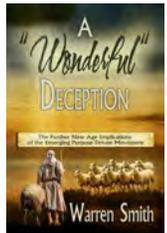


A WONDERFUL DECEPTION: The Further New Age Implications of the Emerging Purpose Driven Movement

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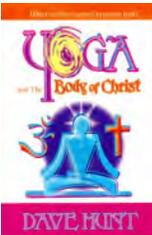


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Dave Hunt 170 pages

Yoga is revolutionizing the fitness movement and extending its reach directly in the churches and lifestyles of Christians. Every Christian should be informed about the true origins and effects of yoga and its ungodly roots in Kundalini "serpent power."

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Lisa Ruby 214 pages

Many deceptions have found their way into these end-time fiction books. This exposé reveals how the "Christian" characters reflect ungodliness, working for anti-Christ, denying Jesus, lying, stealing, and cheating. Add to these the unscriptural end-time scenario.

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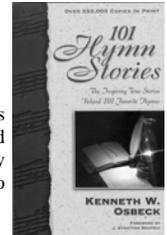


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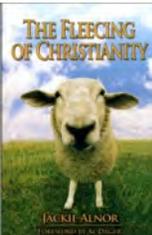


THE FLEEING OF CHRISTIANITY

Jackie Alnor 221 pages

A look at the shadowy world of the TBN dynasty. The author reveals some personal secrets of Christian media "stars," but she tries to keep the polemic down. We don't agree entirely with her eschatology, but this book is worth the read.

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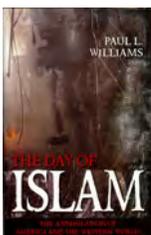


THE DAY OF ISLAM: The Annihilation of America and the Western World

Paul L. Williams 288 pages

Not a Christian book, but every Christian should read it. One caveat: you'll wish you hadn't. This book will spur many Christians to get serious about their walk and their prayer life.

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MORMONISM

Kurt Van Gorden 94 pages

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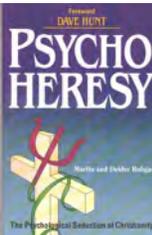


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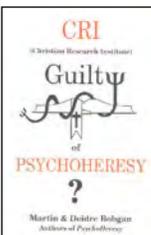


CRI GUILTY OF PSYCHOHERSEY?

Martin & Deidre Bobgan 144 pages

A response to Bob and Gretchen Passantino's series on psychology in Christian Research Institute's *Christian Research Journal*. The authors charge the Passantinos and CRI with psychoheresy—the integration of psychological theory with Scripture.

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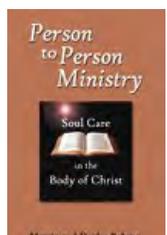


PERSON-TO-PERSON MINISTRY

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Reveals the innate sinfulness of problem-centered counseling; shows how it leads Christians into feeding the flesh and quenching the Spirit. Gives reasons why Christians must abandon the problem-centered approach in favor of becoming Christ-centered.

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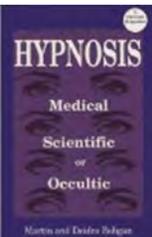


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Hypnosis induces an altered state of consciousness no different from shamanic states of consciousness. Although passed off as scientific, and even medical, hypnosis is at its core occultic and potentially lethal.

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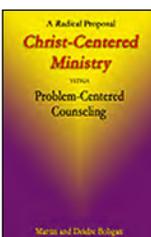


CHRIST-CENTERED MINISTRY vs. PROBLEM-CENTERED COUNSELING: A Radical Proposal

Martin & Deidre Bobgan 134 pages

A call to overthrow intimidation from the psychological and biblical counseling movements, and to free believers to minister to fellow believers in a biblical manner.

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STOP COUNSELING! START MIINISTERING!

Martin & Deidre Bobgan 325 pages

Why Christians should be opposed to all forms of counseling. Reveals how counseling, which is problem-centered, involves sinful conversations. Offers ways to equip those in need to live a biblical life.

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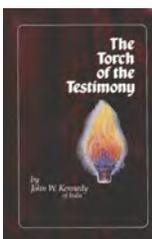


THE TORCH OF THE TESTIMONY

John W. Kennedy 251 pages

A 2,000-year history of the Christians and churches that have stood outside the Catholic-Protestant tradition. Originally published in India in 1964; little known in the West. We don't recommend some of this publisher's other items, but this is a gem.

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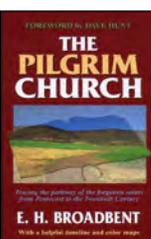


THE PILGRIM CHURCH

E. H. Broadbent 448 pages

The real story of the faith is not the one recorded in secular or religious history, which has largely been tainted by Roman Catholic influences. This classic will thrill you with stories of unknown heroes of the faith who have stood firm for God's truth. Wonderful.

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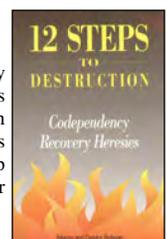


12 STEPS TO DESTRUCTION

Martin & Deidre Bobgan 247 pages

Exposes the codependency/recovery heresies that have affected the churches through "Christian" psychology. Written for those who are suffering from the trials of life and for those who want to help them. Also for both those currently or formerly in 12-step recovery programs.

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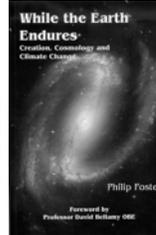


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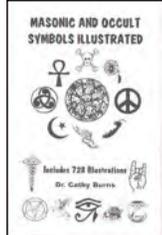
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G.H. Pember 332 pages
 This is a 19th-century classic that addresses the pre-Adamic theory and the early history of Satan, and offers a biblical account of the Fall of Man and the Flood eras, and modern distortions of the texts and contexts of both. It is considered controversial by some.
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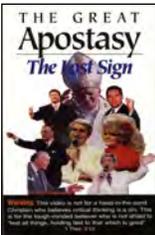


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 Somewhat amateurish, but dynamic expose of charismania at its worst. A wake-up call, and a show-and-tell demonstration of the unclean spirit of anti-Christ in our midst.
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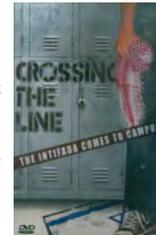
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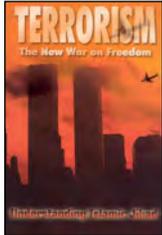
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In this column we share a lesson we enjoyed within one of our house assembly meetings. It has been written as a narrative, but contains the thoughts of those who shared together. There is no single teacher in our assembly. Therefore, there will be portions that seem out of context, but they are the result of thoughts that came to someone during the discourse. This writing is a compilation of the thoughts expressed at one particular meeting, as well as some additional thoughts I have added in producing it. **AD**

In Luke 18, Jesus spoke this parable to certain men who trusted in themselves that they were righteous. They despised others whom they considered beneath them because of particular sins. Among the most hated were the tax collectors who were considered traitors to Israel because they exacted taxes from the Jews to pay tribute to their ungodly Roman overlords:

“Two men went up into the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee, and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed within himself thusly: ‘God, I thank You that I am not as other men are, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice in the week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’

“And the tax collector, standing far off, would not so much as lift up his eyes to Heaven, but struck his chest, saying, ‘God be merciful to me, a sinner.’

“I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself shall be abased, and he who humbles himself shall be lifted up.” (Luke 18:10-14)

The Scriptures give us a pretty good picture of what many of the Pharisees were like—how self-righteous they were; how they kept the Mosaic Law perfectly; how they did everything outwardly the way they were supposed to do.

Christians today will look at this particular Pharisee and say, “Well, there was a self-righteous man, comparing himself to this tax collector.”

Yet are we not guilty of that same self-righteousness ourselves at times, at least to some degree? We look at the world around us and we see all the evil in it. And rightly speaking, we are justified in being vexed by that evil. But we may sometimes think within ourselves, “Boy, I’m glad I’m not like *that* guy”; “I’m glad I’m not one of *those* people—that I’m not involved in *that* sin.”

Because we have imputed to us the righteousness of Christ, and we desire to live godly in the world, it’s very easy to compare ourselves with the sinners of the world. We are genuinely thankful for having escaped the pollution of the world.

But we don’t have the luxury of pointing the finger at others—especially at those outside the Body of Christ who do

not have the Holy Spirit to guide them—and then compare ourselves to them. We don’t have the right to see ourselves as being righteous by focusing on how others are unrighteous.

There’s not one of us who doesn’t struggle with our own sins. The only prayer we sometimes have is “Father, thank you for being merciful to me, a sinner.” We have to have the same prayer that the tax collector had.

There are a lot of Christians who want to stand on street corners and tell certain classes of people how much God hates them; how much they have to change their lives and stop their sinning. They think of themselves as having the same ministry as John the Baptist. But they forget that John the Baptist was preaching to God’s people—those who had God’s Word and recognized themselves as His people; he wasn’t preaching to the world.

Yes, we have to address sin in the world; we have to address sin in the Body of Christ. But sometimes it becomes somewhat trite in our thinking. You know: “We must hate the sin and love the sinner.”

The problem is that it has sometimes become a slogan to justify what we don’t want to admit—that we don’t really love that sinner.

It isn’t that we hate that sinner; it’s that we don’t love him either. And without love our righteousness expresses itself in an unloving manner. Thus we see Christians who think they are serving God by haranguing homosexuals with signs that say, “God hates fags!” or “Homos are going to Hell!” or worse.

In some cases Christians (at least nominal Christians) have acted violently towards others whose sins they hate. Abortionists have been killed in the name of Jesus, or with the goal of “saving the innocent.” History has shown what ungodliness has transpired in the name of our Lord.

The Lord has not called us to change the world or to fight against flesh and blood. He will judge the ungodly; our work is to lead them to saving faith in Christ. The apostle Paul said it best:

And such were some of you. But you are washed; but you are sanctified; but you are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. (1 Cor. 6:11)

Before Christ entered our lives we were no different than the worst of sinners. Do we suppose we are now righteous because we are somehow different than the most vile sinner? Do we think our sins were any less the reason Jesus went to the Cross than the sins of the ungodly? Can any of us who have been redeemed say it is because we were somehow more worthy than others?

Yet we allow ourselves to think this way on occasions when we allow our heart to become unguarded to its own deceptiveness.

Our hearts must become as broken as Jesus’ heart was toward the lost.

When we find ourselves saying, “Lord, I’m glad that I’m not like that person,” we should think to say instead, “Lord, why am I not more like You?”

By all means, let us expose the evil in our midst. Not so we can feel more righteous, but so we can help others recognize that evil with the hope that they will flee from it. ❖



The Lord has been gracious by imparting to mankind many qualities that are not inherent to the rest of the animal kingdom. Just a few of these qualities unique to mankind are love; creativity; language; inventiveness; mathematical skill. The distinctions between man's mental and spiritual qualities and that of animals is so far removed that, although some animals possess a modicum of skills, they are of such a rudimentary nature that any man possessing them would be considered so seriously impaired he would have to be institutionalized. There is a reason we marvel at what appear to be exceptional skills displayed by an occasional animal that may mimic human reasoning. It is because such skills are not germane to the animal kingdom.

I recall a remarkable example, where a bird was videotaped taking a bread crumb, dropping it in the water by a dock, then waiting for a fish to come to the surface for the bread, whereupon the bird snatched the fish.

Humanists and other God-deniers would say this is proof that animals have the same critical thinking skills as men. But this is the exception that proves the rule: such a learned act is so rare among animals that we are amazed when we see it. It is beyond their nature except for a few who somehow manage to put two-and-two together. But even that single act is the only one that the unique animal may be able to accomplish.

What sets man apart are not his opposable thumbs that God-deniers say give him the ability to display such an enormous capacity for reason in comparison to other animal life. Many primates have four opposable thumbs—one on each hand and one on each foot. They should be far more mentally advanced than man.

No, what sets man apart from all created life is his spiritual nature imbued by God when He breathed into Adam the breath of lives. Man is made in the image and likeness of God, not merely physically, but spiritually. Man has a soul unique to him. This is why man is able to discern good from evil. God has instilled in man the most unique of all metaphysical qualities—a conscience.

When man acts contrary to his conscience he is guilty of sin, even if what his conscience tells him is wrong is so only in his own eyes:

I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself, but to him who considers anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. (Rom. 14:14)

When a man knows, or merely believes, something to be sin yet persists in it, he is guilty before the Lord.

Christians have God's Word to tell us what is sin in God's eyes. Therefore, above all men we are without excuse when we sin. Yet if we confess our sin He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us. (1 John 1:10).

We often take this verse to mean that if we deny we are sinners we make God a liar, etc. But it may also be applied to us if we sin with knowledge against His Word and still deny that we have sinned in such a manner. It may apply to any particular sin committed without repentance and with an attitude of denial. Those who take this tack are guilty of having a seared conscience (1 Tim. 4:2). A seared conscience is like seared flesh; it is devoid of all feeling. The nerves have been destroyed and can no longer transmit feeling of any kind to the brain. A seared conscience no longer transmits feelings of love toward God; it no longer transmits feelings of remorse for wrongdoing; it no longer transmits feelings of altruism toward others unless that altruism also serves for the benefit of the one with the seared conscience. A seared conscience is the result of having left faith in the true God and His Son, Jesus the Christ.

From a seared conscience comes what clinical psychologists call sociopathy, a term once used for those who display what is now called an anti-social personality disorder.

Lest you think I am straying into promoting psychology for justification of truth, please understand that I differ by calling such things sin, whereas psychological theories call them disorders of the psyche. The fact is that there are sociopaths—people whose consciences are seared and therefore have no empathy or sympathy toward others. They are so narcissistic they love only themselves (something psychology champions, by the way).

According to the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders* (DSM-IV-TR, 2000), a personality disorder is a persistent pattern of thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that is significantly different from what is considered normal within the person's own culture.¹

I won't belabor the point. The important thing is that there are many people in our culture who exhibit sociopathy because their thoughts, feelings and behaviors stray from the culture to which they claim association. For example, there are many Christians whose lives are contrary to the faith called

¹ "Antisocial Personality Disorder," Medicine Net, http://www.medicinenet.com/antisocial_personality_disorder/article.htm#what_are_the_symptoms_and_signs_of_antisocial_personality_disorder_aspd.

“Christianity,” which is (or is supposed to be) based on the truths of the Bible. They have no feelings of affinity with biblical truth except where it suits them; they have no love of God or His Word that would cause them to want to live faithfully.

Now here is where I risk some real trouble for myself.

Sociopathology is not far removed from criminal insanity, which is defined as a mental disease or defect that prevents a person from knowing the nature or quality of a criminal act, or, if the person does know the nature or quality of the act, he does not know that the act is wrong.

Granted, this applies in criminal law cases set before secular courts. But may it not also apply to the Word of God set before the Court of Heaven? Let us apply this idea of criminal insanity to self-professed Christians who either 1) do not know the nature or quality of an act contrary to the Word of God; 2) know the nature and quality of an act, but don't believe it to be wrong, regardless of what God's Word says.

Now let us apply it to two nationally protected and promoted acts specifically defined as sins by God's Word: abortion and sodomy.

Professing Christians are championing both of these national sins, and it is rare to find those who champion one of those sins without championing the other. This goes far beyond mere indifference to those sins; it reaches the status of promoting them and even demonizing those who oppose them. The consciences of those who do so have become so seared that they have fallen into the age-old abomination of calling good evil and evil good:

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! (Isa. 5:20-21)

Before the secular courts of the land such people are normal; rulings in their favor have steadily been granted from courts at every level from district courts to the Supreme Court of the United States.

But before the Court of Heaven they are criminally insane; they are a menace to both the Body of Christ and to secular society. What is worse, the judges who have ruled in their favor are just as criminally insane.

What does this say about the United States of America when the nation has chosen to occupy the highest offices in the land men and women who are, in relation to God's Law, criminally insane? They call themselves Christians but they continually champion anti-Christ causes and demonize those who stand for God's righteousness. Either they are unaware of how ungodly their support for abortion and sodomy is, or they just don't care about it. In either case they are criminally insane.

I don't say this to denigrate our secular leaders, but to point out the seriously evil condition of this supposedly “Christian” nation in which fully one-half of the voting population polled continues to praise their actions in these matters. The nation as a whole is given over to criminal insanity.

Truly, the insane *are* running the asylum. ❖



(Continued from page 14)

Ultimately, says D'Souza, the solution doesn't rest with himself or with Barack Obama; it rests with the American people. And that's where he fails.

Except to the degree that the American people submit to God's Word, the solution to America's problems does not lie with the American people; the solution lies with the God of the universe.

As appalling as the information disseminated in this film may be, and as anti-Obama as many Americans—including many Christians—may be, Barack Hussein Obama is not the problem; he is the inevitable result of America's problem. That problem is the turning away of the nation (including the nation's churches) from the Lord and from His Word. No nation on earth or throughout history has had the spiritual as well as temporal advantages that this nation has had. But we have squandered our inheritance on worldly pleasures; we have loved our sin and have forgotten the One to whom we owe all we have and are.

Even if Barack Obama were defeated in the upcoming election, America's problems will not be solved. As long as the nation looks to men for hope while ignoring the only hope we really have, the downward spiral will continue.

It is telling that the best this nation has been able to put forward to lead it have been men and women who have little or no desire for God's influence in their decisions. When we consider the character of the past several presidents, with few exceptions they have been immoral/amoral, traitorous, self-serving quislings who cower to the dictates of behind-the-scenes power brokers. Not many of them would be able to stand in the company of this nation's founders, let alone in the company of God's saints.

But, as always, we must remind ourselves that government, although established by God, is still part of Satan's domain because he is the god of this world. As we continue trying without the Lord Jesus Christ to pull back from the evils that have engulfed America, the more we will be like the child who finds his fingers caught in the Chinese finger trap. The harder we pull, the more tightly we are bound. ❖

***In this world you will have tribulation.
But be of good cheer, for I have overcome
the world. (John 16:33)***



When historians speak of the Dark Ages they generally mean the period within the Middle Ages known as the Early Middle Ages (AKA the Low Middle Ages)—a time in Western Europe when intellectual pursuits waned in the face of superstition. A malaise settled over Western Europe that hindered progress in science, art and other humanistic pursuits. Science was viewed with suspicion by the Roman Catholic Church which misinterpreted Scripture in a manner that exacerbated ignorance of the natural world. Illiteracy, starvation and disease were rampant. But dramatic changes were on the way.

The eleventh century saw the Dark Ages begin to give way to a new interest in intellectualism. It was the beginning of the High Middle Ages, a time of small steps toward renaissance which formed the basis for the yet future European Renaissance. This was a time which saw intellectual advancement in various areas of industry, trade, science and technology in Western Europe as a result of changing political, social and economic philosophy. The twelfth century saw a dramatic shift in philosophical Christianity as new technological discoveries led to the development of grandiose architectural achievements, particularly in the construction of churches and cathedrals.

As the Roman Catholic Church continued to solidify its political power over European culture, its authority became more centralized within European cities as impressive edifices of worship elicited the awe and admiration of the masses. Grand cathedrals housed ecclesiastical power centers under the bishops, all of whom were subject to the Roman Pontiff. No longer did the image of the humble servant of God characterize the bishops. As anti-Christ worked to increase the power of Romanism throughout Western Europe, the office of bishop was transformed even more into one of authoritarianism over local politics as well as over the spiritual welfare of the people.

Although as early as the eighth century, Christian armies had been raised to stem the tide of the Muslim invasions into

Western Europe, the company of soldiers that would come to be called “Crusaders” was not established until the year 1071 when the Seljuk Turks defeated the Byzantine army and cut off Christian access to Jerusalem, destroying many sites sacred to Roman Catholicism.

In the eleventh century, Pope Gregory VII (c. 1015/1028-1085) struggled with the idea of waging a “holy war” contrary to the Lord’s commands to love one’s enemies. Eventually he decided that “justified violence” was acceptable in defense of Christians who were being persecuted in the Holy Land. Gregory VII was an admirer of Augustine of Hippo whose writing, *The City of God*, justified the use of force in the service of Christ. *The City of God* has been used over the centuries to the present time by Christians who believe it is “the Church’s” responsibility to conquer the nations for Christ even by force if necessary.

In 1095, fearing that all Asia Minor would be conquered by Islam, the Byzantine emperor, Alexios I Komnenos called upon Pope Urban II to come to the rescue of Constantinople and to recover Jerusalem from the Seljuk Turks. The pope responded by calling throughout Western Europe for Roman Catholic military units to drive out the Muslim invaders.

Urban II called the Council of Clermont at which he defined the concept of the crusades and called for the princes throughout Europe to wage a holy war in the Holy Land. He granted plenary indulgences to the hundreds of thousands of Crusaders that heeded his call to battle. (The indulgences were somewhat ambiguous in that it was never made clear if it was necessary to die in the battle to recover Jerusalem in order to receive them.)¹

¹ An indulgence is the partial or full (plenary) remission of temporal punishment which the Catholic Church believes must be endured in a place of temporary suffering called Purgatory. Plenary indulgences are granted by the Catholic Church in specific cases that it believes warrants full remission of such punishment so that, should the penitent die in the state of grace imposed through the indulgence, he will immediately be ushered into Heaven without having to suffer in Purgatory.

Urban II's call to arms was not entirely based on the spiritual benefits promised to those who would follow that call. He based much of his speech at Clermont on appeals to avenge fellow Christians under the Muslim invaders and on non-spiritual motives promising material rewards in the way of land, wealth, power and influence. His appeal included his assessment that the Turks could be easily defeated. It was upon this rhetoric that those in the council elicited chants of "*Deus vult!*" ("God wills it!"), which became the rallying cry of the Crusades.

Anti-Christ's plans for the Crusades exceeded those even of the pope. The furor unleashed by Urban II's impassioned appeal to arms was not limited to Muslim invaders only, but expressed itself in the killing of Jews and the persecution of eastern Orthodox Christians.

The Crusades succeeded in aiding the planting of the Roman Catholic form of Christianity throughout Europe by the end of the eleventh century. Although that form of Christianity had many faults (and still does), it did establish the biblical ethic upon which European society based its laws and culture. Anti-Christ gained some victories in the process, but he also lost ground in the hearts of individuals whose faith, although greatly stunted, allowed for the growth of Christianity.

During this time the thirteenth-century Italian Dominican priest and philosopher, Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), among others, rediscovered the works of Aristotle which led to the development of scholasticism patterned after the ancient Greek schools of philosophy. Thus the Roman Catholic Church was impelled further into integrating Scripture with human wisdom, particularly the Hellenization of Christianity.

By the end of the thirteenth century the fervor of the Crusades began to wane as succeeding popes conjured justification of political and territorial power grabs throughout Western Europe.

The fourteenth century is generally regarded as the Late Middle Ages—a time when the medieval world began to transition into the modern world. It was a century that saw incredible change wrought by exploration, revolt, wars, plagues and further progress in science and technology.

Localized famines occurred in France and England during the early fourteenth century, but the Late Middle Ages saw the worst of these when there occurred the Great Famine, the first of a number of calamities to strike Europe. The Great Famine decimated populations west-to-east from France to Russia, and north-to-south from Scotland to Italy. From 1315 to 1322 the Great Famine caused millions of deaths, bringing to an end the prosperity Europe enjoyed during the previous three centuries. Prolonged heavy periods of rain throughout Europe caused widespread crop failures. There was little food for livestock as well as people. Food prices doubled within a few months, and it wasn't long before peasants couldn't afford the basic staples to sustain life, including bread, let alone more expensive foods. The excessively wet weather continued throughout 1316 and into the summer of 1317. When it finally abated, the European population had lost nearly all resources to sustain itself. Children were abandoned and there were many incidents of cannibalism.

The Catholic Church suffered the displeasure of a populous that had begun to lose faith in the institution. No amount of prayers, no number of masses or appeals to God by the pope, were able to stem the prolonged suffering. Corruption within the church was to blame in many minds. The Great Famine brought to a halt a period of unprecedented growth in the European population that started during the mid-eleventh century.

Criminal activity increased significantly during the Great Famine as people took any means possible to feed themselves, leading to a breakdown in the culture. Chivalry, a trademark of the earlier medieval period, was abandoned, warfare became more brutal and death claimed even the lives of nobles who had previously been treated with deference.

The notable Hundred Years War began in the fourteenth century and ended in the fifteenth century (1337-1453), fought by Edward III, king of England, for ascension to the French throne following the end of the Capetian Dynasty in France.

During this time a peasant girl who believed she received divine guidance through visions led the French army to important victories against the English. She was captured by the Burgundians who turned her over to the British for a ransom. She was put on trial by Pierre Cauchon, a pro-British bishop of Beauvais, for charges of "insubordination and heterodoxy." She was nineteen years old when she was burned at the stake for heresy.

Anti-Christ gained many victories through the protracted wars between allegedly "Christian" nations against each other. As the Hundred Years War dragged on, Europe suffered more terrible calamities which man would classify as "acts of God."

The Hundred Years War ended with the French triumphant, and at its end the English were embroiled in a dynastic struggle which pitted the House of Lancaster against the House of York for the throne. The Wars of the Roses were fought between 1455 and 1485, further decimating the population of England.

Weakened by the starvation experienced during the Great Famine, and the early stages of the Hundred Years War, Europeans were ripe for another calamity that would decimate the population even further—an invisible invader known as the Black Death.

The Black Death—commonly believed to be bubonic plague—struck Europe in October, 1347, and spread rapidly throughout all of Europe and into Scandinavia and Russia by 1350.

Where the Black Death started is open to speculation, but it is generally believed to have started somewhere in Asia, possibly in China. From there it spread to Italy, then to the rest of Europe through fleas that lived on plague-infected rats that came to Europe through international trade on ships. The plague presented in other ways known as pneumonic and septicemic forms. Pneumonic plague could be spread with a sneeze or other means of carrying germs through mucous and saliva; septicemic plague spread through contact with open sores.

The estimated number of Europeans alone who died from the Black Death is 20 million—about one-third of the population. Some cities lost as many as 40% to 60% of their populations.

Through the Black Death, anti-Christ succeeded in decimating almost half of the European Christian population. Yet it must be conceded that this could not have happened were it not for God's consent.

Superstition played a large part in people's beliefs regarding the cause of the Black Death. The most common belief was that it was an omen from God—punishment for the sins of the people. Some accused the Jews of poisoning the wells, leading to terrible persecution that even the Roman Catholic Church found difficult to stop. Scientific attempts to explain the plague failed miserably simply because there were no scientific instruments to help identify the microscopic culprits. After diligent study by the University of Paris, the Paris Consilium attributed the plague to earthquakes and astrological influences.

In spite of the horrific dangers presented by the Black Death, it is recorded that violence and debauchery increased greatly. While a large number feared the plague, they evidently didn't fear God.

Anti-Christ gained a significant victory in the further establishment of the Roman Catholic Church which, although losing a large number of adherents, realized monetary gain through bequests upon their deaths. The large number of indulgences meted out for prayers and masses for the dead and other priestly services also added greatly to the coffers. Yet in spite of these anti-Christ practices of selling indulgences, the groundwork was laid for the coming Protestant Reformation.

The Catholic clergy were unable to effectively minister to those affected by the Black Death, but were quick to charge money for their services, thus resulting in resentment. One man who saw the futility and the evil in charging money for those services was a Roman Catholic priest named Martin Luther, but he would not come onto the scene until the early 16th century.

In the wake of the Black Death unstable economic conditions led to the restriction of wages in an attempt to stem the tide of rising costs for goods and services, particularly those demanded by skilled laborers. In England the king issued the Statute of Laborers (1351) in which the wages of the common people were set at pre-plague levels. This led in the spring of 1381 to the Peasants Revolt which threatened the feudal system under which the English economy operated. Although technically considered free men, peasants were bound by law to work the land on which they lived and were subject in every respect to the nobles who owned that land. They could not leave the land under the threat of imprisonment. In essence, they were slaves to the nobles regardless of being called freemen. In the face of this adversity many nobles flaunted their wealth and made conditions worse for their subjects. The church, wishing to appease its wealthy benefactors, encouraged the peasants to keep their place.

In the meantime, greater animosity was developing between the papacy and the monarchs of England, France, Castile and Aragon. As the church lost the confidence of the common people due to its inability to stem the destruction from the Great Famine and the Black Death, the monarchs became bolder in asserting their secular authority. Philip IV of France challenged the papacy's authority over priests accused of criminal acts. The

church had traditionally claimed the right to discipline its clergy in civil and criminal matters. Philip also challenged the church's claim to tax exemption based on the idea that the church enjoyed the use of secular services and the country's infrastructure of roads, bridges and harbors.

Boniface issued two papal bulls in which he asserted the church's superiority over secular governments, and forbade Catholics to pay taxes to any government unless ordered to do so by the pope.

In response, Philip convinced the French bishops and archbishops to side with him. Boniface threatened to depose Philip who, in turn, had his chief prosecutor, William de Nogaret, to bring against Boniface charges of ethical, moral and legal crimes. He had Boniface arrested and thrown into prison. This act sparked outrage among the people who, in spite of much discontent, still considered the papacy a revered office. To ward off rebellion, Philip released Boniface who died shortly afterward.

The church suffered much loss of face during these trying times, which were the beginning of the end for papal power over secular governments.

In the 1370s, John Wycliffe began writing treatises in which he challenged the power of the papacy. This caused respect toward the church to decline even further, particularly among the common people.²

Although most of Europe declined culturally during the fourteenth century, Italy became the major catalyst for the coming European Renaissance that would arise at the end of the Middle Ages.³ A trend toward humanism and away from the sacred began to be reflected in Italy's art under the masterful talents of Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael and Michelangelo whose realism exceeded anything prior.

The fifteenth century saw the fall of Constantinople to the Turks, while the Moors were driven from Spain, seemingly for good. The Jews were also expelled.

In 1492, Christopher Columbus set sail for the East Indies, hoping to find a shorter trade route for Spain by sailing west.

The end to the Middle Ages would occur during the sixteenth century which saw the most significant movement to impact Christianity up until that time. ❖

NEXT: THE REFORMATION

² There is a dichotomy evident in that biblically the Roman Catholic Church was correct in urging the peasants to keep their place rather than revolt against their masters. But the church failed terribly by not instructing the nobles to treat their serfs with respect and dignity, and to make sure that they did not lack any basic needs for food, shelter or clothing, and to go beyond that to help them maintain a quality of life that would sustain health and well-being. Although Scripture condemns all forms of rebellion, it also affirms the need for the stronger to bear with the weaker. We might not expect that in a non-Christian society, but Europe was decidedly Christian, at least nominally, and the church had the obligation to instruct in righteousness for all.

³ Historian Charles H. Haskins wrote extensively about this pre-Renaissance period. He says about the 12th century in Europe that it "was in many respects an age of fresh and vigorous life. The epoch of the Crusades, of the rise of towns, and of the earliest bureaucratic states of the West, it saw the culmination of Romanesque art and the beginnings of Gothic; the emergence of the vernacular literatures; the revival of the Latin classics and of Latin poetry and Roman law; the recovery of Greek science, with its Arabic additions, and of much of Greek philosophy; and the origin of the first European universities. The twelfth century left its signature on higher education, on the scholastic philosophy, on European systems of law, on architecture and sculpture, on the liturgical drama, on Latin and vernacular poetry.



Chick-fil-A

(Continued from page 9)

It is feared by some that those statutes make any crime against a protected class of person a “hate crime” whether or not hatred is the motivation. However, the language in the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009 requires that the federal government “prove beyond a reasonable doubt, as an element of the offense, a nexus to interstate commerce in every prosecution brought under one of the newly created categories of 18 U.S.C. 249(a)(2).” The government must also “prove beyond a reasonable doubt two intents on the part of the accused: first, that the crime of violence was motivated by racial, ethnic, or religious hatred; and second, that it was committed with the intent to interfere with the victim’s participation in one or more of the federally protected activities. Even in the most blatant cases of racial, ethnic, or religious violence, an accused has committed no Federal crime in violation of section 245(b) unless he is proved to have possessed both these intents.”

Sec. 6(a)(2)(A) of the Act includes within the protected class people victimized on the basis of their actual or perceived “gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.”

It is also feared that in some cases the charge of committing a hate crime may be leveled against someone who did not engage in the crime, but may say or do something to unintentionally encourage someone else to commit such a crime. For example, if someone writes an article in which he expresses opinions contrary to the LGBT community’s objective to force its values upon society, and someone who reads that article decides to go out and kill or attack a homosexual or lesbian, might the writer of the article be held responsible for the crime as well? Might the pastor of a church who condemns deviant sexual practices based on Leviticus 20:13 or Romans 1:26-27 be prosecuted if one who hears him goes out and commits a violent act against a sodomite?

At present, language in the federal statutes precludes such possibilities based on First Amendment protections. For example, Sec. 10(3) of the *Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act* states:

CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS- Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit any constitutionally protected speech, expressive conduct or activities (regardless of whether compelled by, or central to, a system of religious belief), including the exercise of religion protected by the First Amendment and peaceful picketing or demonstration. The Constitution does not protect speech, conduct or activities consisting of planning for, conspiring to commit, or committing an act of violence.

Section 10(4) states:

FREE EXPRESSION- Nothing in this Act shall be construed to allow prosecution based solely upon an individual’s expression of racial, religious, political, or

other beliefs or solely upon an individual’s membership in a group advocating or espousing such beliefs.

This is well and good for the time being. At least the federal government is prohibited from persecuting Christians for expressing biblical values. However, the court of public opinion is being systematically swayed against the Bible. When politicians and celebrities accuse Christians of practicing hate because they take a stance for righteousness, they are in reality charging God with hate. As the accompanying cartoon demonstrates, they aren’t mad at Chick-fil-A; they’re mad at God.

And let’s face it: as much as they preach “love” and decry what they call “hate,” they hate believers in Christ as well as the faith upon which we stand.

Be assured that the Chick-fil-A ruckus will not entirely abate; many other opportunities to lay the accusation of hate on believers in Christ will be coming.

Corporations, social organizations and government entities are jumping onto the pro-LGBT bandwagon. Although we have federal protections against prosecution for now, it will become more difficult for true believers in Jesus to function in society. Conscience will dictate that we cannot support businesses that openly cater to the LGBT agenda until there are no other alternatives; those who openly profess their faith in Jesus will find it increasingly difficult to sell their goods and services to a growing population sympathetic to the LGBT community.

But what about Muslims? They are also opposed to deviant sexual practices, at least according to their religious tenets.

It appears as if Muslims are de facto members of a protected class themselves. And regardless of their religious beliefs, they don’t make a public issue of sexual deviancy. It could be said of them that they prefer to propagate faith in Allah rather than address the sins of the populous, other than what they perceive as the Christian West’s warfare against Islam.

The Jews for the most part also do not address the sins of society. Many are leftists, and most see faith in Christ as more evil than sins against God’s Word.

No, as it should be, biblical faith stands alone against the world’s onslaught of godlessness.

The day might well be coming in our lifetime that even the First Amendment will not protect us from federal prosecution. ❖

The *HuffPost Gay Voices* blog lists these national companies that support same-sex “marriage” and other sodomite causes:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| American Apparel | Oreo Cookies |
| Betty Crocker | Old Navy |
| Cheerios | Pampers |
| Crest Toothpaste | Pepsi Cola |
| Ford Automobiles | Pillsbury |
| GAP | Safeway |
| Girl Scouts of America | Starbucks |
| Green Giant | Target Stores |
| Home Depot | Tide |
| JCP (J.C. Penny) | Walgreen Drugstores |
| Levis | Walt Disney World |
| Macy’s | Wheaties |

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

Throwing God a bone

By Albert James Dager

We often hear it said that there is no real difference between the Democrat Party and the Republican Party—both are controlled by unseen forces that threaten the sovereignty and freedom of America. There is some truth to that. Both parties when in power have initiated or continued policies that have surrendered the United States' sovereignty to globalist powers. Neither party has taken any serious steps to challenge those powers as they work through the United Nations, NATO, SEATO and other international cooperatives.

The only differences between the two parties revolve around fiscal policies on a national level and certain moral issues such as abortion rights and the LGBT agenda. The Democrat Party has for several years embraced both causes, while the Republican Party has been vocal about favoring the right to life and the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman. Yet even there the Republican Party remains powerless to stop the progress of those two national sins. Republican politicians have often wavered, choosing to give no more than lip service in favor of attempts to stem the tide. But at least a number of them continue to take a public stance against abortion and same-sex marriage. The same cannot be said about any significant Democrat politician.

This year's Democratic National Convention has shown how far the Democrat Party has gone in pandering to ungodliness. For the first time in history, delegates to a major party convention have approved a platform that includes support for same-sex marriage. The LGBT community had its own caucus at the Democratic National Convention (DNC) that saw a record number of LGBT delegates as well as a record number of transgender delegates.

We can only imagine what the founding fathers of this nation would think were they alive today. Although many of them were not true disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, they all had a sense of right and wrong, and extolled the virtues of moral living. We can't know all their private lives, but their thinking on morality was an open book. John Adams, signer of the Declaration of Independence and second President of the United States of America, famously stated in a 1798 speech to the military, "We have no government armed with power capable of contending

with human passions unbridled by morality and religion... Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

In his criticism of Deist Thomas Paine's book, *The Age of Reason*, Adams said, "The Christian religion is, above all the religions that ever prevailed or existed in ancient or modern times, the religion of wisdom, virtue, equity and humanity, let the Blackguard Paine say what he will."

In addition to affirming LGBT rights to marry, the 2012 Democratic Party platform includes a defense of abortion rights.

The Declaration of Independence lists first among the unalienable rights endowed by God to man as "the right to life." The U.S. Supreme Court has taken away that right for millions of unborn children every year through the sanctioning of abortion mills. For any party to install in its platform such an ungodly agenda demonstrates how perverse that party has become.

In the United States it is illegal to harm the eggs or unborn of certain protected species, but the children of men are cruelly dispatched at the pleasure of corrupt men and women.

Godlessness

Today we have running for the office of President of the United States a Mormon whose god is not the God of these two founding fathers. But the Republican Party platform does not reject the concept of some god being over the affairs of men. The same could not initially be said about the Democrat Party. This was evident through a challenge by Piers Morgan, host of CNN's *Piers Morgan Tonight*, to Democratic National Committee Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Shultz. Morgan wanted her to explain why the word "God" was removed from the Democrat platform this year. A segment from his September 4 interview with Wasserman Shultz:

PM: A weird admission from the Democratic platform, which no one can quite understand how or why this happened, or what the intention was, because all it seems to have done is rattle cages that can be rattled. No mention of the word "God," even though there was last time, and there was about ten times in the Republican platform. Why is that?

DWS: Well, we have a commitment through all faith traditions that our values are reflected in our policy, and that means that we should look out for the least of these; that we should fight for the middle class; that we should help everyone in America have an opportunity to be successful, and...

PM: But was the word "God" deliberately taken out, or was it a mistake?

DWS: Of course not; of course not.

PM: It was a mistake.

DWS: We have a platform that actually reflects the values of many faith traditions, and it's the policies.

PM: The thing is, someone has deliberately taken out the word “God” ‘cause it was in the last one.

DWS: I can assure you that no one has deliberately taken “God” out of our platform.

PM: So it was an accident.

DWS: What I can tell you is that our policies and our values are reflected in many faith traditions, and that’s what our platform is all about.

PM: Are you being flippant? It’s either deliberate or an accident.

DWS: [No response]

What do the values of many faith traditions have to do with eliminating any mention of God in the Democrat Party platform? What do looking out for the middle class or helping everyone in America have an opportunity for success have to do with it?

Might she mean that atheism and agnosticism are also faith traditions that must be honored? If so, how does honoring them not dishonor faith traditions that hold belief in God (or some kind of god)?

Obviously, it’s a matter of choice as to who the party wishes to honor, and it isn’t the God of the Bible.

The 2008 DNC platform included these words:

We need a government that stands up for the hopes, values, and interests of working people, and gives everyone willing to work hard the chance to make the most of their God-given potential.

The 2012 platform removed the words “God-given” and gave credit to some “basic bargain,” whatever that means:

We gather to reclaim the basic bargain that built the largest middle class and the most prosperous nation on Earth—the simple principle that in America, hard work should pay off, responsibility should be rewarded, and each one of us should be able to go as far as our talent and drive take us.

The elimination of God from the Democrat Party’s platform should not surprise us. The Marxist philosophy that drives today’s Democrat Party is godless. At best, lip-service may be given to God because it is expected that the presidential candidates and their first ladies would end their convention speeches with the traditional, “God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.” This, all four did to end their respective speeches.

Morgan continued by asking Wasserman Schultz why the Democrat platform doesn’t include previous years’ support for Israel as an ally, to which she affirmed that the Democrat Party is more strongly committed to Israel than is the Republican Party.

After Piers Morgan’s interview with Wasserman Shultz went viral on the Internet and stirred many protests, Barack Obama scrambled to persuade the convention to amend the platform by restoring the former language using the name of God.

After much pressure from Jewish delegates, an amendment to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel was put forth at the same time. Both amendments were introduced by Ohio

Governor Ted Strickland who was the platform drafting committee chair. These were actually two separate amendments, but both were introduced for a single vote:

Amendment 1

Page 32, Line 48: We need a government that stands up for the hopes, values, and interests of working people, and gives everyone willing to work hard the chance to make the most of their God-given potential.

Amendment 2

Page 63, Line 26: Jerusalem is and will remain the capital of Israel. The parties have agreed that Jerusalem is a matter for final status negotiations. It should remain an undivided city accessible to people of all faiths.

Chairman Anthony Villaraigosa, Mayor of Los Angeles, announced that a motion had been made, and called for a second. A weak smattering of seconds were heard.

Villaraigosa then asked if there were any further discussion, to which a few voices could be heard. Without delay, however, Villaraigosa stated, “Hearing none, the matter requires a two-thirds vote in the affirmative.”

Calling for a voice vote, Villaraigosa was stumped when the ayes and nays carried the same weight. A second vote produced the same results. After a third vote in which the nays slightly outweighed the ayes, Villaraigosa said, “In the opinion of the chair, two-thirds have voted in the affirmative, the motion is adopted, and the platform has been amended as shown on the screen.”

There is no way two-thirds of the delegates voted in the affirmative. The best that could be determined by all three voice votes was that the delegation was split 50-50 at best.

It is clear that the Democrat Party is itself divided on these two issues. Perhaps if they had been given the opportunity to vote for each amendment on its own merits the outcome would have been different. By bundling the two, there was no opportunity for some delegates to affirm the inclusion of God while rejecting Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

Had Villaraigosa done his job properly he would have allowed for someone to ask for a vote to have a poll by show of hands. However, if the show of hands did not result in a two-thirds majority in favor, the delegation would be going against the wishes of its presidential candidate. And how would that have looked?

Clearly, Villaraigosa violated his position as chair in favor of Obama’s wishes, even though those wishes were an afterthought to the controversy over the original platform language.

The best we can assess from this debacle is that half the Democrat Party doesn’t want God included in its platform, and/or Jerusalem to be recognized as the capital of Israel.

So this year Americans have a choice, and it isn’t good in any case: 1) a Mormon who invokes a false god; 2) a Marxist who, if he has a god, is closer to the god of what he calls “the Holy Koran” than to the God of the Bible.

In either case, we cannot expect the true God to look favorably upon the nation that at one time revered His name even as it did not live out His will. ❖

Q & A

Al:

I have been studying the kingdom of Heaven-God for the last couple weeks so I read your article today with great interest. Couple questions: You say there is no mention of the kingdom of heaven in the prophets. Are you simply meaning the literal phrase? If Daniel 7:27 is not the Kingdom of heaven, what is it? When you state that the kingdom of Christ and kingdom of God are not the same, what are the three foundational scriptures that state it in childlike terms? Your assertion: If we don't believe in the kingdom how can we inherit it, I found puzzling. Are you speaking about the "over comers doctrine" here or are there some believers born from above that do not accept that the father will have an eternal kingdom that we will share in? Anyway, whatever light you can shine into my ignorance will be appreciated. Also in your comments on Matt. 11:12 are you stating this in a condemning way or are you saying go-getter Christians will seek for position and influence so as to walk closely with the Savior? You must have quoted Dake. Hope all is well. Let me know your thoughts please.

R.H., Lakewood, WA

Dear R.H.,

No, I was not quoting Dake. Yes, I mean the literal phrase "The Kingdom of Heaven," or "The Kingdom of God." What I was getting at is that the Kingdom of God was not proclaimed so specifically in the manner the Lord proclaimed it—as the central core of His message. It is more subdued in the writings of the Hebrew prophets which focused primarily on the kingdom of Israel for both this present age and the Millennial Age. Thanks for pointing this out, though. I should have made it more clear.

The Kingdom of Christ (Eph. 5:5) and the Kingdom of His Dear Son (Col. 1:13) are joined with 1 Cor. 15:24-28 to express that the Millennial Kingdom (the Kingdom of Christ) will come to an end, and with the New Heavens and New Earth the Lord will deliver the Kingdom to the Father. The Kingdom of Christ is part of the Kingdom of God, but I believe the Scriptures make the distinction through these three Scriptures. We call it the Millennial Kingdom; Scripture calls it the Kingdom of Christ.

I'm not saying those who do not believe in the literal Millennial Kingdom will not inherit it, or at least enter into it (either as resurrected saints or as mortal men). I'm asking the rhetorical question directed to them as a means to hopefully get them to rethink their preterist or other position that denies that the Millennial Kingdom will be a reality.

I wasn't addressing the overcomers doctrine, but I do hold a distinction between the Millennial Kingdom (inherited by those in the first resurrection) and the eternal Kingdom of God culminating in the New Heavens and New Earth (inherited by those separated to God in the second resurrection). I leave it to the Lord to determine who will enter either or both. I'm sure that every true believer, born from above, believes in the eternal Kingdom, but not all believe in the Millennial Kingdom. Again, that's why the rhetorical question.

As far as the "overcomers doctrine" is concerned, I think there is a lot of misunderstanding. Some think that it means certain saints will become perfected and sinless while in their mortal flesh, which is unscriptural. I believe Scripture gives us an idea of what it means in Revelation 12:11—the saints overcome the accusations of Satan by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of our testimony—our faith in Jesus Christ lived out through our lives which we do not love above Him. Overcoming is not living a perfect life; it is not being sinless; it is not even our works for Christ. It is our state of being in Him.

I hope this clarifies my thinking for you. It helped for you to question what I meant. If the Lord allows, I'd like to use this in our next issue in case there are others who aren't sure of it.

The thing about writing is that one may think one is being clear on certain points, but it doesn't always translate to the reader.

Thanks for your diligence.

Lord bless!

Al



Dear Al,

Do you know anything about the World Evangelical Alliance or Robert E. Cooley, president emeritus of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary?

J.O., Seattle, WA

Dear J.O.,

By now, you have probably read our current issue on the Wycliffe Arabic Bible translation, and our mention of Robert E. Cooley being chosen by the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) to chair the committee to review Wycliffe and SIL's translations relative to the Father and the Son.

WEA has been around since 1846 when it began as the Evangelical Alliance. It incorporated in 1912 as the World's Evangelical Alliance, a British organization. It grew out of what has been called "The Second Great Awakening" which sought common ground among churches without regard to geographical boundaries.

Of late, the WEA has become more neo-evangelical and ecumenical, reaching beyond traditional Protestant and non-Catholic disciplines. According to its own evaluation, WEA says this about its role in conjunction with the World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF):

WEA's Biblical vision for practical unity is driven by Christ's John 17 prayer. Its strengths go beyond those presented in the first paragraph. WEA embraces the tectonic shift in the epicentre of global Christianity in its constituency and leadership, regional and national alliances and commissions. Leadership grapples anew with the meaning of "evangelical", even as they sort out relationships to evangelicals in other communions, to the World Council of Churches, to Lausanne and other global groups. Commissions are being strengthened, with the Mission Commission and its reflective practitioners setting the standard. WEA's Religious Liberty

Commission and presence in the United Nations represent bold public advocacy voices. WEA serves as both alliance and network. WEA is defined and recognized as representatives of a distinct worldwide constituency, and participates in the annual Conference of Secretaries of World Christian Communions.

When Christian organizations ally with secular, even ungodly, organizations such as the United Nations, and with apostate religious groups like the World Council of Churches, they cannot be trusted to hold the line on biblical truth or to defend the faith against the encroachment of anti-Christ philosophies and religions (such as Islam). The WEA is without doubt attached to the World-Christian Movement.

It's no surprise that Robert E. Cooley was chosen by the WEA to oversee the committee on the Wycliffe issue. Cooley is a signatory of "A Common World Between Us and You," a response to a 2007 open letter signed by 138 Muslim leaders calling on Christians and Muslims to come together in mutual love of God and neighbors.

Other signers include Rick Warren, Bill Hybels and John Stott, as well as Leith Anderson, president of the National Association of Evangelicals.

The Christian response asked Muslims to forgive Christians for their past sins such as the Crusades and excesses of the war on terror. The Christians urged for an interfaith dialogue that moves beyond polite ecumenical talks in order to build relations that will "reshape" the two communities "to genuinely reflect our common love for God and for one another."

It is disturbing to see such "learned" theologians and other leaders within Christianity apologizing for the Crusades, which were launched in response to Islam's attempts to conquer the West. Granted, many ungodly acts occurred under the Crusades, but where are the apologies from today's Muslims for their forebears' militaristic attempts to bring Christianity into subjection to Islam? As for the "war on terror," that is a military campaign waged by secular governments, not by Christians. But, again, where is the apology from today's Muslims for the terrorism that led to the war on terror?

In truth, the defensive attitude of Muslims betrays a mind-set that is less concerned with the terrorism of the radical elements of their religion than they are with those trying to defend themselves against those radical elements.

This is the world's fight, not ours. But for Christian leaders to dump a guilt trip on believers in Jesus because of the world's fight, or for offenses from centuries past, is just plain wrong.

As for any "common love for God," there is no such thing between true believers and Muslims. We do not hold to a common God. He who does not have the Son does not have the Father. Therefore, Islam has a different god. How, then, can there be a common love for God when there is no common god to love?

I do not hold out any hope that Cooley's committee will take a proper stance to insist that the terms "Father" and "Son" remain in any Arabic bibles, or that the name of Allah would not be substituted for the name of YHWH.

That's my take on it.
In Jesus' love,

Al

Dear Al,

If you have the time, I would be most interested in your commentary on this interview of Jonathan Cahn's book *The Harbinger* which is going viral!

It was Brannon Howse with Jimmy DeYoung. They discussed clips from Jonathan Cahn from a show where Jonathan was the guest, apparently from two days earlier. Here's the link to the Jimmy DeYoung show: <http://worldviewweekend.com/worldview-radio/play.php?id=showsFlat-21580>.

Blessings,

J.S.,

Dear J.S.,

I don't think the link you sent is available any longer. It redirected me to Brannon Howse's website where I found two other related programs where Howse interviewed Jimmy DeYoung regarding some discernment ministries criticizing their negative response to *The Harbinger*. So my comments address only the July 6 program with Dr. Jimmy DeYoung.

Dr. DeYoung's statements are in line with what I would say, except for his saying that the Scriptures are what would bring "any person or any nation" to Christ. No nation will ever turn to Christ during this age, but that's a common error held by those who think it is our responsibility to "change the world." This isn't to condemn DeYoung. It may be attributed to naivete'.

Cahn's reference to Paul on Mars Hill in defense of quoting from the Zohar is typical of those who wish to blend Scripture with obvious error and justify it in obscure terms. DeYoung's and Howse's response to Cahn on that point is right on. Paul alluded only to one statement by one of the Greek poets, which statement was true in regard to the true God—that we are all His offspring (although the definition of "offspring" may have been different).

I have no problem with the idea that God may still speak to individuals in visions and dreams, but if so it will be verifiable through His Word. Cahn seems of the mindset that visions and dreams from God might bring new revelations, and particularly that they should impact the whole Body of Christ. It's no coincidence that he has the endorsement of John Paul Jackson, etc. Cahn fits well with the New Apostolic Reformation and its related movements.

Jan Markell's criticism of "discernment ministries" that she accuses of bashing Cahn and *The Harbinger* is misplaced. Granted, some have used some strong language in their condemnation of the book, but her endorsement of it is worse. The issue with her, I believe, is a desire to see America saved from impending judgment. Can't blame her for that, but one shouldn't embrace spiritual error in the hope that it may help. Cahn's commiseration with Glenn Beck in the same hope is especially disturbing.

I stand by my original review, that there are some interesting parallels that Cahn has dug up, but that there are too many discrepancies and mystical allusions for the book to be of any true spiritual value.

Hope this is of some help.
In Jesus' love,

Al



To my brother Al,

I'm sending you this piece from our local newspaper here on Long Island. We have maybe 50,000 Muslims or more. What Clinton, Bush and Obama have done to us is frightening. It's all over for America.

America has turned its back on our Lord, but the Church is more to blame. The light of the Church has gone out. They follow men, not God. It's enough to make you cry.

In His name,

E.O., Master Beach, NY

Editor's Note: The piece E.O. sent is an article about legislator Tom Muratore inviting a Muslim imam, Abdul Razaq Aziz, to deliver the invocation prayer at the opening of the August 7th general meeting of the Suffolk County (NY) Legislature in Hauppauge (see below).

How much more difficult it is for Christians these days to hold public office without being placed in positions of compromise. How many "Christian" legislators prayed with the imam to his false god?



Aloha.

I have great news for you. After five years and three months I'm finally going home. By the time you get this I'll be free. On August 14 I'll be home and with my family. I want to say "Thank you," and I appreciate you and your ministry. You have helped me grow closer to God and understand His word better.

I want to be a better Christian man, friend, brother, son, and a better person altogether. I've shared your material with many inmates and also staff members. I've also sent some material to my parents. So many people are blinded by the devil and it's very sad.

Thank you and God bless you.

L.T., Middleville, MI



Dear Media Spotlight,

I bless you in Jesus' name.

Thank you for your news magazine. Lots in here who are Christians read it.

This prison had a week-long seminar on Rick Warren. It trips me out how he is used for the deception in these last days. I believe in my heart that the Muslims will play a big part in the mark of the beast. They are everywhere in the world now.

Your special report on Jehovah's Witnesses—what a great help that was.

A man I know here was distraught and doubting God. His prayers were not answered and he just gave up. He asked me to pray for him, and he told me about the J.W.'s. I took it to God and am praying for him, asking God to heal and restore his mind by the blood of Jesus.

To God be the glory, amen.

Keep the fellowship.

Love in Jesus,

J.D., Vacaville, CA

Dear brother and sister,

May this letter find you blessing and being blessed! You have blessed us with a set of your CD's. Thank you.

I added them to our chapel library after I enjoyed them. They will get some use here.

I want to thank you for being there with the truth in a world where the truth is often smeared over with sweet-sticky lies to make it more palatable for the masses.

Keep doing what you are doing Albert and Jean. Keep doing what you do in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Be blessed,

M.B., Ione, CA



Dear Media Spotlight,

Thank you so much for your work.

My pastor looks forward to reading the magazine. He's quite an educated man.

God bless you both.

D.P., Asheville, NC



Dear friends at Media Spotlight,

We are thankful for your ministry through these years. You have been so faithful to bring to us information about apostasy that has become so heavy. We always look forward to receiving your materials. They are so helpful in discerning what is out there to listen to and to read. We are so appalled with the lack of discernment in the Church today.

Sincerely yours in Christ's love,

T. & K.P., Kingman, AZ



Dear Al and Jean,

I greet you in the love of Jesus Christ our Precious One.

Praise the Lord! I pray all is well with both of you.

By God's grace I'm doing well. I don't like being in a wheelchair or needing to have so much help, yet the Lord is using it for good. And by His love I am learning many lessons.

I have been transferred to a medical yard. I'm now at Donovan State Prison in San Diego, CA. There seems to be a large group of Christians on this yard, although I've met only a few of the brothers.

One brother, Alex, is a great blessing. He defends the faith and stands against the many false teachings that fill prisons.

As I've been studying, I had the chance to speak to a man who loves all that the late Kenneth E. Hagin stood for and taught. He refused to hear the truth concerning this man's ministry, so I'm waiting until after I'm off intake to speak with him more.

While I was thinking on these things the Holy Spirit brought this list of five things to my mind. There are five things for which Jesus did not die:

- 1) Jesus did not die to make us more happy in this life;
- 2) Jesus did not die to make us feel more fulfilled;
- 3) Jesus did not die to make us feel less pain;
- 4) Jesus did not die to make us feel better about ourselves;
- 5) Jesus did not die to make us more wealthy than we now are.

Yet to hear some preachers, you'd think that's exactly what He did die for. I hear some telling us to "Come to Jesus if you really want to be happy," or "Come to Jesus and you will really, finally, be fulfilled" (whatever that means), or "Come and find perfect joy," etc.

It seems to me that they are misleading people. The end result is that some people approach God with some of these five "promises," and decided to "give Jesus a try." They end up disgusted and frustrated because they don't get what they thought they were going to get.

Furthermore, and this is even worse, they are making Jesus into some kind of heavenly errand boy who is obligated to do all five of these things for them just because they made some kind of religious speech (prayer) about "accepting Jesus" or something similar.

But worst of all, if anyone believes Jesus died for any or all of these things, they have completely missed the point of His great sacrifice. Jesus died to take away sin and bring us, humbly, to the feet of God the Father!

Now it certainly may be true that, sometimes, some of these five things do occur, by the grace of God, as byproducts of being born again. And we are grateful if and when they do. But the fact is that down through the ages, Christians by the millions have discovered that life in general becomes much harder after they were saved and came to Christ. They did

not feel more happy (if happiness is a feeling), more fulfilled, more healthy, more satisfied with themselves, and certainly not more wealthy, for the simple reason that they were running against the grain of everything in their wicked surroundings, and were fully occupied with being persecuted.

To approach Jesus with these five things in mind is to ask God to let you be the boss while He hands over the goods. But to approach Him according to the Bible, with nothing in your hands but your sin and your desperate plea for Him to take full command of your life and destiny, is what it's all about.

As the late brother Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "When Christ calls a man, He bids him come and die."

Well, brother Al, I know you are very busy so I will close this letter for now.

God bless you, and thank you for everything.

R.V., San Diego, CA



Dear Friends,

Just these few lines to let everyone there at Media Spotlight know that I received your magazine. Friends, I'm lousy with words, but I'm going to try to express my undying gratitude and appreciation for you taking your valuable time out to read my letter. I'll always be extremely grateful to you all. The theological understanding of life that I've gotten through your magazine is real kool. Thank you for your thoughtfulness, and please keep me in your prayers. I'll keep you in my prayers as well.

I'm going to ask God to keep providing you with resources to make sure all of your literature keeps on making its rounds with all of its offerings of so much important and needed edification and instructions in the ways of God.

Friends, there's something I need to ask of you. It's about a real big favor, but first let me apologize for any kind of inconvenience that I might cause you by my asking you for this favor. I'm in real need of some writing paper with lines on it. If you're able to help me out I sure would appreciate it a lot. I don't like asking anyone in here for things so I don't. I realize that you have your very own financial difficulties and you sure don't need some convict hanging around your neck like a ball and chain, asking

you for some writing gear. So if my asking you for this dredges up any hard feelings towards us, just forget I asked, okay? I want us to keep these lines of communication open between us. Again, apologies for my intrusion. Nonetheless, thank you for sending me your magazine. The encouragement, and all the advice in it is going to help me maintain hope. It also makes me real glad to know that it is possible for God to work miracles in my life. I'm truly grateful to all of you there.

I have no doubt that my being without any writing paper won't be my only battle to face, but I know for a fact that with Media Spotlight's help I'll have victory in every one of them. Just don't give up on me, please. Okay?

Thanks a lot. It's good to know that even in the valley of the shadow of death our heavenly Father is still present and is still at work for our good.

Well, guess it's time for me to close. It's late. Somehow this evening just slipped away.

Goodnight, and may God continue to watch over all of us.

Be hoping to hear from you soon.
Love ya all a lot.
Sincerely,

F.S., Avenal, CA

Dear F.S.,

It is absolutely no problem for you to ask anything of us. It is never an intrusion.

You should have received the lined writing paper by now. If you need more at any time, just let us know. Thanks for your kind and encouraging words.

In Jesus' love,

Al and Jean

We wish we could include all the letters we receive. Please know that we read each one personally. We regret that we are often late in replying to those that require answers.

We'll do our best to get to them. If you haven't heard from us after three months, please write again. Some questions require lengthy research. Not having a staff keeps us from always being able to give a timely response. Thanks for your understanding.



Jean's Turn

Full of Promise

By Jean Dager

Promises of the Lord fill us with hope and gladness of heart. Why? Because we know the Lord fulfills every one of His promises. This is evident throughout all of Scripture. 1 Kings 8:56 is only one of so many verses that speak of God's promises: *"Blessed be the Lord, that has given rest unto His people Israel, according to all that He promised; there has not failed one word of all His good promise, which He promised by the hand of Moses His servant."*

Al and I celebrated our 32nd wedding anniversary in July. The years went by so quickly! Our 1980 wedding invitation stated, "Jesus is the center of our lives." God has been faithful to bless us as we do our best to remain centered in Him.

Recently, Al and I attended the wedding celebration of two young people (early 20s), Christopher and Kirsten. We've been close friends with the groom's parents since he was a boy. Dave and Lisa have always been strong, godly parents who raised all three children to know the Lord. Christopher served in the U.S. Air Force in the Middle East and was honorably discharged last year. Upon returning to the States, he, like so many others, was a bit lost and confused about his future. That phase of his life abruptly ended when he first saw the lovely blue-eyed, Kirsten at a social gathering. That was THE wake-up call for him! Immediately, he charged full-speed ahead to find a job. His older brother agreed to help and put in a good word for him at the company he's with and he was hired. After gaining the permission of Kirsten's father, he began a courtship with her.

This young couple made a promise and godly commitment to each other and to the Lord. According to tradition, vows were formally sealed before loving family and friends at the ceremony. Like all young couples in love, they bubbled over with enthusiasm and hope for their future together. Of course, the sincerity of this sentiment spilled upon the congregation. Joining in prayer for them, we asked that the Lord be central

in their lives, rejoicing and confident that the Lord sanctions marriage between a man and woman. Clearly, since the beginning of time, marriage has always been His plan for replenishing the earth. This will never change in spite of changing worldviews (Genesis 2:24).

Our prayer for this sweet young couple is that they keep their vows and commitment to the Lord as they embark on their new lives as husband and wife. May their trust in Him never be dimmed because He is always faithful to keep all His promises to those who love Him.

Another worthy promise is found in John 15:7: *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you shall ask what you will, and it shall be done unto you."*

Referring to this, C.H. Spurgeon said in part: "Of necessity, we must be in Christ to live unto Him, and we must abide in Him to be able to claim the largesse of this promise from Him....The heart must remain in love, the mind must be rooted in faith, the hope must be cemented to the Word, the whole man must be joined unto the Lord....Not I, but Christ lives in me."

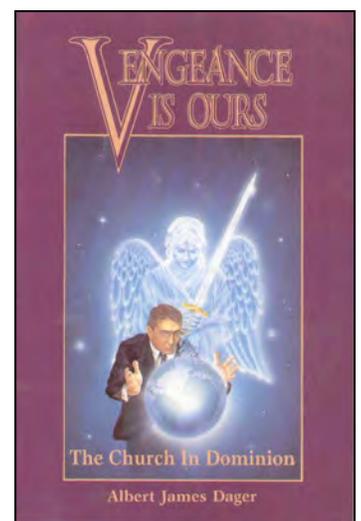
May these words be cemented into the hearts not only of Christopher and Kirsten, but in the hearts of all His people!❖

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Al and Jean