



Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 38 No. 8

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

August 2014

The Lord's Navy

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

“Till we all come in the unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ” (Eph. 4:13).

The above verse is not very naval or nautical, but it is about a Christian growing in grace and knowledge (2 Pet. 3:18) until he reaches **“the stature of the fulness of Christ.”** I use the text here because life is like a sea voyage. One of the best illustrations in the Bible is found in Acts 27.

In Acts 27, Paul is on a ship headed for Rome, and the vessel is being driven through the Mediterranean by a storm. Paul had warned the crew ahead of time that the ship was going to wreck if they chanced a winter voyage, and they didn't believe him. Of course, Paul was right, and they sure enough got in a shipwreck. They ended up floating in to Malta **“on boards, and . . . broken pieces of the ship”** (Acts 27:44). They thought they were going to make the trip all the way safely, but they had trouble.

Life's like that. No matter how hard you try, you are going to run into trouble. Eventually your **“earthly house of this tabernacle”** is going to break up just like that ship in Acts 27 (2 Cor. 5:1). But the Lord has a “navy” that if you take ship on these vessels they will get you safely through the stormy

seas of life to Glory as **“a perfect man,”** a mature Christian who has reached **“the stature of the fulness of Christ.”** Without these “ships,” you are not going to grow into that state. So here are the ships that constitute the Lord's navy.

1. The *Lordship* of Christ. Jesus is Lord; He's the one in charge. He should have first place.

There used to be a bumpersticker that read: “God is my Copilot.” What does that make you? The pilot?! Let me off that plane! Jesus Christ has to be Lord.

When a Christian first gets saved, it is *the Lord* that consumes his thoughts. That's because at that point, the saved sinner is conscious of what his Saviour did for him in dying for his sins. But all too soon, the focus of the believer is diverted to his experience, then to other Christians, to separation, to doctrine, to all kinds of social issues, to leaders, etc. There's nothing wrong with any of those, but they

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The Lord's Navy

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shouldn't be first; *Christ is to be first*.

Doctrine is not Christ. Now you know me, I am all for sound doctrine, but doctrine is not Christ. If some special doctrine gets more emphasis than He does, you are off-center; you are off-balance. You can get hung up on leaders until you are more concerned about "Christian celebrities" than you are about the Lord (see Paul's comments on this in 1 Cor. 1:12–13). That Bible says, "**that in all things HE [i.e., Jesus Christ] might have the preeminence**" (Col. 1:18). The Lordship of Christ means that He should have the preeminent place in your life, and nothing is to come before Him.

2. The Lordship of Christ leads us to the next ship in the Lord's navy: *discipleship*. Discipleship is a heavy thing. Discipleship demands that you put Jesus Christ first before momma, daddy, brother, sister, and even your own life if you are going to follow Him (Luke 14:26). If you are going to be a disciple of Christ, you have to die to self (Luke 14:27). Not many Christians like those sort of things, but that is discipleship.

The word disciple comes from the word *discipline*. Discipline means *obeying orders*. It means *doing what you don't like to do*. That is how you develop character.

Discipleship is different from salvation. You don't have to give up anything to get saved except believing in yourself and your own goodness (Eph. 2:8–9; Tit. 3:5). Discipleship, though, is something else. Discipleship is *giving all* (Luke 14:33).

3. Another ship in the Lord's navy is a *hardship*. It's pulling a load you don't feel like pulling.

American Christians don't know much about hardship; certainly not like believers, say, in China, Indonesia, Sudan, or any country controlled by the Moslems or Communists. The Christians in those countries are languishing in gulags and "reeducation camps." In Moslem countries, their churches are burned down, and their limbs and heads are being cut off. Those Christians are enduring hardships, I kid you not.

American Christians don't know much about that sort of thing. Occasionally you will get someone like Lester Roloff who winds up in jail because he won't compromise the work of the Lord, but not often. I can tell you this, though: if you are ever going to reach "**the stature of the fulness of Christ**" you are going to have to suffer hardship. There's no getting around it.

4. Another ship is *fellowship*. I like the old hillbilly preacher's definition of fellowship: fellowship is two fellows in the same ship (see Amos 3:3). In your case, it is Jesus and you in the same ship.



Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

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Fellowship is the most important thing in your life as a Christian. I have said it before, and I will say it again, and will keep saying it until the Lord comes back: the most important thing in your life as a child of God is your fellowship with Jesus Christ. The Bible says, **“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”** (1 John 1:7).

Apostasy always begins with a Christian losing his fellowship with his Saviour. Whenever you see one of these big works go to pieces, it's because the leader (or leaders) have gotten out of fellowship with the Lord; they spent more time with the work than they did with their Lord and Saviour. That's why you can backslide going to Bible school: you can get so taken up with your work, your family, your studies, etc., that you let your time of fellowship with the Lord slide; and that's when you get in trouble. You have to take time to fellowship with the Lord. Don't run ahead and don't lag behind; walk *with* the Lord.

5. Then there is *friendship*. Jesus said, **“Henceforth I call you not servants . . . but I have called you friends”** (John 15:15).

Let me ask you this: what kind of friends do you have? I make it a point not to have one friend on this earth who doesn't love the Book; that includes members of my family. That Book says, **“evil communications corrupt good manners”** (1 Cor. 15:33). That means that those with whom you commune, your friends, will corrupt the good manner in which you try to serve the Lord. **“The friendship of the world is enmity with God”** (James 4:4). You can't be a friend with people who hate God and hate the Book and be a friend of God and Jesus Christ at the same time.

What criteria do you have for picking your friends? Their personality? What they can do for you? How they make you feel? Well, that is not how Christians are to do it. The friends you pick, do they love the Lord, do they love the Book, are they soulwinners, do they witness for Christ? That's the business. The friends you have should be the kind of friends *God* wants you to have. They should believe the right things from the Book; they should do what God wants them (and you) to do.

6. The next one is *workmanship*. Paul said, **“we are HIS [i.e., God's] workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works”** (Eph. 2:10). You are not saved *by* works (Eph. 2:8–9), but you are saved *to* work, and it is *God* who works in you toward that end.

Has God done any work on you? Do you have any mark of a chisel where He has chipped something away? Any sign where a hammer has knocked something off? Have you been shaped and molded on the potter's wheel? You are supposed to be **“his workmanship.”** There ought to be some indication that God has worked on you.

You are supposed to be a worker. Titus 2:14 says you, as a member of the Body of Christ, are to be **“a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”** Have you been working for your Lord?

7. The last ship about which I am going to talk is *stewardship*. Back in the old

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days, when ocean liners plied the seas, there was a man on the ship called the “steward” (it was never a woman like you have on airplanes today). When you boarded ship, you committed your valuables to the steward who made sure it was safe until you claimed it. The faithful steward made sure you got your valuables back. The Bible says, **“it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful”** (2 Cor. 4:2).

When you got saved, God made you a steward. One of the things Paul said you are a steward of is **“the mysteries of God”** (1 Cor. 4:1). I'll tell you something else of which you are a steward: Paul said every Christian has **“the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ”** as a treasure in an earthen vessel (2 Cor. 4:6–7). That's a valuable with which you have been entrusted as a steward, and your responsibility as a steward in that regard is to **“preach . . . Christ Jesus the Lord”** and His **“glorious gospel”** (2 Cor. 4:4–5).

You are like those servants in Luke 19:11–27 to whom the nobleman committed the pounds. You are to **“occupy”** until your Lord returns (Luke 19:13) and make a “profit” for Him in terms of souls saved. Do you give out the Gospel to anyone? It was the **“wicked servant”** who wrapped his master's pound up in a napkin and returned it to him with no profit (Luke 19:20–23). That's a picture of a Christian showing up at the Judgment Seat of Christ with nothing to show for the Gospel that was committed to him—no souls saved or even attempts to put out the Gospel. I mean, you know the danger sinners face, and you know what it takes to save them from that danger, and you never warn them? That's not being a good steward.

When the Titanic went down, there was a Baptist preacher on board named John Harper who had been traveling from Scotland to America to preach at Moody Bible Institute. When the ship went down, Harper was swimming to the people in the water who were screaming and crying and freezing to death, and he was witnessing to them and trying to lead them to Christ before hypothermia took their lives.

Harper witnessed to one young man who had managed to climb up on a piece of debris. He tried leading that kid to Christ, and the fellow turned the Lord down. Harper gave the young man his life jacket and said, “Here then, you need this more than I do”; then he swam away to lead someone else to Christ.

Harper returned to that young man, and this time the kid got saved. Well, that fellow was one of only six survivors who were rescued later on. When he gave his testimony, that kid said the last thing he heard Harper say before he sunk beneath the freezing waters of the North Atlantic was: **“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved”** (Acts 16:31). Do you know why Harper did that? *Because he was a good steward.*

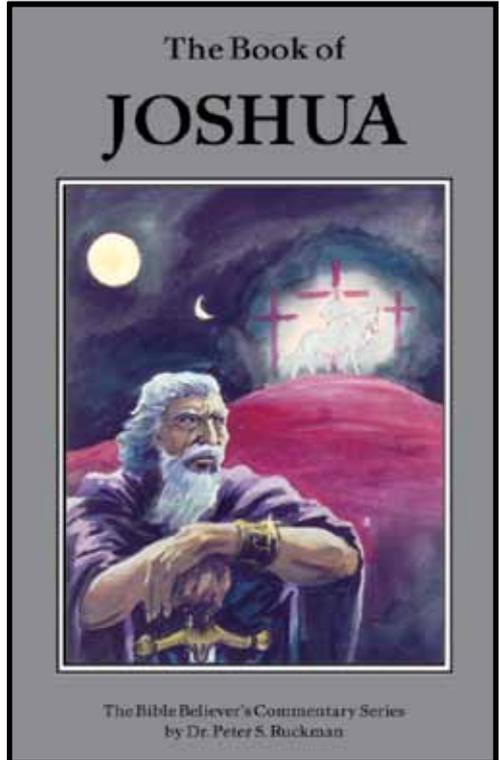
That's the Lord's navy: Lordship, discipleship, hardship, fellowship, friendship, workmanship, and stewardship.

NEW COMMENTARY

A commentary based on Dr. Ruckman's Sunday school classes on the first of the historical books of the Old Testament. It deals with the historical accuracy of the conquest of Canaan under Israel's greatest General and the miracles associated with it. Special attention is given to the prophetic application of the book to the Second Advent and to the practical applications that can be made

to the Christian's spiritual warfare against the world, the flesh, and the Devil. The geography of the book is tied in to associated events in the rest of the Old Testament, with a map at the end to help the reader locate the major cities in Joshua, as well as the division of the tribes in the land.

(Plus postage—see page 18)



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The Work of the Chameleon

By Brian Donovan

Two of the most important claims of the Roman Catholic Church, besides being the church that Christ founded, are the claims of immutability and infallibility. The claim of immutability is that, from the time of Christ, she has always believed the same doctrines without change. The Council of Trent (1546) professed that their decrees were based on unchangeable doctrines from the time of Christ. The claim of infallibility is that she is guided by the Holy Spirit and therefore without doctrinal error.

On top of these two is the claim of being founded by Christ in A.D. 33. This claim is often used to refute any Protestant, since the Protestant movement took place in the 1500s. After all, if your Protestant church was not started until the Reformation, how can it be the one Christ founded? And if there are so many different Protestant churches around with so many different beliefs, then obviously the Roman Catholic Church must be the right one, since she has been around without change since the time of Christ.

Only someone completely ignorant of the Bible and anti-church history could be duped by such statements. These are the similar kinds of arguments used by the Moslems in pointing out all the different religions among "Christians," and all their different "Bibles," versus the never-changed, immutable *Koran*.

The Romish whore of Revelation 17, with her "**golden cup**" (vs. 4), "**purple and scarlet**" attire (vs. 4), "**precious stones and pearls**" (vs. 4), and responsibility for killing Christians (vs. 6), makes the fraudulent claim that she has always taught the same truths that can be validated by the scripture and unanimously consented to by the Catholic "Church Fathers." This lie was given at the First Vatican Council of 1869–1870, headed by Pio Nono (alias Pius IX). This lying council stated a number of beliefs, including papal infallibility, absolute authority of the Roman pontiff, and submission to this Roman pontiff as necessary for salvation, as teachings that are not only found in scripture, but always agreed upon by unanimous consent of the Church Fathers. Of course, they were lying as much as the Council of Trent bishops did back in 1546, who stated that their decrees were always believed by the Church Fathers throughout history.

These lies were repeated by the Vatican Council II of the 1960's as they also ratified every decree of the two previously mentioned councils. Both the Council of Trent and Vatican II decreed that if anyone did not believe their statements, they were anathema (damned). The Roman Catholic Church counts on their members remaining ignorant of their history, of their church's changing teachings, and especially of the Bible itself. We will now look at some of the color changes of this chameleon as she is led by her "**father the devil**" (John 8:44) upon whom she rides (Rev. 17:3).

THE CANON OF SCRIPTURE—In 1546, the Council of Trent declared that the faithful must believe that the Old Testament contains 46 books, which includes the seven apocryphal books, under threat of the damnation of their

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souls. Remember that neither Vatican I (1869–1870) nor Vatican II (opened in 1962 under Angelo Roncalli—alias Pope John XXIII—and closed in 1965 under Giovanni Baptiste Montini—alias Pope Paul VI) ever negated anything decreed by the Trent Council, meaning Roman Catholics today are still under the curses pronounced by them. Roman Catholics are taught that these are the same “age-old teachings” the church has always believed and that Trent was merely repeating what all the Church Fathers have always followed. These same “revered fathers” who met at Trent fought feverishly over their decrees, with beards being pulled and punches being thrown as they tried to enforce their differing opinions. They did not even have “unanimous consent” among themselves, let alone throughout history.

Looking back in history, what did the “Church Fathers” believe? Cyprian (A.D. 250), a canonized saint of the Roman Catholic Church, rejected all seven apocryphal books. Hilary (A.D. 350), a canonized saint and one of only 33 celebrated “Doctors” of the Roman Catholic Church, also rejected all seven apocryphal books. Only a Pope can confer the title of Doctor on a saint, and it is bestowed on those who make “significant contributions to understanding and interpretation of scripture.” Jerome (A.D. 400), another “Doctor” of the Roman Catholic Church and translator of the Latin Vulgate, rejected the apocryphal books and stuck with the Jewish canon for the Old Testament. This means the Council of Trent not only lied about the “unanimous consent” of the fathers, they damned their own saints and church “Doctors” (Hillary and Jerome). When the Jesuit Cardinal Bellarmine (A.D. 1600) had this pointed out to him, he could not deny the historical facts and instead answered: “It was no sin or heresy in them to reject these books because no general council in their days had decreed anything touching them.” That is a cute answer, but Trent claimed to be decreeing what the Roman Catholic Church had always believed.

The Roman Catholic Church has always wished to keep their subjects in the dark, most especially in regards to the holy scriptures. A Roman Catholic catechism book claims, “In our times, the Second Vatican Council repeats the age-old exhortation of the Roman Catholic Church, urging all to read and study the sacred scriptures.” Perhaps the catechism (with the imprimatur of the Roman Catholic hierarchy) missed the Council of Toulouse in 1229, which decreed: “we forbid also the permitting of the laity to have the books of the Old and New Testament . . . we most strictly forbid them to have them in the vulgar tongue.” Or perhaps they also missed the cardinals’ advice to Francesco Piccolomini (alias Pope Pius III) in 1503, when they said, “Of all the advice that we can offer your Holiness, we must open your eyes well and use all possible force in the matter, namely, to permit the reading of the gospel as little as possible in all the countries under your jurisdiction. Let the very little part of the gospel suffice which is usually read in the Mass, and let no one be permitted to read more. So long as the people will want to read more, your

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interest will fail. The Bible is the book, which more than any other, has raised against us the tumults and tempests by which we have almost perished. In fact, if one compares the teaching of the Bible with what takes place in our churches, he will soon find discord, and will realize that our teachings are often different from the Bible, and oftener still, contrary to it" (Folio #1068, Vol. 2, pgs. 650–651 found in the Library of Paris). This kind of duplicity caused Tyndale to say to a Roman Catholic, "I defy the Pope and all his laws. If God spare my life, I will cause the boy that driveth the plow to know more of the scriptures than thou dost."

SUPREMACY OF THE BISHOP IN ROME—When a bishop in Rome tried to interfere in a dispute in North Africa, Cyprian (the same saint who rejected the Apocrypha) denied the Roman any authority in the matter. In A.D. 415, a council of over sixty bishops convened in Melevi (including Augustine, another Roman Catholic "saint and Doctor") and refused any bishop to have authority over any area outside his own. This was 400 years after Peter being the "first pope." The beginning of an enforced papacy began in A.D. 607 (coincidentally the same year for the beginning of the killer rule of another devil-possessed maniac named Mohammed) when a pact was made between Phocas, the Roman emperor, and Boniface, the universal bishop, to recognize each other's positions. In A.D. 1073, Gregory VII declared only the bishop in Rome could use the title of pope. Before this, many bishops were called "pope" or "papa" by the Italians.

The hilariously funny paper called the "Annuario Pontifico" gives the official sequence of the Roman popes, and must admit that there is not a John XX. This is partly due to the fact that one of the John's of this time turned out to be a Joan, and partly due to the fact that one of the John's was an antipope. Pope John XXI took the number knowing that the last one was only XIX, so that the woman might be forgotten. Then it turned out he was the one forgotten, as the wing of the papal palace he was building fell on him while he slept.

In 1870, Giovanni Mastai-Ferretti (alias Pope Pius IX) declared himself infallible when speaking *ex cathedra*, or "from the chair." This papal bull (their name for it, not mine; though who cannot agree with the appropriateness of the title?) must be believed by all Roman Catholics today, or they are anathema. When Mastai-Ferretti went fishing for "unanimous consent," he was hit with Roman Catholic citations that showed at least sixteen Church Fathers saying that Christ was the Rock of Matthew 16, while seventeen others said it was Peter, and at least eight other claiming it was the twelve apostles equally. So much for "unanimous consent" in regards to the apostolic succession from Peter to Jorge Mario Bergoglio (alias Pope Francis).

Of course, Mastai-Ferretti's delusions of grandeur are preceded by many of his mafioso brethren, as evidenced by their quotes. For instance, Pope Nicholas I (A.D. 858–867) in complete sobriety said, "My power controls heaven, hell, and the earth, not only the living, but the dead . . . there is no rule that binds me to anything . . . I have the power to save all that I choose from purgatory

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... for what else can you hold me for than a God?" He is one of only three papas in Rome to be referred to as "Great" (along with Leo and Gregory). Not to be outdone, Benedetto Gaetani, alias Pope Boniface VIII (A.D. 1295–1303), once said, "I am the supreme over kings and emperors . . . because of the fulness of the power that Christ has given me in the person of Saint Peter . . . Nobody must be so bold or daring to rebuke me or ask: lord why doest thou so?" The same spirit is about to come on the scene and come into the temple of Jerusalem during the period of Great Tribulation and also claim to be God (2 Thess. 2:1–8). He will **"come in his own name"** (John 5:43) as Judas Iscariot, not an alias.

One thing for sure, you never want any "holy father" from Rome to give you his "blessing." History shows that it is an event to be avoided at all costs, unless you are tired of living. When Giovanni Mastai-Ferretti (alias Pope Pius IX) blessed Queen Isabella II of Spain, she lost her crown and died in exile. In 1864, the same Mastai-Ferretti blessed Emperor Maximilian of Mexico, who was dethroned and killed by his own people within three years. The same pope blessed a ship of nuns who were about to cross the Atlantic in 1870; the ship sank and no survivors were ever found. In 1891, Vincenzo Gioacchino Raffaele Luigi (no kidding) Pecci (alias Pope Leo XIII) blessed General Boulanger; two weeks later he was in exile, and two years later he committed suicide. Five minutes after blessing the Bazaar in Paris in 1897, the place went up in flames with about 150 perishing. In July 1963, the Roman Catholic, "Camelot," American president, JFK, was blessed by Giovanni Battista Enrico Antonio Maria (no kidding) Montini (alias Pope Paul VI), and four months later took a wrong turn in Dallas. His brother Bobby, not to be outdone by Jack, began his election campaign in 1967 by receiving the same blessing from the same papa, only to take a wrong turn in Los Angeles in 1968. Similar results are recorded for many world politicians in Uganda, Argentina, Portugal, South Vietnam, Egypt, and Japan.

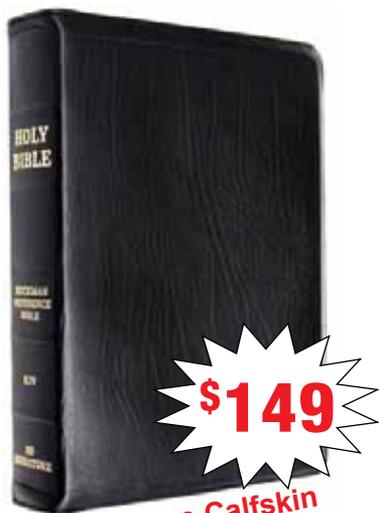
By contrast, those who received a papal curse include Garibaldi, the hero of Italy and Sicily still revered by Italian patriots today, and Elizabeth I of England. Antonio Ghislieri (alias Pope Pius V) excommunicated and cursed Lizzy in 1570, and she prospered so well over the next ten years that his successor, Ugo Boncompagni (alias Pope Gregory XIII), suspended the bull in 1580. The next papa, Felice Peretti di Montalto (alias Pope Sixtus V), was so inflamed in 1588, he put the curse back on the Protestant queen and instead "blessed" his Spanish Armada fleet before they left to oust her from her throne. The most powerful navy of the day drove into a north Atlantic storm that destroyed one-third of the ships as they limped back to Spain with their "blessing" intact. With the papal curse on her head, Lizzy outlived eight popes and brought England to become the world power of the day.

The moral of this history is obvious. If you get the chance to please God and incite the pope's curse, take it; and if you ever see the deluded, egotistical maniac in Rome start to raise his peaceful hand of "blessing" your way, run for cover.

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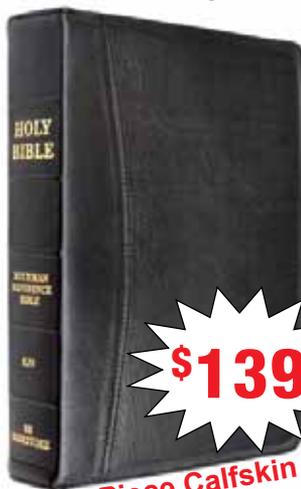


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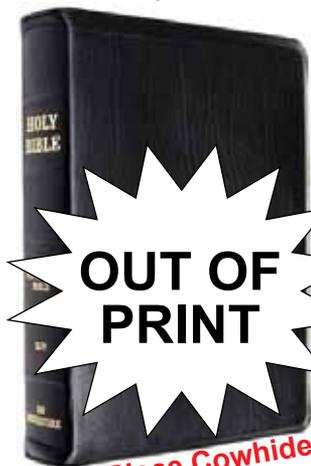
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THE POSITION OF MARY—Far back in mankind's pagan history is the idea of a woman deliverer. From the ancient kingdom of Babel, set up by Nimrod (Gen. 10:8–10), comes the worship of the female deity, or “**queen of heaven**” (Jer. 49:17–19, 25). Semiramis is said to have been both the mother and wife of Nimrod, and her worship is a huge part of the Babylonian mystery religion that pervades the present day Roman whore. The Jewish handmaiden named Mary in the New Testament is NOT the Mary of the Roman Catholic Church.

In my library, I have a book from the 1800's titled *THE LIFE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN*, then in small letters beneath that title: “*and Christ.*” The wicked pagan teachings of the Roman Catholic Church regarding Mary are found in this book and include: Elijah seeing her form in the clouds to bring the rain that ended the drought in 1 Kings; Mary was the rosebush through which Moses sees the Lord God in the burning bush of Exodus; Mary was dropped off at the temple as a three-year-old baby where she grew up spinning cloth and leading virgins in song and dance to the Lord; her physical beauty surpassed all others; she was never offended, angry, or annoyed; she prayed for the dead when she stopped at Rachel's tomb; the tree where she once stopped to nurse the baby Jesus became the site of miracles over the next 1,500 years; and even though the purification laws of Moses did not apply to her, she submitted anyway. A number of times the book makes the admission that these stories are not based on any scripture, but tradition. One quote is particularly telling, saying, “even though the Bible is silent about it, the pious believe God suspended nature and she (Mary) was immaculately conceived.” It is also interesting to note that even Arab commentators of the *Koran* are in agreement, saying, “every descendent of Adam . . . is touched on the side by Satan, Jesus and Mary alone being excepted”

The Jesuit fixation with women throughout their history makes them bedfellows with the Moslems in this regard. One of their teachings says that if a married woman is questioned by her husband about whether she ever committed adultery after having sexual relations with a priest, she can deny it out loud, while under her breath, saying, “not that I have to confess to.”

In A.D. 470, a bishop in Syria declared that Mary should be titled “Mother of God” and any public prayer to her name should have that title expressed. Leo IV established the Feast of the Assumption in A.D. 855. This is the teaching that Mary was bodily raised into heaven, and the Romish church began observing the feast at this time. When the Feast of the Immaculate Conception was introduced in Lyons, France, St. Bernard (not the dog) vehemently opposed the idea that Mary was born sinless, saying, “How can a conception that proceeds not from the Holy Ghost, but from sin, be holy?” The Dominicans opposed her sinlessness, while the Franciscans favored it (unanimous consent of the Fathers?).

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Before Giovanni Mastai-Ferretti (alias Pope Pius IX) issued his statement on the issue, he sent out a letter to his cardinals to gather their opinions on the subject in 1849. He was told that his statement was necessary in order to clear up the disagreements (unanimous consent?). In 1854, Giovanni issued his papal bull, declaring Mary's immaculate conception as a doctrine of faith, and "whoever denies it is to be declared a heretic." This stroke of the pen made Saint Bernie a heretic, even though he was a canonized saint, as well as one of the Roman Church's "Doctors." The finishing touch on the teachings from the church that never changes was given in 1950, when Eugenio Maria Giuseppe Giovanni (no kidding) Pacelli (alias Pope Pius XII) declared Mary's bodily assumption into heaven a dogma of Roman Catholic doctrine.

CELIBACY OF THE PRIESTS—The Council of Nicea (A.D. 325) allowed a priest to state his marriage intentions at his ordination. He could vow never to marry, choose to marry later, or remain married if he already was. In A.D. 386, Siricius prohibited any priests in Rome to marry. A General Council in A.D. 692 rejected the teaching that priests were to put away their wives. By A.D. 950, there was a universal agreement that priests were to be celibate, and in 1074, Hildebrand enforced the celibacy rule, with married priests having to put away their wives and children.

This damnable teaching has resulted in hundreds and hundreds of boys being molested by pervert priests. What did Karol Wojtyla (alias Pope John Paul II) do about it? What does Jorge Mario Bergoglio (alias Pope Francis I) say? That gays should "not be marginalized," and there are other subjects on which to concentrate.

This is the universal church that has always been the same in her doctrine? She is more like the chameleon that changes colors to blend in with her surroundings in order to deceive many. The news media still refers to the Romish leader as "the Holy Father." The whore of Revelation 17 will very soon produce the religious leader called the false prophet in the book of Revelation, who will point the whole world to the coming prince (Dan. 9:26), the devil in the flesh, the Antichrist.

The present Jesuit pope was properly labeled by the preacher Ian Paisley, who once said, "Every Jesuit is outwardly a monk, inwardly a devil, and altogether a serpent." Compare that statement to the response of a right-winged, professing-to-be-saved, Republican so-and-so, American president, who said he looked into the pope's eyes and "saw God." Someone has the spiritual discernment of a doorknob. Paisley or Bush, take your pick.

Bro. Donovan's Schedule

September 12-14

Bible Believer's Baptist Church
1055 N.E. 25th St.
Hillsboro, OR 97123
Pastor John Robinson
(503) 706-7147

Fishers of Men Ministries International

By A. W. Mund, Founder

I was born and reared in a fishing village along the Alabama Gulf Coast. Our home was right on the Bon Secour River; so as far back as I can remember, I have had my feet in the water. As a small child, I remember catching minnows in a baited jar, graduating to a small cast net that I literally threw until it fell apart. From there, I proceeded to my own boats, gill nets, trawls, oyster tongs, crab traps, etc. Thus the seafood world was in my veins as real as blood.

My parents were good, church-going people. They were faithful members of a church in our area. Around the age of nine, I joined this church. Not until I was eighteen and in college do I remember giving thought to my spiritual condition. After exposure to Bible preaching, it was apparent that I had a big need. I had never come to know Christ as Saviour (trusting His death and shed blood on Calvary to provide forgiveness of sins and salvation of my soul). My, what a difference! Soon after, the call of God came to preach. After college and Bible training, God blessed with two exciting churches that I pastored for fifteen years (1970–1984). Those years held blessings and training for the work here at FOMMI.

Being raised around the sea, it came natural to have my heart and soul in it. Little did I ever know that God would use me to reach out to those who live in island and seacoast areas. Jesus seemed to love Galilee. Much of His time was spent along the sea. The first four disciples were fishing men. Coastal areas of the world

are in desperate need of the Gospel. Port cities are said to be the most wicked of places. My heart is in these areas. God plants you where you grow your best. Millions live where the sea touches the land. Few know they are drowning in sin and despair. What a privilege to follow the Saviour; in doing so, He can make us **“fishers of men”** (Matt. 4:19)!

What a blessing it has been to work thirty years (1984–2013) in a field that gives little competition! Little by little, doors of opportunity have opened. Church planting began first in the little port of Bon Secour, Alabama. In 1989, the advisory board to Fishers of Men Ministries International, that was seeking to reach fishermen worldwide, asked if we could establish a church in the Bon Secour area; so in March of 1989, with the interest of some area fishermen and the volunteered facilities of Aquila Seafood, Fishermen Baptist Church had its birth. FOMMI has been the mission arm of Fishermen Baptist Church ever since. Twenty-five years later in 2014, even in this small community, God has given a strong local church with a heart for missions.

At the present, we have fifty different supported ministries and personal projects worldwide; most of these are in island and seacoast areas. I recently visited the island of Luzon where we have a strong local church and Bible school (Fishers of Men Baptist Church and Bible School, working there since 1991). What a blessing to see converts in church and young men who now have started local churches along

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Fishers of Men Ministries International

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the South China Sea. Lord willing, this year we plan to do the same in coastal India. Our seamen's ministry continues to expand. Men from over forty different countries come right into our backyard in Mobile, Alabama and Pensacola, Florida, as well as Norfolk, Virginia. Our port director, Ken Kraich, along with Don Crutchfield and Glenn Mongold, have planted and reaped from the ships that arrive almost daily. I stand amazed.

Our work is divided into seven different areas; we labor fervently in all of them.

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7. FOM port ministry (reaching seamen worldwide).

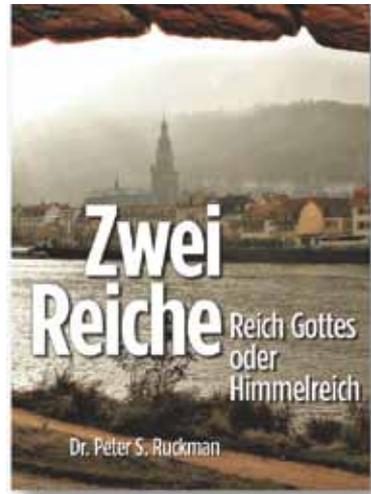
While Fishermen Baptist Church financially supports its own missionaries, my personal support (I receive no salary from the church) and other mission expenses such as printing, radio costs, postal costs, utilities, etc., are supplied by supporters of FOMMI. We are blessed to be supported by some great local churches. As our support increases,

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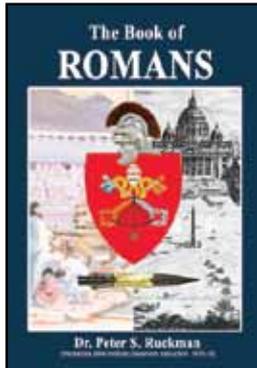
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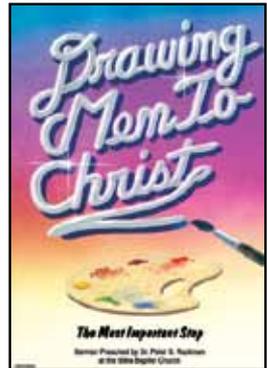
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Our National Destiny

By Robert Militello

“The wicked shall be turned into hell, and ALL THE NATIONS THAT FORGET GOD” (Psa. 9:17).

Is this an idle threat? Does God keep His word? There is no happy ending for America unless Hollywood invents one for a “feel good” movie. Our destiny is certain, and every Christian praying for revival to heal our land (see 2 Chron. 7:14) has been sitting out in the August sun too long without a hat on. Our government is not opposed to Jerusalem being divided so that the Palestinians can name East Jerusalem as the capital of the state of Palestine. Publicly, the State Department has yet to acknowledge such a policy, but privately, this administration favors the idea, and the Israeli government knows it.

Where does this policy take us as a nation? The answer is in scripture. Our foreign policy puts us at war with the Lord. It is a death certificate prepared and waiting to be signed by the coroner, the Lord Jesus Christ.

“Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut to pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it” (Zech. 12:2–3).

On June 7, 1967, Israeli paratroopers fought their way to the Temple Mount, driving out the Jordanians who were British trained. The old city, or East Jerusalem, was finally in Jewish hands. In July 1980, Israel passed the Jerusalem Law, declaring Jerusalem the “complete and united” capital of Israel. On August 20, 1980, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 478 which said the Israeli law is “a violation of international law” and is “null and void and must be rescinded forthwith.” Following the Security Council resolution, 22 of the 24 countries that had their embassies in West Jerusalem relocated them to Tel Aviv.

In 1995, the U.S. Congress passed the Jerusalem Embassy Act requiring our embassy in Tel Aviv to move to Jerusalem. Presidents Clinton, Bush, and Obama refused to abide by the will of the people. On October 28, 2009, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon warned that Jerusalem must be the capital of both Israel and Palestine if peace is to be achieved. In February 1996, Father Serge Sebastian, Secretary-General of the Vatican, announced that the Holy See recognizes Palestinian sovereignty over East Jerusalem.

When Zechariah wrote in 487 B.C. that the Lord would make Jerusalem **“a cup of trembling”** and **“a burdensome stone for all people,”** he was seeing the UN and its partnership with the Vatican in 2014. The United States, being cleverly manipulated by the Vatican, especially since the Jesuit, Francis I, came to Rome (March 2013), is applying enormous pressure on Israel to soften its position on Jerusalem for the sake of peace. This behind the scenes manipulation of the Israelis will hasten our journey

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Our National Destiny

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to Hell more than all the gay pride parades and events which our principal cities and major corporations heartily endorse.

There will be no last minute reprieve for our nation. We are on death row, and the call from the governor delaying the execution yet again is not about to come this time. How long have we been on borrowed time anyway?

“All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity” (Isa. 40:17).

This is a most painful scripture to an American patriot. It’s a saber thrust to national pride. The Almighty speaks as a Communist in this verse. He puts all nations in the same class. We have degenerated so badly in the last decade that President Vladimir Putin of Russia points to our moral collapse as the reason why he vigorously defends traditional marriage and why he has closed Russian orphanages to citizens of nations that promote gay rights.

“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” (Prov. 14:34).

As we get closer to the end, it will become risky for those who believe God’s word to talk or write about America’s dance with death. The religious establishment will soon collude with the government to deny IRS tax exemptions to those churches or ministries that fail to adhere to the “SAVE AMERICA FROM BIGOTS” campaign that will be put into effect as our society implodes.

“Then spake the priests and the prophets unto the princes and to

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Our National Destiny

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all the people, saying, This man [Jeremiah] is worthy to die; for he hath prophesied against this city, as ye have heard with your ears” (Jer. 26:11).

Some Christians today have a hard time distinguishing between the gift and the Giver.

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me” (Exod. 20:3).

When our affections for someone or something eclipse that which rightfully belongs to our Saviour and His word alone, we have crossed over into Catholicism. Let me explain. I taught Romanism from 1968 to 1973 at St. Thomas Aquinas in Brooklyn, New York. Devotion to Mary had a high priority. Jesus seemed distant, but Mary was a tender mother whose ear was always open to our cry. How easy it was for a tender soul with no light from God’s word to be seduced into this wicked idolatry. Mary, the created, was put above Jesus, the Creator—the gift above the Giver.

America was a wonderful gift from God to the Gentile world for over two centuries. We ought to thank God every day for our nation and pray for its leaders as Paul wrote in 1 Timothy 2:1–3. Nevertheless, **“God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar”** (Rom. 3:4).

We know what the scriptures teach, and what is written concerning our nation cannot be altered. To the Jewish nation in a very dark day God said:

“For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: THOUGH I MAKE A FULL END OF ALL NATIONS whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee” (Jer. 30:11).

We are not **“the apple of his eye”** (Deut. 32:10), and we are just about at the end of our “shelf life.” The expiration date on our way of life is fixed, and the Lord will bring us shortly to the dump where He put all the other great nations that outlived their usefulness. Our nation is a gift, and it is a perishable one because of sin. Christians are warned about **“inordinate affection”** in Colossians 3:5. The Lord alone should own our hearts.

What you get from the new commentators and so-called political pundits on TV every night is the familiar refrain: “the show must go on.” One commentator said some months ago that America’s best days were ahead of it. Isn’t that pathetic? Liberal progressives have been so ruined by Darwinism, they honestly believe society is improving. We used to say in New York that a liberal is someone who hasn’t yet been mugged in Central Park. Opinions change quickly when you leave the news studio at night and confront “progressive society” in a nearly empty Manhattan parking garage. There is no shortage of educated jackasses in this country—God help us!

Our God **“is a jealous God”** (Deut. 6:15; Josh. 24:19). There are things that are so dear to Him that would cause Him to destroy you and your nation if you dare put your filthy hands in His pockets.

“Will a man rob God?” (Mal. 3:8). I know that verse is aimed at those who would steal God’s money, the tithe. Yet in a broader sense, the very

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Our National Destiny

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idea of splitting Jerusalem for the sake of placating the Jew-hating Palestinians is an invitation for the U.S. to commit suicide. When the Babylonian king Belshazzar threw a party for his government officials and his harem, he called for the stolen golden vessels from Solomon's temple to be put on the table so his guests could drink their wine from the Lord's dedicated property. No nation, empire, king, or president is going to stick a finger in God's eye and escape judgment.

"In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote" (Dan. 5:5).

It was the proverbial "handwriting on the wall." Babylon was finished. Belshazzar was killed that night (Dan. 5:30), and the Lord had the last word.

"Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall" (Prov. 16:18).

Our government's fixation with an Israeli-Palestinian peace accord is satanic. It has the Vatican's fingerprints all over it. Why not leave the Israelis alone? Why split Jerusalem in half? What other nation is being pressured continuously to surrender half its capital city to a bunch that, according to their prophet, believes Jews are pigs?

"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3).

What if the mayor of Chicago during Prohibition days was asked to split his city in half, giving a worthy portion to Al Capone and his mob? In essence, this is what our government is pushing. We are acting as a "front man" for a criminal godfather known as the "Vicar of Christ," the "Holy Father." That religious mafia in Rome has had its eye on Jerusalem since the last Crusaders left in the thirteenth century. For some six centuries, the Vatican has burned the midnight oil searching for a way to get back in Jerusalem. That's the prize. Satan knows better than anyone on this planet what Jerusalem means to the God of Jacob and his posterity.

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy" (Psa. 137:5-7).

Jews have an attachment to that city unlike any other people who love their land or their chief city. The Lord put something in the heart of every Jew that goes beyond natural affection. There is a supernatural longing in the soul of every son and daughter of Jacob to laugh, to sing, to dance, and to cry tears of joy in that city because there was the place where all would finally be made well. Every Yom Kippur, the high priest would enter into the Holy of Holies and obtain forgiveness for a people made sad by their sins. Forgiveness brings joy; it reminds each soul that love is stronger than death. Jerusalem reminds me, a Gentile dog saved by grace, that a Jew became a butchered lamb to wash away my sins and save my soul from Hell.

My government wants me to forget that it was the Jordanian army that attacked the Jews in Jerusalem in June 1967; also that the Israeli Defense

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Our National Destiny

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Force took the eastern half of the city to put an end to the fear Jews had of being assaulted if they should venture anywhere near the Wailing Wall to pray. I'm to believe that the Palestinians had their country invaded and their capital taken from them. We seem to be acting as a defense lawyer for the Arabs by painting the victim of the crime, the Jews, as the perpetrators. Israel is to give back what God gave to their fathers as a perpetual inheritance because Jerusalem belongs to three great religions and not to any one people, according to Rome.

Rome will soon turn up the heat on Israel to agree to a deal. International blackmail will force Israel into a no-win situation. Using a strategy of boycott, disinvestment, and assorted economic sanctions, the UN, with the European Union in the lead, will bring Israel reluctantly to the table where a peace accord will be signed.

“We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold trouble!” (Jer. 8:15).

In a real sense, our national destiny was fixed in October of 1965 when Paul VI arrived in New York and, after kissing the ground, gave his “apostolic blessing” to the United States. He didn't go to Washington D.C. on that historic visit. The devil's front man went to the UN the next day, where he was received like a king. I watched it all on TV. Bishop Fulton Sheen was doing the commentary for one of the networks. All Catholic schools in the city were closed. Pope Paul's speech to the UN was to be given extensive live coverage. All network programs were preempted. What a scene. Every UN delegate appeared like a schoolboy sitting in a student assembly being addressed by the headmaster. **“The god of this world”** (2 Cor. 4:4) was displaying some of his power through his mouthpiece, **“the idol shepherd”** (see Zech. 11:17).

That speech ended with Christ's “vicar on earth” calling upon the nations to renounce war. Pope Paul exhorted the delegates to work for peace, using diplomacy in the most skillful way. This was all a taste of what's to come, although I was lost at the time and knew nothing of what Daniel wrote.

“And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and BY PEACE SHALL DESTROY MANY: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand” (Dan. 8:25).

It has been almost 49 years since my nation welcomed that imposter. The pope later went on to say mass at Yankee Stadium. Few knew that the very land on which Yankee Stadium was built is owned by the Knights of Columbus. In 1979, Jerry Falwell organized the so-called “Moral Majority,” a political movement designed to rescue America from ungodliness. This same Jerry Falwell said nothing when his friend, President Ronald Reagan, pushed through a bill in Congress establishing full diplomatic relations with the Holy See. That was 1984, only nineteen years after Paul “blessed” America.

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Our National Destiny

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You have heard said, "The road to Hell is paved with good intentions." Biblically ignorant presidents have all had a hand in preparing our death certificate. President Reagan I'm sure meant well for America, but it would have been good if one so-called "Christian celebrity" could have pointed our president to this verse before embracing the Vatican.

"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 16:25).

Why did our government embrace the great whore of Revelation 17? How is it that a nation filled with Bible colleges was so easily seduced?

"Hearken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and ATTEND TO THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH. Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death" (Prov. 7:24–27).

Is that clear enough? We didn't attend to His words as we were told in verse 24 because we polluted His words in our Bible colleges and seminaries, and graduated Bible critics. We made a liar out of God by changing His word, so He put our nation on the path to Hell. Allowing Rome to exert control over Jerusalem, and thereby robbing God and the children of Jacob of what belongs solely to them, will put out the lights in that "shining city on a hill." That's how President Reagan referred to America.

In New York harbor, Lady Liberty says, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free . . ." Jesus said, **"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"** (Matt. 11:28). Who gets the preeminence here? Better put the Giver over the gift. Soon, the hearts of the saints will be fully unmasked at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Where are your affections? Take a good look, an honest look.

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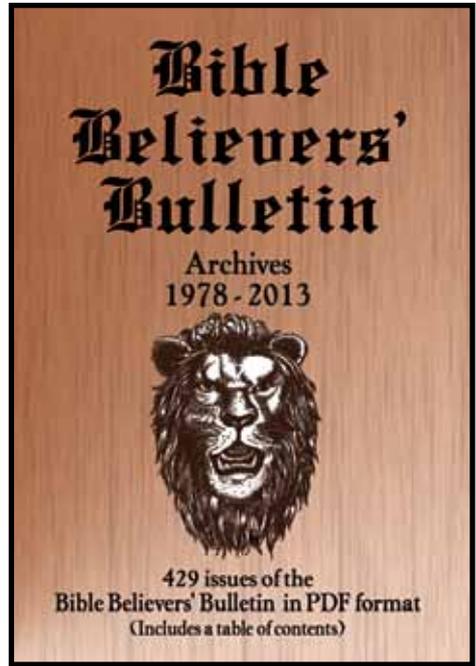
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Thirty Days Under the Crescent Moon

*(Editor's note: The following is a book which we are publishing here in the *Bulletin* in serial format. The work consists of a preface and seven chapters, some of which have had to be divided between two issues due to length.)

By Andrew Saucier

CHAPTER 3

ALL THINGS DO WORK TOGETHER

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose” (Rom. 8:28).

There is no doubt in my mind that the circumstances of life are the opportunities of God's grace to make His presence known to the believer (John 9:2-3) or to accomplish something that would otherwise not have



been able to be accomplished should those circumstances not have come into being. The official charge came down from the higher authorities: we were to be indicted for “inciting a riot.” The news of that charge only further convinced the devils (bodies are only the instruments of the spirit, and if the spirit that is governing is an evil spirit, then it is a devil that is doing the work, not the body) that the government was on their side and that the Moslems' actions were justified because of what we had done.

This reasoning is somewhat similar to the argument that psychologists and liberals use in defending the ungodly behavior of their patients or their evaluation of human behavior: it is always someone else's fault (e.g., grandmother beat him when he was two years old; consequently, he is now a mass murderer). It reminds me of a cartoon I once saw in the office of the warden of the Louisiana State Penitentiary, where I have often done missionary work. The picture displayed a mother speaking with two state troopers, with the troopers' vehicle in front of them showing the back of what appeared to be a young boy in the back seat. In the caption, the mother said, “Just because he stole a car, robbed a convenience store, and shot the clerk does not give you right to treat him like a common criminal.”

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Thirty Days Under the Crescent Moon

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When the news of the charge was made public, it was blasted around Europe and Africa. The devils grew really bold and began to riot in front of the courthouse where we were sent to be officially charged. The case was to be turned over to Judge Wasilwa's court, an African lady who during the course of the trial proved to be very much in control of her court. Because the court room was filled to capacity, the crowd overflowed into the street where the situation got so much out of control that the crowd had to be dispersed with tear gas. When the Moslems were warned by the judge that any further outburst would result in a change of venue, I realized that Judge Wasilwa was acting legally and in a manner that she thought was in the best interest of justice. The Moslems weren't warned that they would be shot or even arrested, but rather that we, the unconvicted accused, would be put through further inconvenience and that they would not have the pleasure of being able to witness the trial. What a stern and forceful confrontation to rioting! "Behave yourselves now, children, or you won't get that Lexus for Christmas; there'll be only a Ford Mustang there for you if you don't behave."

The Moslems do not understand anything except the use of force, because they are by nature a very emotional people not generally given to collective law, except where the law favors their emotions. For the most part, they are a lawless people where the law is contrary to their religion. They have demonstrated not only that they are *cowards*, but that they are *dangerous* cowards. They will surrender to a person's face, only to get the opportunity to do something underhanded under the guise of acting lawfully. They cannot be trusted because the god they worship is "**the god of this world**" (2 Cor. 4:4).

If ever there were a people that fully represented the fulfillment of Matthew 6:23, it is the Moslems. Those creatures are in total darkness, and they think that what they are doing is serving God. "**If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!**" (Matt. 6:23).

They have peculiar ideas as to what is right and wrong; and all of their ideas come from the teaching of a murdering, fornicating individual who called himself Mohammed and claimed to get his authority from a god called Allah. That same god is the god that justifies the Mohammedans in circumcising a woman in order to prevent her from experiencing pleasure in a sexual relationship (*Hadith*; Bukhari 5891, Muslim 527, Ahmad Ibn Hanbal 5:75, Abu Dawud, Adab 167, 41:5251). Such operations are not uncommon (*Reliance of the Traveler*, e4.3) and are not always performed under hospital, or even sterile, conditions. During my return visit to Kenya following this incident, I was doing some evangelistic work in the area of Mombasa, a city on the coast of the Indian Ocean, where I received a re-

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Thirty Days Under the Crescent Moon

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port of such an operation being performed on a young lady at a *residence*.

The Mohammedan can be understood only from the standpoint of religious deception. He actually believes that he is in good favor with God because he regards Mohammed as the true prophet of God, the god whom he calls Allah. Mohammed supposedly received his instructions—writings in the *Koran*—from Allah, and because he follows those writings, the deceived Mohammedan is doing what he thinks is right, because he thinks it all came from God. The truth of the matter, though, is that it did *not* come from God but rather from a *god* (2 Cor. 4:4). Who else but a deceived person could blame someone else for his own intent to burn down a Baptist church.

We were being charged with being responsible for causing the Islamic community to riot. To be more precise, their claim was that a pamphlet (gospel tract) was the responsible culprit that incited them to riot, because the tract disagreed with the teachings of Mohammed. Sounds like liberal psychology: blame it all on the environment, social standing, momma, daddy, or even grandma; but *never self*. Self is always willing to place the blame elsewhere.

After the arraignment, we were given the opportunity to make bond, after which we were transported to our residences by military escort. The four of us—Paul, Michael, Patrick, and myself—were in the back of a military vehicle in the center of approximately fifteen to twenty army personnel carrying AK 47's. Had this action not been accomplished in an area where the public did not have access, there would certainly have been trouble trying to get us past the crowd gathered outside the court building. The idea was to conceal us from the Moslems. The very sight of us brought them into a frantic rage.

The scene was certainly spectacular, but with that much protection it seemed improbable that those who intended to get their hands on us would make a move, considering the fire power that was present. We were all kneeling or stooping down in the truck to conceal ourselves as we passed the crowd. I was kneeling in the truck next to one of the military men who was himself stooped down, but for other reasons. Even though he was carrying an AK-47, there was no doubt about the fact that he was thoroughly drunk. When I whispered to Paul, who was next to me, about the drunk soldier, he didn't look surprised; maybe he could smell the fellow from where he was as well. Later when Paul and I spoke about the whole affair, we were amused at the possibility of a scene where trouble would break out and the drunk soldier would be stumbling around firing his weapon, not knowing at what. God delivered us from our *deliverers*. Paul Garcia and I were taken to our residence, the Hampton House, while

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Michael and Patrick were taken to their residences.

That first night before the arraignment, and our eventual freedom via bond, we were held in custody the entire night. We thought for sure that we would be placed in the general population of that prison facility where we were interrogated, but God is good and merciful. He intervened by sending an African Christian, a brother in Christ by the name of Boniface Musembi, who was one of the interrogating officers. He obtained permission to stay with us in one of the interrogation rooms the entire night to prevent us from having to be submitted to the conditions of the prison. I have seen prisons in my lifetime and have done prison evangelistic work for over twenty years in some of the worst prisons in the United States, but this one beat them all, hands down. The conditions were past primitive; "third-world" doesn't begin to describe the status.

It was through this brother that we were able to obtain information that eventually led us to the lawyer who defended us. I'm sure that there was a finder's fee for the brother, but **"the labourer is worthy"** (1 Tim. 5:18). We later learned through other sources that the attorney, Wanduge, whose full name escapes my memory, is in fact the best lawyer in Nairobi, Kenya.

In the meantime, my wife, Diane, contacted the American embassy in Nairobi, informed them as to what had happened, and somehow gathered information about a Christian law firm in Kenya that is headed by a believer in Christ by the name of Kamau. He, in turn, got in touch with us and made himself available to us as a defense lawyer at no cost. However, we did compensate the brother to the degree we were able for love's sake and for the sake of the word; **"the labourer is worthy of his hire"** (Luke 10:7). Together, Wanduge and Kamau made quite a team. Kamau was expert in constitutional law, and Wanduge was more than adequate in handling cross-examinations and in presenting questions in such a way as to create problems for those that were accusing us. Incidentally, Kamau is a devoted Christian, a great lawyer, and *he is blind!* A blind lawyer! Only the Lord would do such a thing. It's called: "Are you going to trust me or not?"

The nation of Kenya has a constitution, and the constitution does provide for religious freedom. Unless we were to be convicted on prejudice or fear of the Moslem reaction to an acquittal, or both, this whole thing seemed to me to be academic. Judicially, individuals are to be held responsible for their own conduct. There is no excuse for murder, no matter how extenuating the circumstances might appear to be; murder is murder. Rioting is rioting, and no one is responsible for rioting except the rioters. However, one can never tell these days. **"The mystery of iniquity doth**

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already work" (2 Thess. 2:7), and its work is about done in the spirits of men.

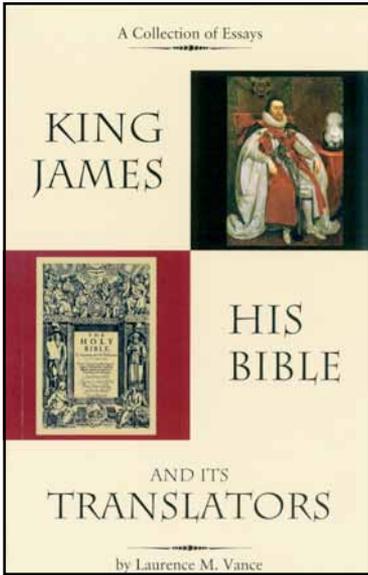
Relativism seems to be the mind set of the day, and it is certainly a sin in any dispensation. We knew that if **"the powers that be"** (Rom. 13:1) would conclude that convicting us would be in the best interest of the "greater good" (relativism), our goose was cooked. Relativism, having no authority, is what destroys lives and families, and sends souls to Hell, because it refuses to obey authority in any matter.

Continued next month.

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, Zinzendorf, 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.**

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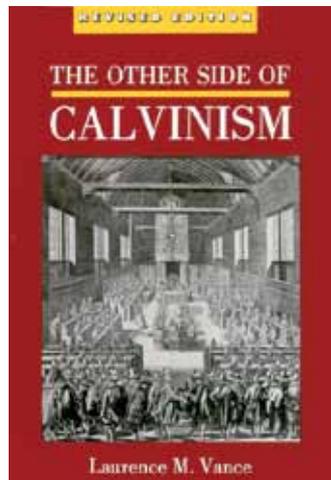
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