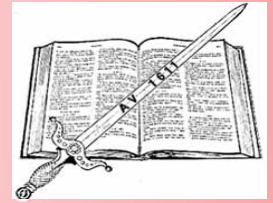




Bible Believers' Bulletin

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” (John 17:17)



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March, 2012

“The Fiery Trial”

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman
“Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy” (1 Pet. 4:12–13).

When Simon Peter in-

formed the Christians to whom he was writing (see 1 Pet. 4:16) of the possibility of a “fiery trial,” he certainly had in mind what Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego went through in Daniel 3. They were cast into the fiery furnace because they wouldn’t bow down to Nebuchadnezzar’s golden image; they suffered persecution for doing what God told them to do.

Discrimination, the Key to Sanity

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman
Part Three of Three

In this series of articles, we have been talking about a disease that infects all humanists, atheists, agnostics, evolutionists, queers, College professors, and everyone in the NEA, ACLU, and Democartic Party: it is *Bibliophobia*. The thing that terrorizes all of the “New Age global citizens”—the unholy *fear* that grips their entire being and drives them up the wall—is that someone might read Genesis 1–3 out loud where others can hear it. Or even worse, they might read Jeremiah 23 or Matthew 23 or John 8 or 1 Corinthians 6. That’s what “flips their lids.” They are more afraid of a child or teenager in a public school classroom hearing or seeing Matthew 23:9 or 1 Timothy 2:5 than they are of hiring a queer with AIDS to babysit in a daycare center—LITERALLY. The rulings and guide-

lines set down by modern judges do not forbid a queer with AIDS from handling two and three-year-old children, but they *do forbid the reading of Bible passages* in classrooms.

I am not exaggerating or overstating anything. I am not just “talking through my stack.” This group of prejudiced bigots would rather have a Lesbian teach your child that his ancestors were lemurs, tarsiers, and apes, and that he came from a blob of protoplasm and is headed for a black hole, than expose him or her to John 3, 5, 8 or Romans 3, 5, 10 or 1 John 3, 4, 5. Their fear is not just irrational and silly, it is *psychotic*: they need help in a clinic.

Now for a moment, let us pretend that we Bible believers actually have the same rights under the Civil Rights Act that sex perverts, blacks, felons, women, and

Continued on 4



Peter calls the sufferings of some Christians a “fiery trial.” One hymn writer back in the Nineteenth Century wrote: “Some thru the waters, some thru the flood, Some thru the FIRE, but all thru the blood.” There have been many times in church history when “the fiery trial” was *literal fire*. The Romans tried burning Polycarp at the stake (tradition says he had to be killed by the sword because he wouldn’t catch fire; when the sword went through him, the blood that came out put out the flames). Nero used to take Christians and tie them to crosses; he would then have them smeared with tar and oil and set aflame to provide light for banquets in his gardens at night.

The Roman Catholic Church burned literally *thousands* of evangelical believers in the Dark Ages who were condemned as “witches.” The Bohemian Reformer John Huss was burned at the stake, even though the Pope promised him safe passage to and from the Council of Constance.

When Mary Tudor (“Bloody Mary”) took over the throne of England, she lit up the skies around Smithfield as she

Continued on 3

Repentance

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

The word “repent” occurs in the New Testament more than ten times as many as the word “regeneration.” When John the Baptist showed up for the first time preaching, he said, “Repent” (Matt. 3:1–2). Christ’s first sermon after being baptized was: “Repent” (Matt. 4:17). In the Gospels, the apostles “preached that men should repent” (Mark 6:12). At Pentecost, Peter told the Jews responsible for crucifying Jesus Christ: “Repent” (Acts 2:38, 3:19). The Apostle Paul preached “repentance” (Acts 20:21). Christ told those churches in Revelation 2:3 to “repent” (Rev. 2:5, 16, 21–22, 3:3, 19).

God commands repentance. “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent” (Acts 17:30).

It is the burden of the heart of God that all should repent. “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Pet. 3:9).

Failure to repent can lead to damnation, according to the Lord Jesus Christ. “I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3).

Repentance comes before believing the Gospel. Christ preached: “Repent ye” first, and then “believe the gospel” (Mark 1:15). Repentance

Continued on 5

“Thy Kingdom Come”

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman
(Part One of Two)

In the Scriptures, there are two main kingdoms: the *Kingdom of God* and the *Kingdom of Heaven*. While there are some things about these two kingdoms that are similar, they are definitely *different kingdoms*.

One is a *spiritual* kingdom that has *nothing* to do with *politics, food, clothing, jobs, or “peace on earth.”* That’s the Kingdom of God. It is a spiritual kingdom because: **“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth”** (John 4:24). Christ said that kingdom **“is within you”** (Luke 17:21), and that you enter it by the *New Birth* (John 3:3–7). It is defined in Romans 14:17 as having *nothing* to do with what you *eat* or what you *drink* since it is not a *material* kingdom; it is said to be **“righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.”**

When you deal with the Kingdom of Heaven, you’re on other grounds and other “footings” entirely, for unlike God, the heavens are clearly *visible* (Psa. 19:1 cf. Col. 1:15; 1 Tim. 1:17; Heb. 11:27); you can look at them day or night. The Bible lists *three* of them (see 2 Cor. 12:2); the only one you can’t see *right now* is **“the third heaven”** where the Lord’s abode is, the center of His being (Rev. 21:2–3 cf. 4:1–6). To get to that heaven, you would have to pass through the *physical* universe (Eph. 4:10; Heb. 4:14). When you look up at the stars at night, you are seeing the second heaven (Gen. 1:14–17); when you watch birds flying in the sky, you are looking at the first heaven (Gen. 1:20).

The heavens are *physical*. The ground on which you are standing is a *physical* planet

in an *physical* solar system in the *physical* heavens. The whole thing is *visible* and *physical*; *there’s not a spiritual thing in it anywhere*. As such, it has no relationship to the Kingdom of God at all because it consists of meat, drink, trees, stones, mountains, stars, sand dunes, rivers, lakes, ponds, valleys, plateaus, clouds, rain, snow, fire, water, men, fish, insects, etc. It’s a *physical* kingdom.

Now if you spend any time at all studying your Bible, you will learn rather quickly that there is *no* Kingdom of God on this earth between Genesis 3 and Acts 2. The spiritual kingdom starts when the Holy Spirit comes down to take Christ’s place and indwell the bodies of believers as Jesus said (Luke 17:21). When the Lord Jesus taught the Jews to pray **“Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven”** (Matt. 6:10), He wasn’t talking about the Holy Ghost spreading a *spiritual* kingdom by the New Birth and the preaching of the Gospel. Those are *two physical kingdoms*: one in Heaven and one on earth. The prayer was for the *literal, physical, visible* kingdom in Heaven to come down to earth. The so-called “Sermon on the Mount” is the constitution of that kingdom.

That is the kingdom those Jewish disciples had in mind when they asked Christ, **“wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?”** (Acts 1:6). They were talking about the physical kingdom covenanted to David in 2 Samuel 7.

“And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom FOR EVER And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established FOR EVER before thee: thy throne shall be established FOR EVER” (2 Sam. 7:12–13, 16).

That’s three times the Lord told David that his descendants would rule on a literal throne over a literal kingdom FOREVER. You say, “The Jews sinned. God threw them out of the land and got rid of their King (Jer. 22:28–30).”

That’s true, but it’s completely irrelevant to the covenant God made with David. Look at Jeremiah 33:20–26. Same author, same book; and this is what the Lord said *after* what He said in Jeremiah 22.

“Thus saith the LORD; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season; Then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers. As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites, that minister unto me Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity



Dr. Peter S. Ruckman
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to return, and have mercy on them” (Jer. 33:20–22, 25–26).

After cutting off Jeconiah’s seed from ever being King, and after throwing those Jews out of the Promised Land because of their sin, God said, “I’m going to bring those Jews back to the land, and I’m going to keep my covenant with David. His seed is going to rule over my people Israel, and that thing is just as sure as day and night.”

God said He would bring those Jews back to the land a **“second time”** (Isa. 11:11), and He did. He said He would set a Son of David on David’s throne in Jerusalem (Luke 1:32–33), and He will. It’s prophesied over and over again in the Old Testament (Psa. 2; Isa. 2, 11, 60, 61, 62, 65, 66; Jer. 23, 33; Ezek. 37, 40–48; etc.).

That was the kingdom John the Baptist said was **“at hand”** when he showed up preaching repentance in Matthew 3:2—**“the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”** That’s the same kingdom Christ preached in Matthew 4:17—**“the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”** Why? Because *the King was right there*.

That kingdom was *post-*
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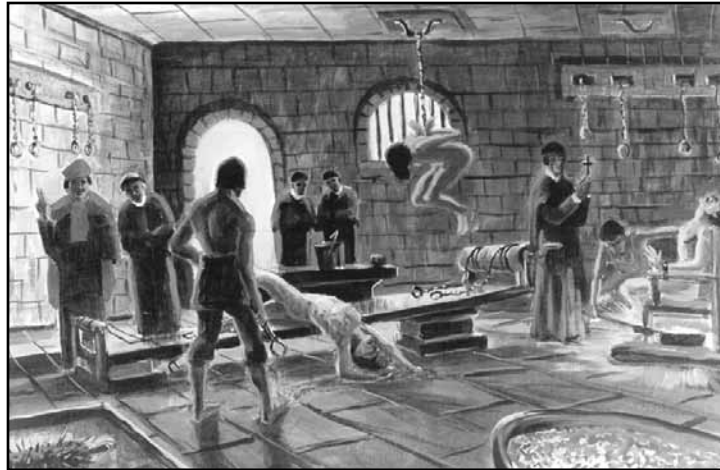
“The Fiery Trial”

Continued from 1
 burned such English Reformers as John Rogers, Hugh Latimer, Thomas Cranmer, and Nicholas Ridley. As Ridley was being chained to the stake, he said to his executioner, “Good fellow, knock heavy and hard (referring to the staple that held the chain to the stake), for the flesh will have its course!” He was burned along with Hugh Latimer, and when the faggots were lit, Latimer said to Ridley, “Be of good comfort, Mr. Ridley, and play the man! We shall this day *light such a candle*, by God’s grace in England, as I trust shall never be put out.”

When Peter talks about “**the fiery trial**,” that’s what he’s talking about. Don’t think that man has progressed up Darwin’s ladder “from puddle to paradise” one inch since the Dark Ages. The same thing happens *today* in the right circumstances. Many converted Hindu pastors over in India have been burned alive in the last few years (2009–2011). As far back as 1999, a missionary named Graham Staines was burned alive in his car, along with his two sons, by Hindu radicals. *That wasn’t in the Dark Ages.* That happened long after World War II, at the end of the Twentieth Century.

That is Simon Peter’s “**fiery trial**”; it is applicable to any child of God in any century. Of course, if it doesn’t happen, then thank God and serve Jesus Christ in freedom and peace *while you have a chance*, but realize that that is not the “norm” for the Christian life. It is *abnormal*; it is the *exception* to the rule. The rule is: “**all that live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution**” (2 Tim. 3:12).

Nobody makes it through this life without trouble. Some troubles are pretty bad and some are *terrible*. One of our graduates, Evangelist Sam



Gipp, broke his neck while he was down here in school, and the doctors didn’t diagnose his problem correctly. As a result, Bro. Gipp has suffered with pain every day of his life since, which at the time of this writing has been nearly *31 years*.

There used to be a guy over at my church at Brent named Don Baker. Back in the 60s, he was driving one of those little compact cars and was in an accident. The car flipped over on him, and he ended up paralyzed and in a wheelchair for the rest of his life. He had very little funds to take care of his wife and two young boys. Those teenage boys had to go to work to support their family while other young men were playing sports, dating, and running around having a good time.

Over at the Brent Baptist Church there was a family named Shell. They lost their teenage boy in a horrible car wreck. The body of that boy was so badly mangled that his funeral had to be “closed coffin.” Brethren, there are some people in this world who have some *real* problems, did you know that? Christians aren’t exempt.

When these trials and tribulations come your way, don’t be shocked. The tendency will be to walk around in a daze, wondering what hap-

pened to you. The Lord *may* show you why it happened, and then again, He *may not*. The “why” is not the important thing. What is important in a situation like that is how you react to it.

You might say, “Oh, I would never blame God; the Devil is doing this to me.” That may be

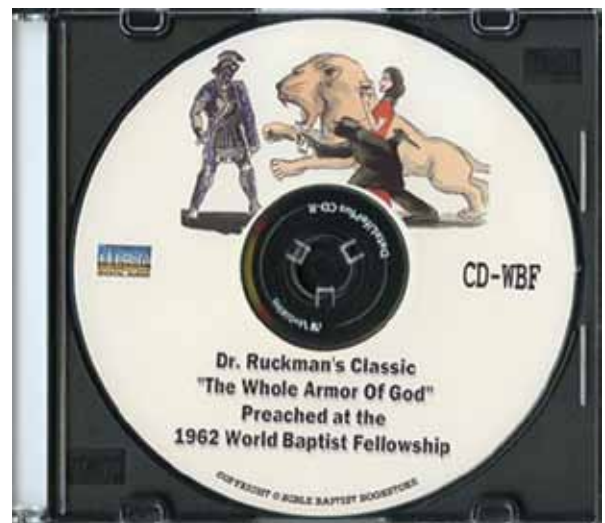
partly true, but remember, the Devil can’t do anything to you unless *God* gives him permission (Job 1–2).

When Satan comes after you, *God* is letting him do it for a *reason*. When “**time and chance**” happen to a Christian (Eccl. 9:11), it is the *Lord* who allows those things to go on so He can accomplish His purposes. I am not too strong of a Calvinist or a fatalist in these matters. I don’t think *God causes* everything that happens to you, but I do think He *allows* everything. When He does, the Lord has a *reason*. There is no such thing as “luck” or “chance” or “accident” with the born-again child of God.

Our job is to get close to Christ. If we need to get right about something, we should get right. If we need to sur-

Continued on 10

The Whole Armor of God



Preached at the 1962 World Baptist Fellowship

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Discrimination, the Key to Sanity

Continued from 1
 minor children have; which, of course, we do not. Nevertheless, let us just see what would happen if we were as "militant" and "activist" as the deadbeat Socialists and Communist College students in the "Occupy" movement.

First, we would accuse all Catholic Priests, all sex perverts, all public school teachers, and all Federal judges of "Bibliophobia": an unreasoning, prejudicial fear of words printed in a Book. This remarkable irrational obsession is now so gross among these bigoted groups that they cannot tolerate, let alone "accept," even half a page of the Book posted on the wall of a school hallway, locker room, classroom, or office. They will even object to a copy of that Book being publicly displayed on a desk, even if it is never opened or read.

Next, we would demand that these paranoid "Bibliophobiacs" (rockers, dope heads, pornographers, butches, dykes, sodomites, etc.) "accept" us. That means we can carry and display and read the Book publicly and openly without fear of shame or ridicule, and we can have anyone who won't tolerate us arrested, fined, and put through "sensitivity training" (in this case, *Bible classes*) to understand how we "feel." If these radical, fanatical, left-wing religious maniacs have a right to make us accept them, then bless God, we have a right to force them to accept us.

But not only do they have to accept us, they have to *promote* our "lifestyle." I mean, if they can distribute condoms in the public schools, then why can't we distribute *King James* Bibles there as well? You believe in no discrimination, right? No prejudice, right? "Equal rights," isn't that it? Isn't

that what you people are all about? Then if you have the right to put your hope in "rubbers," teaching kids how to commit sodomy and bestiality in "sex education," African jungle music, and teaching children they came from animals, we certainly have the right to put our hope in God and the Bible. If you can push your hope in the classroom, then under "equal access" and "affirmative action" and "fairness," we surely can push ours, can't we? "Even Steven." Square deal, neighbor.

If the kids have to listen to rock music in gym classes and rhythm classes, then certainly you unprejudiced, "broadminded," "tolerant" humanists can play a song by Charlie Fuller's Old Fashion Revival Hour quartet or Theodore Epp's Back to the Bible broadcast choir. I mean, you do believe in equal treatment and "multi-

culturalism," don't you? You wouldn't be playing favorites, would you? If blacks are the same as whites and Japanese are the same as Mexicans and males are the same as females and sexual deviants are the same as normal folk, then surely there couldn't be any difference between the latest rock hit and, say, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" or "Our Great Saviour," could there?

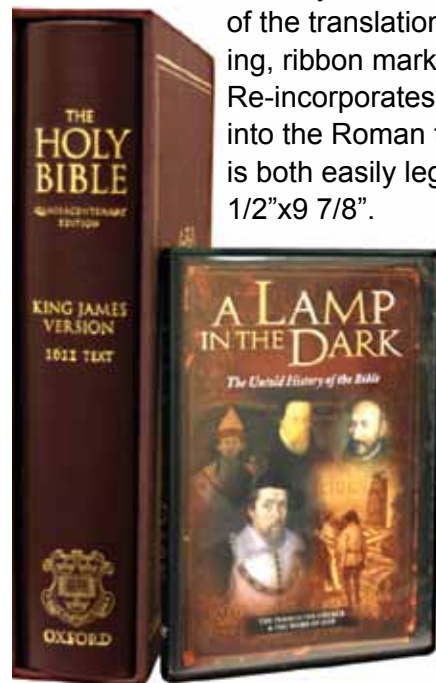
Sure, man; just as "right as rain"!

And finally, to be "constitutional," we would insist that every teacher in the NEA who quotes a "monkey man" to prove evolution (e.g., Einstein, Planck, Hawking, Darwin, Huxley, Leakey, et al.) must follow through with "affirmative action" for the "minority" in the classroom who think that evolution is a fanatical religion, and read at least ten verses written by Mo-

ses, David, Isaiah, Matthew, Mark, John, or Paul that show that the theory of evolution is a lot of bunk. After all, it isn't right to present just one theory of origins, is it? Isn't that what Clarence Darrow argued for the ACLU at the Scopes Monkey Trial? Sure, man. You wouldn't want to be prejudiced to just one side, would you?

Don't kid me, sonny; I wasn't born yesterday or the day before. Modern educators, legislators, and government bureaucrats are so crooked that they have to screw their socks on in the morning. They practice discrimination 24 hours a day. The NEA, EPA, ACLU, and Federal judges are so narrowminded that a flea could sit on the bridge of their noses and kick them in both eyes at the same time. The members of the NAACP and "Southern Christian
 Continued on 9

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Repentance

Continued from 1 comes before forgiveness: the Gospel message is “**repentance**” *first*, and *then* “**remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations**” (Luke 24:47).

God’s goodness leads a sinner to repentance (Rom. 2:4). Repentance brings mercy and pardon from God (Isa. 55:7). Heaven rejoices when a sinner repents (Luke 15:7). And if the Lord didn’t love you, He wouldn’t tell you to repent (Rev. 3:19).

It’s amazing that with such an emphasis laid on the doctrine, that you don’t hear preachers preaching much about it. When was the last time you heard a preacher preach on repentance to any TV or radio audience, or to any big church congregation?

If you want to know what repentance is *not*, just check out the following list of subjects, preached all the time to

modern congregations, which have absolutely nothing to do with *repentance*.

1. “Sharing Christ’s love.”
2. Learning to “live with yourself.”
3. Resolving conflict, stress, and “tensions.”
4. “Reaching out and touching others.”
5. Having faith in *yourself*.
6. “Coping” with others.
7. “Realizing your *potential*.”
8. “Promise keeping.”
9. Changing your “lifestyle.”
10. Getting a “purpose-driven life.”
11. Banishing all *negative thoughts*.
12. Feeling *good* about *yourself*.

None of that is repentance; it is *amateur psychology*. Those are not even Bible subjects. All twelve of those things teach you to *think* about YOURSELF, *talk* about YOURSELF, and *guide* and

lead YOURSELF. They major in *self* analysis, *self*-respect, and *self*-love.

All those things are on how to win and make friends of egomaniacs who think about themselves 24 hours a day. All those types of sermons do is teach Christians how to deny the cross and fall in love with themselves. American churches are stuffed full of them.

Well, then, if all that psychological drivel is not repentance, what is it? Basically, repentance means “to turn from” or having a change of heart, mind, or attitude about something. That’s what the Bible means when you read about God repenting of something (see Gen. 6:6; Jon. 3:10). When Moses tells God to “**repent**” in Exodus 32:12, he’s not telling the Lord to turn from His sin; he’s telling Him to change His mind about what He was about to do to the children of Israel.

Of course, there are some things of which God will never repent because they are *fixed* (Num. 23:19). When God swears by Himself (see Heb. 6:13), there is no “**shadow of turning**” on the subject (cf. James 1:17). But there are many things in the Scriptures where God will change His mind about a thing depending on whether *man* repents or not (e.g., see Jer. 22:3–5).

“Evangelical” repentance (i.e., *Gospel* repentance) is turning *from* sin and *to* God. It is not merely *sorrow for sin*. Paul wrote to the Corinthians:

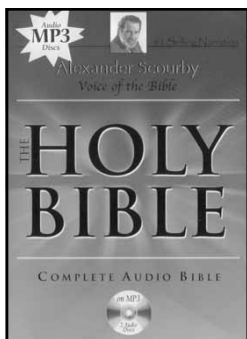
“Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner . . . For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death” (2 Cor. 7:9–10).

There is many a sinner who
Continued on 8

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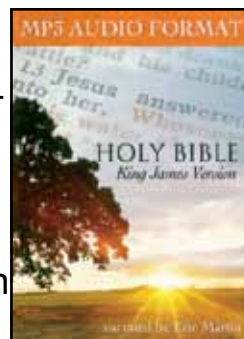
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A Critique Of

The New International Version

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

The latest Athenian gimmick for those who want “to tell, or to hear some new thing” (Acts 17:21) is the *NIV*, an Alexandrian publication that lines up with the *Jesuit, Rheims, Dark Age, Catholic Bible* of 1582. Naturally the Roman Catholic Soviets have approved of it and will “go along” with its printing, provided it includes the seven spurious Alexandrian books known as *The Apocrypha*.

The reason for the success of this apostate trash is clear. It used the catch word “INTERNATIONAL,” which is the Communist nomenclature these days for “all getting together.” Nationalism is out. Hence the word “American” (*ASV, NASV*) can’t quite “cut the mustard,” (as they said back in the fifties). “*International*” has an aura of Popes, Politburo, CFR, United Nations, and the “brotherhood of man” about it that sells good these days. Although the *NIV* is still short of about 300,000,000 sales to match the *AV* (closer to 500,000,000), it has in recent years been able to keep up with contemporary *AV* sales. To match the *AV*, the *NIV* will have to distribute 809,000,000 copies, which it certainly will not do, even with the backing of fifty thousand scholars, a thousand universities, good press, publicity stunts, and the Roman Curia.

Why does the child of God reject this corrupt translation? Well, there are a number of excellent reasons, and three of them are absolutely final. To begin with, the translation makes a liar out of God in three places. I called this to the attention of the head of the translating committee in a debate in Fort Myers, Florida, in the winter of 1997. He had no answer, no rebuttal, and refused to even discuss the verses.

They are Mark 1:2, Matthew 5:22, and Luke 23:42. In the first instance, Isaiah did NOT give the quotation, as the *NIV* falsely claims: it is from *Malachi*. In the second instance, Christ was never in danger of

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“Thy Kingdom Come”

Continued from 2
 poned in Matthew 13 and put into mystery form (“**the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven**”—Matt. 13:11) because those Jews wouldn’t receive their King (John 1:11 cf. Matt. 13:14–15). The leaders of the nation *flatly rejected* that kingdom in Acts 7.

Because of that, the Lord told them this: “**the kingdom of GOD** [get that; it’s the *spiritual* kingdom, *not* the *physical* one] **shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof**” (Matt. 21:43). Immediately, two religious groups popped up pretending that when God put Israel “on the shelf,” that He chose *them* to take its place. Both of them claimed to be *religions* and *political States* at the same time. They were both *theocracies*, like Israel: *Church-States*.

The first was the *Vatican State*, which claimed its church, the *Roman Catholic Church*, got all the promises made to *Israel* in the Old Testament in a *spiritual* fashion instead of a physical one. All the Popes claim they got the *spiritual* Kingdom of God, but of course, what the Vatican set up was a *political State* which has been involved in *international politics* for over fourteen centuries. It deals with *nothing but “meat and drink”* (cf. Rom. 14:17) every Sunday morning at 11:00. Its whole purpose is to replace the Jewish theocracy of the Old Testament with a Roman Catholic theocracy found nowhere in the New Testament.

The Roman Catholic Church created a kingdom that has nothing to do with the Kingdom of God at all. As a matter of fact, throughout its history, the Catholic Church has been responsible for murdering thousands of

saved people who had been baptized by the Holy Ghost into the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13). It is the “**Holy Ghost**” who deals with the *spiritual* “**kingdom of God**” (Rom. 14:17), not the physical Kingdom of Heaven.

There is no physical Kingdom of Heaven from Acts 7 to Revelation 19. That kingdom only comes when “**the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his**

Christ” (Rev. 11:15), and that doesn’t take place until Jesus Christ returns in power in Revelation 19 (cf. Rev. 20:4–6; Zech. 14). The “**King of the Jews**” (see Matt. 2:2) comes back as the “**KING OF KINGS**” (Rev. 19:16) to

put down His enemies (Psa. 110) so He can rule as “**king over all the earth**” (Zech. 14:9). Next month, we will take up the second group that claims to have replaced Israel as the recipients of the Kingdom of God.

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Ich schreibe dieses Zeugnis um Euch zu erklären was mit mir geschehen ist als ich Jesus Christus als meinen persönlichen Erlöser angenommen habe.
 Wir haben öfter mal versucht darüber zu reden, aber irgendwie haben wir uns nie ruhig darüber unterhalten können.
 Ja, mein Leben hat sich am 3. November 1973 geändert, aber nicht weil ich ein besserer Mensch geworden bin, sondern weil Jesus Christus in mein Leben gekommen ist.
 Ich weiß, daß ich ein ewiger Sünder bin und nichts Gutes von Gott verdient habe. Ich war auf dem Weg zur Hölle. Mein Gewissen hatte mir oft gesagt, daß meine Lebensweise falsch war, aber ich habe dann immer wieder getrunken um alles zu vergessen. Aber die

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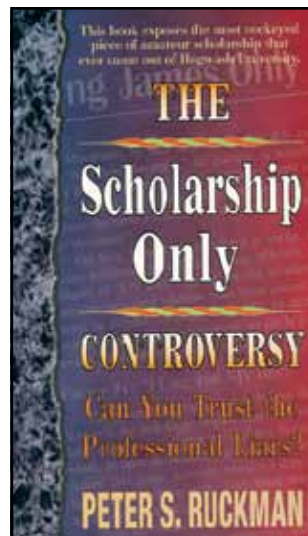
This tract is titled *Mein Zeugnis Von Jesus Christus Meinem Erlöser Und Herrn*. This means “My Testimony from (or about) Jesus Christ, My Redeemer and Lord.” This tract is in German or English. This is one of the best you can get.

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The Great Plumbline

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

As this age comes to a conclusion and the UN prepares to receive the Antichrist as the world's ruler, the religious picture gets more confused by the minute until, at last, it is simply unintelligible. Right now, you have a Roman Catholic Pope swearing that he and Mohammed both worship the same god.

To get into his official position as the Catholics' "Holy Father," the Pope had to swear by the decrees of the most holy Council of Trent (the "Tridentine Confession") that all Mohammedans were *cursed* ("anathema"). For nearly 200 years (A.D. 1095–1270), the Catholic Church carried on the Crusades with the teaching that if a Crusader were killed in combat, he would go straight to Heaven. The Catholic Church was teaching that while at the same time its opponents (the Moslems) were teaching their soldiers the exact same thing. Now both sides are getting along just like Herod and Pilate got along when the issue of Jesus Christ came up (Luke 23:12).

I have pictures of the current Pope (Benedict XVI) kissing a *Koran*. The book he is kissing declares he must be *killed* because the entire world must worship *Allah* and *nobody else*. Everyone who doesn't worship Mohammed's moon god must be *eliminated*; that would include the *entire Catholic Church* with its "Fathers," Priests, Nuns, Monks, Bishops, and confirmed members.

America is just as screwed up religiously as the Vatican. The former President Bush said that Islam is a "religion of peace," when it is, by far, the most warlike, murderous, assassinating religion ever invented by man. Anyone could tell that if they actually *read* the "*Noble Koran*" or the "*Holy Hadith*."

The American government has been taking your money for about two years now and sending it overseas to Moslem countries to *restore mosques*. You don't see your State Department building Baptist churches or Jewish synagogues anywhere in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, Indonesia, Ethiopia, Egypt, Turkey, Syria, or anyplace else. All this big controversy over the "Ground Zero mosque" in downtown New York! All the liberal Democrats suddenly started talking about "religious liberty." Did you know there was a Greek Orthodox church destroyed in that bombing, and the government has done nothing but come up with regulation after regulation to stop that church from being rebuilt? A museum was put up to honor the religions of the people who died when the towers came down, and the only symbol that was *not* allowed in the exhibit was a *Christian cross*.

Now why is that? Because no Mohammedan ever believed in tolerating other religions. When you find one that does, he's simply a bystander who doesn't want to get involved, so he'll *lie* about what he believes and what his religion teaches.

Now that is just a sampling of the religious muddle you're in. The Canadian and American governments are actually arresting preachers now for preaching Romans 1 and Genesis 18–19; that is, ministers are being arrested for *preaching the Book God called them to preach*. The faggots and queers and butches and dykes are a "protected class" that are beyond the criticism of even God Almighty.

Now in the midst of all this religious mess, you should consider a great passage back in the Old Testament.

"And the LORD said

unto me, Amos, What seest thou? And I said, A PLUMBLINE. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a PLUMBLINE in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more" (Amos 7:8).

A "**plumbline**" is a string with a "plumbbob" (a tear-dropped piece of metal) at the end with the tip of the metal pointing down. It is still used by all masons and carpenters. The idea behind it is very simple: you cannot build anything straight *vertically* unless you begin at the *top*. I had better say that again so you'll get the point: "you cannot build anything *straight* vertically unless you begin at the *TOP*. That means you can never go the

strait way up to Heaven (see Matt. 7:13–14) by beginning at the *bottom* and climbing up.

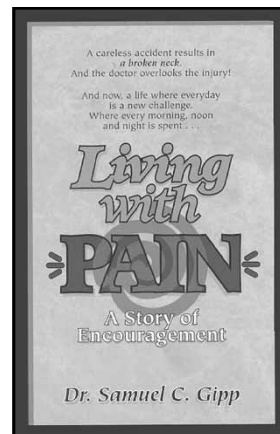
Throwing a plumbline into the air with a plumbline attached to it and trying to build even with the line before it falls to the ground is like trying to get to Heaven by taking the sacraments, observing Ramadan, living by the Golden Rule, praying five times a day and reciting the Shahada, etc. All religions begin at the ground level and work up; that's why *none* of them will ever get you to Heaven. That would be Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Hinduism, Mohammedanism, Judaism, and Catholic, Greek Orthodox, and Protestant "Christianity."

Continued on 12

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Discrimination, the Key to Sanity

Continued from 4
 Leadership Conference” are so narrowminded that when they cry, tears run down their backs.

Listen, the most prejudiced, vicious, narrowminded, paranoid bigots on the face of this earth are the people who believe in and promote race-mixing, pornography, sex education, evolution, a one-world government, women over men, children over parents, and criminals over law enforcement. Any teacher who gives biased and preferential treatment to William Glasser, Dr. Spock, William James, Mary Calderone, Bertrand Russell, Giovanni Gentile, Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela, Yasser Arafat, John Dewey, or Jesse Jack is guilty of RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION against Isaiah, Moses, David, Peter, James, John, Paul, and Matthew.

You can see the case exactly as we've stated it in these three articles: *no man* is unprejudiced; *all men* discriminate. The most prejudiced bigots in the lot are the ones who are now calling the shots: the news media backed up by the NEA, IRS, HRS, ACLU, and the Federal judges. *They* are the most vicious offenders in the lot. They are more afraid of *one Book* than they are of divorce, deviancy, drunkenness, abortion, poverty, ignorance, war, syphilis, gonorrhea, AIDS, sin, death, Hell, or the judgment. They are lopsided Bibliophobiacs, diseased from head to foot.

When these diseased “do-gooders” abandoned their prejudices against women wrestlers and female infantrymen, they took a prejudiced stand against all the books in the New Testament. This discrimination was so blatant that they had to censor the Book so no

one could find out how bigoted they really were.

When they got rid of their prejudices against queers, sodomites, Lesbians, butches, and dykes, they made it illegal for Moses and Paul to give a conflicting opinion. They don't tolerate the views of any man who doesn't take their position.

When they decided that blacks should be given preferential treatment over whites, and that criminals should be given an edge over the police, they became so prejudiced against Solomon (Proverbs) and Isaiah that they had to ban them from saying one word at a public function. The blacks and criminals could say anything they wanted, but Isaiah and Solomon were censored.

You can hear every four-letter word in the vocabulary of filth spoken day and night on TV, in courtrooms and Federal buildings, in locker rooms, in military barracks

and the drill field; but you cannot hear the name of Jesus Christ at a high school graduation unless it is used as a cuss word. That is the “meat” of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; that is the fruit of thinking it was constitutional or even *sane*.

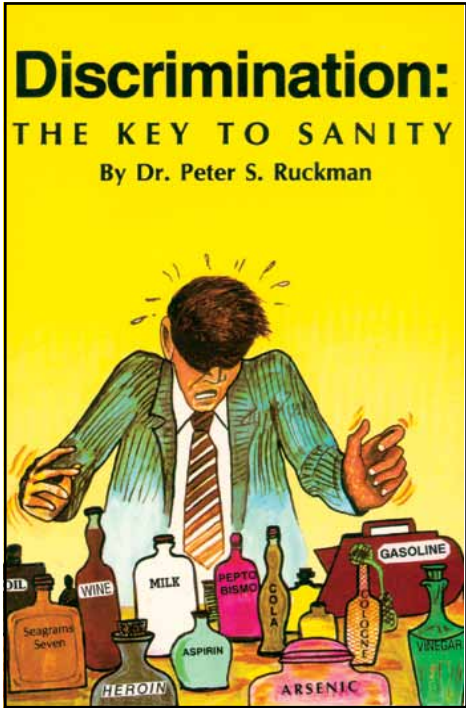
When these fascist, bigoted, dogmatic censors allowed children to disobey and back talk their parents without fear of any physical punishment, they threw Leviticus, Deuteronomy, and Proverbs out the window. Moses and Solomon were not allowed an opinion or “say so” in the matter. The summation of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 is 100% censorship of the Book and 100% liberty and license for anyone opposing it.

We Bible believers do not *want* to be “accepted” by such people. I would no more accept such a brand of cowardly hypocrites than I would invite a fornicating, dope-headed scumbag like

John Lennon or Elvis Presley into my home as a guest. No *white, straight, male, Bible-believing Protestant* would want such vicious, intolerant Bibliophobiacs within a hundred yards of his property. You would be as sick as they are if you “accepted” any of them. That's why they all want to be “accepted”: they want to infect you with their illness.

Now this ends our series of articles on discrimination and Bibliophobia. The most discriminatory, narrowminded, intolerant, prejudiced bigots in the world are the Bibliophobiacs found in the NEA, the EPA, the ACLU, the NAACP, the Supreme Court, both houses of Congress, the faculties and staffs of Colleges and Universities, and every major news media outlet in the United States. I don't have to tell you where they are leading you; you already know and can see all too

Continued on 11



Discrimination:
THE KEY TO SANITY
By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

One word did the job for America; it had emotional appeal coupled with psychotic content. That word was “DISCRIMINATION.” It is the lever by which the lid was pried off the entire nation to let in the most immoral jungle culture that ever destroyed a nation.

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“The Fiery Trial”

Continued from 3
 render about a matter, we should surrender. It may be the Lord is trying to make sure we will get rewards in Heaven; we may be suffering as an example for others. I don't have all the answers to these things. What I can say for sure is that when the “fiery trial” comes, we need to be walking and talking with the “Fourth Man” in the fire (Dan. 3:25). The new “Bibles” change that verse so you will not look for Him when you go through “the fiery trial.”

The problem is that in 1 Peter 4:13, Simon Peter says you are to “rejoice” when you go through “the fiery trial.” That's the hard part. Some of us (and I include myself here) can take *some* suffering. Of course, we take it *grimly*, with a *grimace* on our face and our teeth *clenched*. But taking it with a *smile* and *rejoicing*, well, that's another story, isn't it? If we are taking reproach for the sake of our Saviour, then we *should be* “happy,” and according to that Bible, we *can be* “happy” (1 Pet. 4:14). But of course, *doing it* is something else!

I used to visit a woman in the nursing home named Mrs. Salter. She was bedridden for 25 years. I never saw that lady when she didn't have the *victory*. I would go into her room, and she would always yell, “Well, hello, Bro. Pete!” I would ask her, “Mrs. Salter, do you have the victory? Let me hear you say, ‘Praise the Lord.’” That sister would yell out, “Praise the Lord!” She said it louder than most Christians I've known who are in *good health*, sitting in a padded pew in an air-conditioned church.

I am not going to judge any Christian who is in constant pain. As I write this, I know a Christian in such terrible pain that if he committed suicide tomorrow, I wouldn't say anything about it—*not a word*. I

can understand any Christian who might “cave in” under that man's circumstances. I don't think I could take some of the things through which some of my brethren go. I will tell you this, though: the Lord can get you through whatever circumstance you are in.

Paul said, “**Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake**” (2 Cor. 12:9–10).

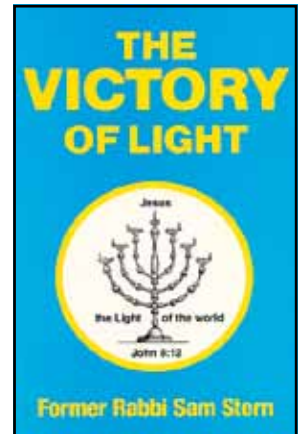
Beloved, if you are going through some terrible trial right now, all I can tell you is this: you can get through it with the Lord's help, and as you go through it, the Bible says that you *can* “rejoice” and that it is *possible* for you

to be “happy.” That rejoicing and happiness, though, are a choice *you* have to make; neither I nor anyone else can make it for you.

Now I'll give you a “break”; I would understand if you had some self-pity in such matters. But your Saviour went through far worse for you, and He was able to do it “for the joy that was set before him” (Heb. 12:2). We must all keep in mind that as we suffer, we should follow the “example” He laid down for us (1 Pet. 2:21).

Lester Roloff used to sing a song entitled “Hold on a Little Longer.” That's what we need to do: “hold on” until the Lord comes back or takes us home or else delivers us from the pain. We know it will be better when He takes us home to Heaven (whether in the

Continued on 13



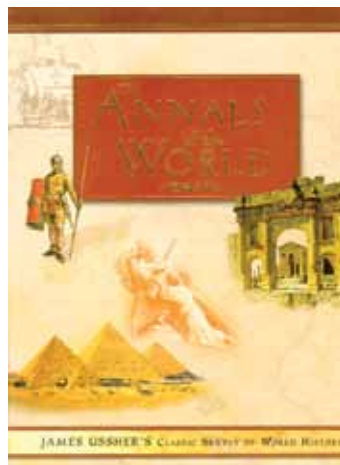
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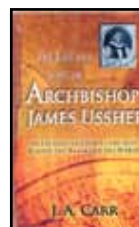
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Discrimination, the Key to Sanity

Continued from 9 clearly that you are well on the way there. I don't have to tell you what might happen, what is going to happen, and what you will see happen if the Lord tarries. You will see and learn the real meaning of the following passage:

"A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit . . . Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them" (Matt. 7:18, 20).

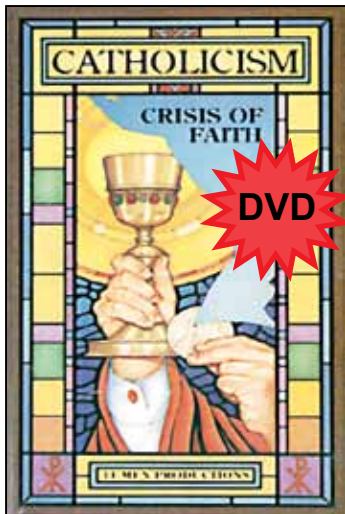
Every move to get rid of

discrimination that has been made by the government in the last hundred years has been a move *back to the African jungle via the rejection of the Holy Bible*. The loss of moral honesty also means the loss of two other invaluable qualities of mankind: *common sense and sanity*.

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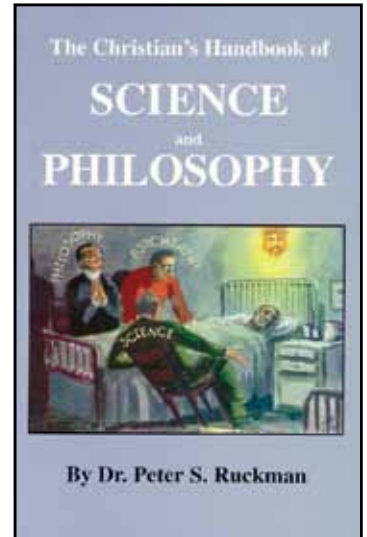
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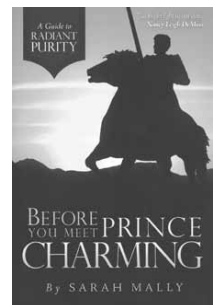
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The Great Plumbline

Continued from 7

Biblical salvation is the only so-called "religion" in the world that comes down from the *top*. When God gave the instructions for building the Tabernacle, He began with *Himself* at the Ark of the Covenant and worked His way out to the sinner at the Brazen Altar (Exod. 25:10). All the other religions stand in the mud of this sin-cursed world cracking their skulls by throwing the plumb-bob into the air.

The Lord said, "I'll set a plumbline in the midst of the people; *you* ain't gonna do nuthin'." And that shows you what very few people in this world notice: Biblical Christianity is the only religion on the face of this earth where you deal with a *person* instead of the religion itself.

Religions are what sinners do to try to earn righteousness in order to get to the "Happy Hunting Ground" or Valhalla or Paradise or Heaven or wherever they are trying to go when they die. Biblical Christianity is what somebody has *done* for the sinner to get him to Heaven. Biblical Christianity begins at the *top* with God.

Salvation begins at the throne of God and works its way down (see Exod. 25:10). If you could reverse the procedure and try working your way up from the bottom, you would be *thrown out* of Heaven *bodily by force* (see Matt. 22:13) for being a THIEF.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but CLIMBETH UP some other way, the same is a thief and a robber" (John 10:1).

The greatest "**plumbline**" God ever placed down on this earth was a *man* (1 Tim. 2:5). He said, "**I am the door . . . I am the good shepherd**" (John 10:7-14). He said He was "**the way**" to get to the

top (John 14:6). When the Plumbline showed up (Mal. 3:3), He settled forever the question about man's goodness and all his religions (John 15:22). To build even with that Plumbline, you would have to be *sinless* (Heb. 4:15), and you're *not*.

It's very easy to spot the Plumbline; He begins at the top with God and comes down to the sinner.

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand" (John 10:27-28).

He's the one who owns the sheep; *He's* the one who keeps the sheep. It's all about *Him*, not the sheep. Eternal life is a *free gift* from *Him*, just as you find it in the Pauline Epistles (Rom. 6:23 cf. Eph. 2:8-9; Tit. 3:5).

Notice that the promise is that His sheep will "**never perish**," even though every Roman Catholic creed before and after Vatican II says they can. The passage says, "**they shall never perish**," even though the Greek Orthodox, the Episcopalians, the Methodists, and the Charismatics said they could.

In 1970, the Roman Catholic "Knights of Columbus" swore that "there is no such thing as absolute certainty of salvation during this life." That is the exact position of Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism, Judaism, Confucianism, Shintoism, Mohammedanism, Zoroastrianism, Catholicism,

Protestantism, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, etc. The universal testimony of all religions put out by man is that Jesus Christ didn't know about what He was talking when He told His disciples what He told them in John 10:27-29. That means all the Bible-rejecting
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“The Fiery Trial”

Continued from 10 (Rapture or by death), so we should get in practice rejoicing *right now*.

The Holy Bible says, **“Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him GLORIFY God on this behalf”** (1 Pet. 4:16). The words **“glory”** and **“glorified”** popped up back in 1 Peter 4:13–14 as well. The idea is that a child of God should be able to rejoice and glorify God in his sufferings because he is looking for God’s **“glory”** to be **“revealed”** in his situation (1 Pet. 4:13). According to what the Book says, a Christian is able to thank God and rejoice for great suffering.

“Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (1 Thess. 5:16–18).

I wouldn’t think of saying that’s easy to do. *It wouldn’t be*. But the Christian is able to do it through the Holy Spirit, nevertheless (Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6).

In 1 Peter 4:16, we are told to **“glorify God”** when we suffer for the *right reason*. The glory of God is directly connected with our suffering for the sake of the Lord Jesus Christ, who Himself was **“a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief”** (Isa. 53:3).

There is nothing in the New Testament that promises a “rosy future” for any Christian in America if the Lord tarries. In the Church-States that the Moslems have put up by forcing Islam on local governments through whining, complaining, demonstrating, bribery, corruption, and *kill-ing* (all the while *professing* to be a “religion of peace”), the fiery trials have *already taken place*. If you listed all the Christian ministers and laymen whom the Moslems

have murdered in the Sudan, Iraq, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Egypt, Angola, etc., since 1940, it would come to well over 50,000. There are ten times as many “on deck” if Obama has his way. According to one of his schoolmates who was a Moslem, Obama’s desire while he is President is to *unite the Islamic nations*.

You are currently seeing a push from Obama’s White House to accept Sharia (Koranic) law in the United States. Under Sharia law, no Christian or Jew can build a new building for worship; if you go to a church that has been shut down by the Moslems, you are to be executed; all church buildings and synagogues can be confiscated whenever Moslem troops capture a city; any churches or synagogues the Moslems allow to operate must either pay a special tax to stay open (that no mosque does), or the congregations must convert to Islam. According to the two most “holy” books of Islam (the *Koran* and the *Hadith*), the religion of Mohammed is to take over the entire world by *armed force*, and to do it, the Moslems have to rid the world of every *Jew* who believes the Old Testament and every *Christian* who believes the New Testa-

ment. That’s the ultimate goal of Obama who proclaimed America to be the largest *Islamic* nation in the world, completely overriding the 85% of the population who profess Christianity and Judaism.

Such a religion can only produce a reoccurrence of the Roman Catholic Dark Ages. This time, though, instead of having a pious, educated, “civilized” barbarian killer in charge (like Pius XII, John XXIII, Paul VI, John Paul II, or Benedict XVI), you will have a fornicating, pederast, *uncivilized* barbarian killer in charge (Mohammed).

The Book tells every Bible believer on earth what to expect in the near future. You can read it in Isaiah 24, Jeremiah 25, Joel 2, Revelation 11–13, Daniel 11, and 2 Thesalonians 2. In the meanwhile, we are to **“suffer according to the will of God”** (1 Pet. 4:19) and **“endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ”** (2 Tim. 2:3), knowing that **“if we suffer, we shall also reign with him”** (2 Tim. 2:12).

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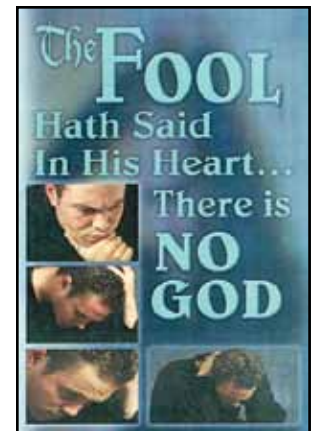
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Repentance

Continued from 8 **knowledging of the truth.**
 There is a great deal of difference between real repentance based on the Pauline Gospel of 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 and the Catholic, Campbellite repentance based on the Messianic message to Israel in Acts 2:38. In Acts 2, Peter is telling the *nation of Israel* (Acts 2:5, 14) to repent of their sin of *rejecting their Messiah* (Acts 2:22-23). He didn't say one word about a sinner repenting of the sins he had committed that were driving him to Hell without the righteousness of Christ's finished atonement. There is not one word in Peter's Acts 2 message about Jesus Christ dying for anyone's sins, and that is part of the New Testament Gospel as defined by the Apostle to the *Gentiles* (1 Cor. 15:3).

These "Water Dogs" who repent and are "BUPTized" for the forgiveness of sins don't repent **"to the acknowledging of the truth."** When Peter preached to the Gentiles for the first time in Acts 10, he was all ready to pull his Jewish formula from Acts 2 on Cornelius when the Lord interrupted him and showed that Acts 2:38 was no longer the way to receive the Holy Spirit (Act 10:44-45). In Acts 2, Simon Peter went by what he knew at the time, and that was right; but in Acts 10, God gave him additional information. *God changed the message.* **"The truth"** (2 Tim. 2:25) after Acts 10 is

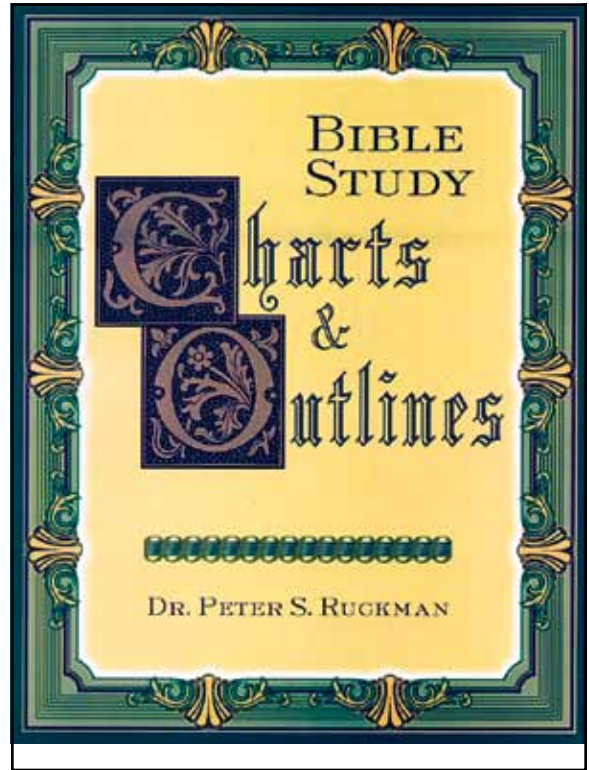
"repentance toward God, and FAITH TOWARD OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST" (Acts 20:21). If a preacher tells you to "repent, believe, confess, and be BUPTized" to be saved, mark it down, that is an unsaved "elder" trying to drag you down to Hell with himself, and he's using water to do it.

You receive forgiveness of sins through repentance and faith in Jesus' name (Acts 20:21, 10:43; Luke 24:47). Repentance is the work of the Holy Spirit who convicts of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8); and you **"receive the promise of the Spirit through FAITH"** (Gal. 3:14), *not water baptism.*

Moreover, repentance does not stop upon salvation. The command of God is that **"ALL MEN EVERYWHERE"** are **"to repent"** (Acts 17:30). *Nobody* is exempt, saved or lost. Of course, a Christian no longer has to repent for salvation, but he does have to repent to maintain fellowship with his Saviour. The Pauline Epistles are filled with commands for the believer to turn from his sins and do right to serve God (e.g., Eph. 4:21-32).

Repentance is *negative*; it means "quit it." Quit what? Quit your devilment; quit your meanness; quit your wickedness. Repent of your laziness in studying the word of God;
 Continued on 15

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Repentance

Continued from 14
 repent of your indifferences for souls and start trying to win people to Jesus Christ; repent of your cowardice in not telling the lost that they're headed for Hell. Repent!

Quit your drinking, quit your cussing, quit fouling up your lungs with cancer, quit telling dirty jokes. Turn from your sins; REPENT!

Repentance is a revolution of mind and attitude. It changes your views toward sin, righteousness, and the Scriptures. It teaches the Christian to hate sin and love the truth of God. It gets the prodigal out of the hogpen and away from the far country and back to the Father's house.

A redeemed sinner should never cease to be a penitent

sinner and should, from time to time, check up on himself. He should turn away from his individual sins, confess them, and judge them. He should turn again to God to stay in fellowship with Him.

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”
 (1 John 1:7-9).

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THE CREED OF THE ALEXANDRIAN CULT

1. There is **no final authority** but God.
2. Since God is a Spirit, there is **no final authority** that can be seen, heard, read, felt, or handled.
3. Since all books are material, there is **no book on this earth that is the final and absolute authority** on what is right and what is wrong, what constitutes truth and what constitutes error.
4. There **WAS** a series of writings one time which, **IF** they had all been put into a **BOOK** as soon as they were written the first time, **WOULD HAVE** constituted an infallible and final authority by which to judge truth and error.
5. However, this series of writings was lost, and the God who inspired them was **unable to preserve their content** through Bible-believing Christians at Antioch (Syria), where the first Bible teachers were (Acts 13:1), and where the first missionary trip originated (Acts 13:1-52), and where the word "*Christian*" originated (Acts 11:26).
6. So God chose to **ALMOST** preserve them through Gnostics and philosophers from Alexandria, Egypt, even though God called His Son **OUT** of Egypt (Matthew 2), Jacob **OUT** of Egypt (Genesis 49), Israel **OUT** of Egypt (Exodus 15), and Joseph's bones **OUT** of Egypt (Exodus 13).
7. So there are two streams of Bibles. The most accurate—though, of course, there is **no final, absolute authority** for determining truth and error; it is a matter of "preference"—are the Egyptian translations from Alexandria, Egypt, which are "almost the originals," although not quite.
8. The most **inaccurate translations** were those that brought about the German Reformation (Luther, Zwingli, Boehler, Zinzen-dorf, Spener, et al.) and the worldwide missionary movement of the English-speaking people: the Bible that Sunday, Torrey, Moody, Finney, Spurgeon, Whitefield, Wesley, and Chapman used.
9. But we can "tolerate" these if those who believe in them will "tolerate" US. After all, since there is **NO ABSOLUTE AND FINAL AUTHORITY** that anyone can read, teach, preach, or handle, the whole thing is a matter of "PREFERENCE." You may prefer what you prefer, and we will prefer what we prefer. Let us live in peace, and if we cannot agree on anything or everything, let us all agree on one thing: **THERE IS NO FINAL, ABSOLUTE, WRITTEN AUTHORITY OF GOD ANYWHERE ON THIS EARTH.**

This is the Creed of the Alexandrian Cult.

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The Great Plumbline

Continued from 12
reprobates in those religions considered *Peter* a liar (1 Pet. 1:4–5), *Paul* a liar (2 Tim. 1:12), and *John* a liar (1 John 5:13).

The official doctrinal beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church from A.D. 325–2012 exhibit this rejection of God’s Plumbline. No Catholic saint (like Mother Teresa or anyone like her) knew for certain where they were going when they died; and no Catholic Monk, Nun, Cardinal, Bishop, Archbishop, Priest, or Pope had assurance of salvation. None of them knew what Peter, John, or Paul knew about God’s Plumbline.

The Apostle to the Gentiles (Rom. 11:13), when writing to the Pope’s “flock” (Rom. 1:7—the Pope is supposed to be the “Bishop of Rome”), said that every one of them would end up *just like his Saviour*.

“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON” (Rom. 8:29).

According to the open, public confession of the Knights of Columbus, not one Roman Catholic through 1,686 years of church history believed the Holy Scriptures as any “early Christian” believed them. I just read you what the “early Christians” believed. Folks, the “early Christians” are in the book of Acts and in the Pauline and General Epistles; they aren’t the “Church Fathers” who professed to believe God’s Plumbline when they *rejected* the Bible, *corrected* the Bible, *allegorized away* the Bible, and *replaced* the Bible with stale, warmed-over Greek *philosophy*. That would be Cyprian, Clement, Papias, Augustine, Origen, Jerome, Tertullian, Ignatius,

Polycarp, Irenaeus, and Justin Martyr—not one of them believed what God’s Plumbline said in John 10:27–29.

One time, a preacher friend of mine here in Florida was dealing with a Holiness woman about salvation and eternal security. It was a heated discussion, with that Charismatic woman preacher trying her best to apply Hebrews 6:1–6, 10:26–30; Matthew 24:13; and Galatians 5:4 to born-again Christians in the Body of Christ. Finally, my buddy made her read Romans 8:29 out loud. That woman gave a loud in-suck of air and then practically yelled, “*Oh, I wish he hadn’t said that!*” So do the Pharisees, the Popes, and the Moslems.

Another of my ministerial buddies was preaching a revival meeting, and a Nazarene came in there and planted himself down in the “amen

corner” and lustily “amened” every point. My friend’s sermon was “Come See a Man” from John 4:29.

He came down through there with “Come see a *Healer*,” and that Nazarene shouted, “Amen!” “Come see a *Captain*”—“Amen! Hallelujah! Glory to God!” “Come see a *Shepherd*”—“Amen! That’s Him! He’s the Good Shepherd! Gloryeeee!”

And then my preacher friend finished up with: “Come see the One who gives His sheep eternal life and never lost a one of them (John 10:28, 17:12).” That did it! He didn’t get a holy grunt out of that shouting Nazarene. It was like a dark cloud had passed across that guy’s face. At heart, when it came to the “Plumbline,” that Nazarene was just like Mohammed and all the “Holy Fathers” in Rome back to A.D. 325.