



Bible Believers' Bulletin

Der Judenstaat

By Brian Donovan

Anyone who entertains any doubts about the divine authorship of the Bible needs only to look at the nation of Israel as she completes the prophecy found in the Bible. The Lord has a message for the United Nations in these last days that includes a restored nation of Israel, as well as an establishment of the country of Palestine that He is going to destroy (Isa. 14:29–32; Joel 3:4). Of course, a few hundred years ago, the thought of a nation of Israel was considered foolishness, except to Bible believers and a few Jews with great dreams.

A Jew born in Hungary in 1860, by the name of Theodore Herzl, moved to Vienna, then to Paris in 1891, just in time to witness the Dreyfus affair in 1895. A Jew was falsely accused of espionage and publicly humiliated in the streets of Paris. Herzl listened as the Roman Catholic crowd screamed “Kill all the Jews!” At that point, he became convinced that the only answer was a Jewish homeland. He dreamed

of a mass exodus of all Jews out of the countries of the world to establish their own homeland, and in 1896, he wrote “*Der Judenstaat*” (“The Jewish State”).

A year later in 1897, he convened the first Zionist Congress in Switzerland with a few other dreamers, where he privately stated, “Today, I have founded the Jewish state. If I said this publicly, I would be laughed away, but in fifty years, everyone will know it.” Exactly fifty years later in 1947, the British were trying to rid themselves of a tar baby in the Middle East referred to as “Palestine.” After the tragedy of World War II and the slaughter of six million Jews, the survivors were making their way back to their biblical home. The Moslems had no use for this rocky, deserted goat land, but their universal hatred for the Jews drove them to pretend it was their land. Media-controlled, American, college-educated fools remain completely ignorant of this history because it deals with facts and not emotional brainwashing.

In 1948, in the face of threats from millions of slobbering Arabs surrounding the Jews and promising to annihilate them, David Ben Gurion announced the birth of the state of Israel. What was going on in the USA? Nothing of any importance except that

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A Mother's Request

“Then came to him the mother of Zebedee’s children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom” (Matt. 20:20–21).

When Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem for the last time to die on Calvary, He ran into Mrs. Zebedee, the mother of James and John. Mrs. Zebedee made a request of Jesus, and it was a very *unusual* request. The request was she wanted her two boys to sit on Christ’s right and left hands in His kingdom.

Jesus told that sister, “You don’t know what you’re asking for.” You see, ruling with Christ in His kingdom involves a baptism, and it isn’t a baptism of water. *Christ and the apostles had already been baptized in water.* **“The baptism”** about which Jesus talks in Matthew 20:22–23 was a *future* baptism. It was a baptism of *suffering*. Paul wrote, **“If we suffer, we shall also reign with him”** (2 Tim. 2:12).

Jesus asked James and John, **“Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?”** (Matt. 20:22). There was a cost involved in reigning with Christ on His right and left hands. Momma hadn’t counted that cost; her boys had. James and John said, **“We are able”** (Matt. 20:22).

Jesus acknowledged that what they said was so (Matt. 20:23). James was beheaded in Acts 12, and John was exiled to Patmos in Revelation 1. But that wasn’t enough to get them a seat on Christ’s right and left hands. *The positions were already taken* (Matt. 20:23).

It will be *Moses and Elijah* at Christ’s right and left hands in His kingdom. They represent the Law and the Prophets. They are the last names mentioned in the Old Testament (Mal. 4). They were at Christ’s right and left hands on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matt. 17:1–3), and that was a picture of Him **“coming in his kingdom”** (Matt. 16:28). They are the two witnesses that show up in the Tribulation and are said to be **“the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth”** (Rev. 11:3–4).

The first thing I want to say about this request is that it was a *natural* one. It is natural for a momma to want the best for her children. You can’t blame a mother for that; mothers love their children. When all other loves wear out, a good mother’s love doesn’t.

Over there in Judges 5:28–30, Sisera’s mother was wondering why he hadn’t come back from the battle yet. Her ladies-in-waiting tried comforting her by



Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

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A Mother's Request

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saying, "He's dividing the spoil; he's dividing the prey." But he was lying on the ground in a woman's tent with a tent peg through his temple. But his mother wanted the best for him, so she told herself, "He's just getting the spoils of war."

Over in a London art gallery, there is a picture of two women. They are obviously women of breeding and means. They are showing off their jewels to each other. One woman is holding up a string of pearls; the other has her arms around *her two boys*.

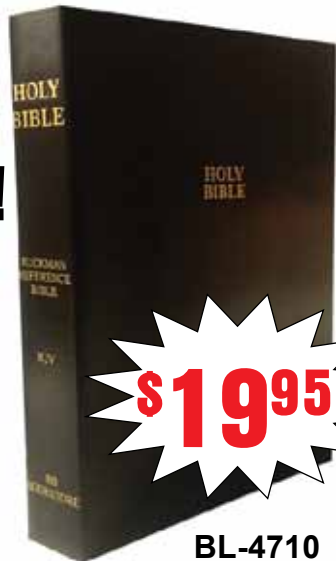
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A Mother's Request

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That's how a good mother feels about her sons.

Years ago on one of the old sailing ships, a terrible storm had arisen. The rigging was all tangled up in the mast. One man was sent up, but he fell seventy feet to his death. Then the mate sent up the ship's cabin boy, a teenager about fifteen years old. The boy tucked something under his life jacket and made his way up to the forecabin first. After several minutes there, he went to the rigging, untangled it, and came down safely through the howling wind and crashing waves. One of the passengers asked why he had gone to the forecabin first, and he replied, "My mother taught me that before I had any great thing to do that I should pray first. I went to the forecabin to pray." "And what was it you stuck under your life jacket?" asked the passenger. "My Bible," said the young man. "I figured if I got washed overboard that I wanted it with me."

But though Mrs. Zebedee's request was a natural one, it was also a *selfish* request. She didn't ask for the other ten disciples, just for her own two sons. Me first, you next—that kind of thing.

It is like the fellow who came to Christ in Luke 12:13–15 and said, "**Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me.**" Jesus told that guy it wasn't His business to be "**a judge or a divider**" in such matters. What was the problem? The man was covetous and more concerned about what he was going to get than he was about the Lord or his brother.

Blessed is the man who has a momma who trains him to love and

serve the Lord rather than get all he can and then sit on the can and wait for the undertaker. A mother has a terrific influence on her boy. If a boy has a good mother, the basic things he needs to learn about character, cleanliness, and obedience, he learns from his mother before he is five years old.

Robert Moffat, the great missionary to South Africa and father-in-law to David Livingstone, had a fine Scottish mother who loved the Lord and believed the Book. When Robert started off overseas, his mother said to him, "Son, I am going to give you a good-bye kiss now, and I probably won't see you again for many years, if ever. Please promise me something before I say good-bye."

"What is it, mother?" asked Robert.

"Son," she said, "you are going out into a very wicked world. Promise me that you will *begin every day with God and close every day with God.*"

"I promise, mother," said Robert, and he kept that promise. He won hundreds of Africans to Christ; he opened the doors of Africa to arguably its greatest explorer, David Livingstone. The reason those black Africans over there wear clothes today (which they didn't before) is because of missionaries like Moffat and Livingstone. Who was responsible for that? Robert Moffat's *mother*—she raised a good boy.

John Wesley's mother had seventeen children. John and Charles were two of the children who didn't die in childhood. Those two men saved England from a bloody revolution like the one in France—*literally*. Susanna Wesley taught her children they never got anything for which they whined.

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When she whipped them, they were allowed to cry but never to scream; if they cried too loudly, she would whip them harder. When they cried, they weren't allowed to put on a show like they were hurt when they weren't. That woman had such a good influence on John Wesley that when he went off to College at Oxford University, he asked his mother to recommend some good books for him to read.

John Wesley was the product of his mother's training. She raised a man who saved England from a civil war. There is no telling how many hundred of thousands of souls were led to Christ as a result of John Wesley's ministry. Do you know who prepared him for that? *His mother.*

Give a man a good mother, and he can overcome a lot of things. Joe Louis was a great boxer; he was known as the "Brown Bomber." When Joe won a bout, he didn't win by "decision" or by a technical knock out. He was knocking his opponents out cold at ten a year for five years. When Joe knocked 'em out, they would lie there and not get up. They had to be hauled out on a stretcher.

What you don't hear about Joe Louis is that he was a good Christian. He was an Alabama boy with a Christian mother. To this day, nobody knows who his daddy was. But that Christian mother raised Joe by herself, and she did a good job.

When Joe was drafted into the Army, he didn't change his religion like Cassius Clay in order to get out of it. He went in as a Buck Private.

The news media once asked Joe what he was doing about the war on poverty. Joe told them, "I fight poverty

by *working.*" When he got up in years and couldn't box anymore, the IRS cleaned him out, and he had to earn a living some way. He ended up going into professional wrestling. Of course, all that stuff is fake; it's staged. But a lot of people paid to see Joe Louis fight, even in a wrestling match. Joe would get into the middle of a match with the "villain" winning, and then he would double up his fist. The crowd would go crazy and yell, "Do it again, Joe! Do it again!"

Of course he couldn't do it again, but he was a tough, God-fearing fellow who had character. He owed that to a good mother.

Mrs. Zebedee's request was also an *ambitious* request. To request the right and left hands of Christ's kingdom was quite a thing to which to aspire. It took a lot of faith to ask for that.

When God was about to catch Elijah up to Heaven in a whirlwind, Elisha followed him all the way to the other side of Jordan. Elijah was about to say good-bye, so he asked Elisha, "What do you want me to give you before I go?" He said that because it doesn't accomplish anything to *pray to dead saints* like a Roman Catholic.

Elisha asked for a *double portion* of Elijah's spirit. That was quite an ambitious request to make, did you know that? Elijah could stop the rain at his word. He could multiply meal and oil. He could raise the dead. He could call fire down from heaven. Elisha said, "I want to do twice what you did." That was an ambitious request.

Ambition can be good or it can be bad. Catherine De Medici, the Queen of France, was a bloody killer. She raised the King who was responsible

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for the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre in 1572—Charles IX. Being the good bloody killer that she was (following the doctrine and practice of her church), she had 100,000 Bible-believing Huguenots in France slaughtered, 50,000 of them in Paris. Nearly a million Huguenots ended up fleeing France to come to the New World; the ones who came were the artisans, musicians, and professionals (e.g., doctors and lawyers)—the cream of the crop of French civilization. They evacuated because of the ambitions of *one woman*.

In contrast was a colored woman named Marian Anderson. She was a great contralto singer. She was such an accomplished singer that she was called on to perform in private concert for Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the King and Queen of England at the White House. She was asked afterwards if that was the high point of her career. She said, "No, the greatest day of my life was when I made enough money so I could go to my mother and say, 'Momma, you don't have to take in washing to make a living anymore; I'm going to take care of you.'"

Next, the request was a *good* request. They may not have gotten the right and left hand positions in the kingdom, but *they did get a throne for following Christ* (Matt. 19:28).

But the request was also a *rash* request. It wasn't rash in the sense of being wicked or stupid like the request of Herodias' daughter in Mark 6:24–25. She asked for the head of John the Baptist. Mrs. Zebedee's request wasn't like that, but it was still rash because she hadn't counted the cost. She had no idea of what was

ahead for Jesus. He was headed to Calvary. Who was on Christ's right and left hands on Golgotha? *It was two thieves*. Before the kingdom could come, there had to be Gethsemane, mocking, spitting, slapping, scourging, a crown of thorns, nails, and a cross. James and John's mother couldn't see that.

Listen, brethren, no cross, no crown. No suffering, no reign (2 Tim. 2:12). The one who wrote, "**Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ**" (1 Cor. 11:1), died with no wife, no family, no church, no school, no income, no back account, no Medicare, no Social Security, no health insurance, no life insurance. There was no "health and wealth," no "prosperity gospel"; it was beatings, stonings, shipwrecks, perils, weariness, pain, hunger, thirst, and exposure to the elements (2 Cor. 11:25–27).

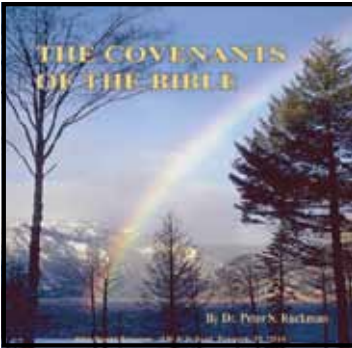
Now I am not saying you will suffer everything that the Apostle Paul did, but have you suffered *anything* for Jesus Christ? Have you ever been ridiculed or persecuted for witnessing for Christ (the right way!) or for telling the truth? There are places in this world where you can experience that (e.g., any Communist country or any Moslem country), but in America, not so much.

Now make no mistake about my position. I believe in this age (Acts 2–Rapture), a man is saved by grace through faith, *without works*. You are kept by grace, *not works*. But if you are going to *live* like a Christian, it will *cost* you something; real salvation is not easy.

When I was first saved, the first preacher I ever heard was James

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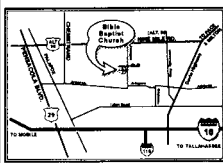
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A Mother's Request

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McGinley. He was a Scotsman. I remember one illustration he gave. He said when he was a young man in the Highlands of Scotland, he heard a strange noise coming down into the valley one day. It was a drum beating, and all the folks in town came out to see what was going on. It was a huge Scotch Highlander, about six foot seven. He was a Sergeant from the "Black Watch" (a Scottish unit in the British army called the "Ladies from Hell"). He stood there in his kilt beside a big brass drum he had planted in the middle of the street. He put a silver crown (a British coin) down on the drum and addressed the crowd that had gathered.

"Ladies, I'll tell you what I'm going to do. You see that silver crown on the drum? All you have to do is step forward and take that silver crown off the drum. When you do, you will become a member of Princess Patricia's light infantry. And I tell you what we are going to do for you if you come and pick up that silver crown and enlist. We will give you all your clothes free; we will give you all your food free. You will get to travel and see the world for free, and the government will supply everything you need absolutely free. Now who will be first?"

Well, how could a Scotsman resist that? McGinley went down and got his silver crown off the drum head and joined Princess Patricia's light infantry. He crossed the English Channel into France during World War I.

At this point in the illustration, McGinley said in that thick Scottish brogue of his, "I was in a company of about 150–180 men, and I went through two-and-a-half years of the

war. I was the only man in my company who survived. You know something, that recruiting Sergeant didn't lie to us. He said our food would be provided, and it was. He said all our expenses would be paid, and they were. He said we would get to see the world, and we did. The man didn't lie to us; he told us the truth. But out there in the barbed wire and the trenches; in the bombardment with rats, the dysentery, and the mud, most of those young men gave their last full measure of devotion."

Now listen, *salvation is absolutely free*. But if you are going to be a "soldier of the cross," before you get through, it may cost you *everything you've got*.

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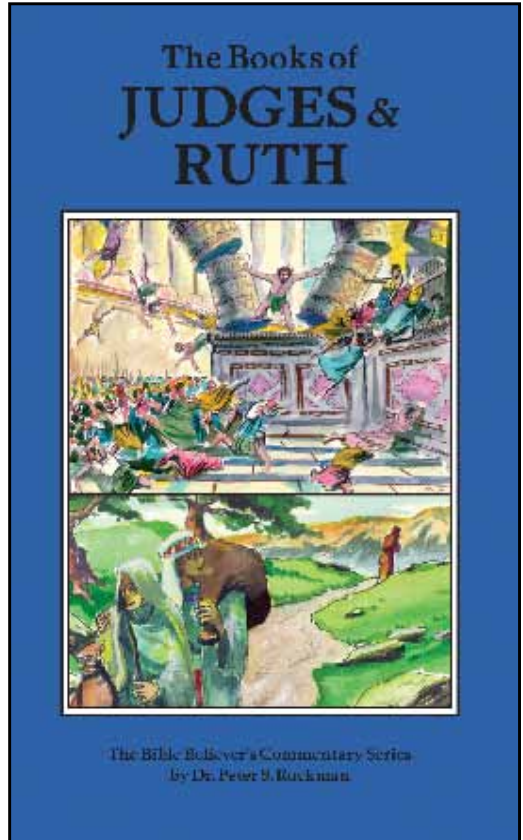
NEW COMMENTARY

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Last Will and Testament

The last words of a man before death are generally considered to be very important. They reveal who and what the man himself considers of great import in his life. You can read Paul's last words to his son in the faith (Timothy) in 2 Timothy 4. Christ's last words to his disciples before He went to the cross are given at length in John 13–16. Moses made his parting shots to Israel in Deuteronomy 32–33.

But by far, one of the greatest deathbed scenes in the Bible is found in Genesis 49, where “Old man Jacob” lays out both advents of Jesus Christ, locates the tribes of the Antichrist and the Lord's Christ, and tells the future of the twelve tribes of Israel for the next 3,000-plus years. You will find nothing like it in the *Koran* or *Hadith* at all. That's because Mohammed couldn't prophesy anything; as Allah's prophet, he was a bust.

Mohammed died of a fever which he attributed to a Jewish woman (whose family he had slaughtered in a raid) poisoning him two years earlier. He wasn't enough of a prophet to be able to tell when someone was trying to kill him. As he lay dying, his last utterances were: “Lord, destroy the Jews and the Christians . . . Gabriel come close to me” (see *The History of the New Testament Church*, Vol. I, 1982, pp. 318–319). Why did he pray to *Gabriel*, a 600-winged angel, instead of “the god” (Allah)? *Because Allah never told Mohammed “nuthin’.*” Allah didn't even tell Mohammed where he was going when he died (*Hadith*, Bukhari, Vol. V, no. 266).

That's Allah's “prophet”; he couldn't prophesy himself out of a wet paper bag. Jacob on his deathbed could give you more real prophecy, that would take place in *history*, in one chapter of the Holy Bible than Mohammed could in 114 “suras” of the “*Holy Koran*.”

The Bible-believing Christian has the assurance of Scripture that he can *know* where he is going when he dies.

“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may KNOW that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God” (1 John 5:13).

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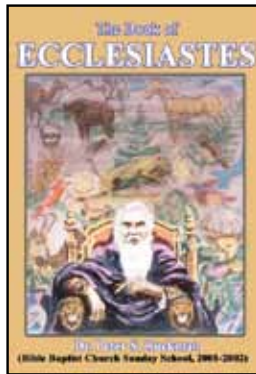
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Last Will and Testament

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“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, RESERVED IN HEAVEN FOR YOU” (1 Pet. 1:3–4).

“Being CONFIDENT of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:6).

“We are CONFIDENT, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord” (2 Cor. 5:8).

In light of that, I thought you might like to see what a few famous people left in their “last will and testament.” Three of them were statesmen, one was a playwright, and one was a banker; but all of them had one thing in common: they all knew where they were going when they died because they were all trusting the Lord Jesus Christ for eternal life. These are the final testimonies they left to their loved ones and the world.

Here is William Shakespeare from 1616:

“In the name of God, Amen! I, William Shakespeare, of Stratford-upon-Avon, in the county of Warrick, gentleman in perfect health and memory, God be praised, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say, first, I commend my soul into the hands of God, my Creator, hoping and assuredly believing, through the only merits of Jesus Christ, my Saviour, to be made partaker of life everlasting, and my body to the earth whereof it is made.”

You won't get a testimony like that out of any monkey-man like Darwin, Einstein, Stalin, Sagan, or Hawking. All of them believed in *evolution*; not one of them believed God was his Creator.

Do you think somebody like JFK, John Paul II, Benedict XVI, or Mother Teresa had the kind of assurance Shakespeare had? Are you kidding? No Roman Catholic is depending “only” on the “merits of Jesus Christ” for salvation. All Roman Catholics are taught by their church that no one can know where he is going after death until he has died, because your *works* are involved in your salvation. You might “blow it” at the last minute.

Here's the fellow who said “Give me liberty or give me death”—Patrick Henry. Before he died in 1799, he wrote to his family:

“I have now disposed of all my property to my family. There is one thing more I wish I could give them, and that is faith in Jesus Christ. If they had that and I had not given them one shilling, they would have been rich; and if they had not that, and I had given them all the world, they would be poor indeed.”

“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul” (Mark 8:36); that's the business. Patrick Henry thought it was more important to have faith in Jesus Christ than to be rich in the things of this world.

Here's a fellow who was rich in the world's estimation: he was a multi-millionaire banker and industrialist. This is J. P. Morgan. Of all the transactions he made in his life, here is the one he considered to be above all the rest, as

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Last Will and Testament

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stated in his will:

"I commit my soul in the hands of my Saviour, full of confidence that, having redeemed me and washed me with His most precious blood, He will present me faultless before the throne of my Heavenly Father.

"I entreat my children to maintain and defend at all hazard and at any cost of personal sacrifice, the blessed doctrine of complete atonement of sins through the blood of Jesus Christ once offered, and through that alone."

You reckon "money-bags" like Warren Buffet, Bill Gates, Steve Forbes, and Michael Bloomberg could give a testimony like that?

Here is the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, John Jay:

"Unto Him who is the author and giver of all good, I render sincere and humble thanks for His merciful and unmerited blessings, and especially for our redemption and salvation by his beloved Son."

That's the same fellow who said, "It is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers." What a far cry from the "Nine Old Men" (and women!) on there for the past fifty years responsible for kicking God and the Bible out of the public schools, and for legalizing abortion and two queers shacking up together and calling it marriage.

And for our final "last will and testament," I have chosen the words of the seventh President of the United States. You won't find anything like it by Obama, Clinton, or Bush—even where they quote the Bible. This is General and President Andrew Jackson.

"The Bible is *true*." You got that Supreme Court? "The Bible is *true*." You got that NPR and PBS? "The Bible is *true*." You got that Obama, Bush, and Clinton? "The Bible is *TRUE*." It's true no matter what left-wing, Socialistic, pseudo-scientific agenda you are trying to push. It's so true that it will judge you "**in the last day**" (John 12:48).

"The Bible is true. Upon that sacred volume I rest my hope of eternal salvation through the merits of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

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Bro. Donovan's Meeting Schedule

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August 28-30

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Last Will and Testament

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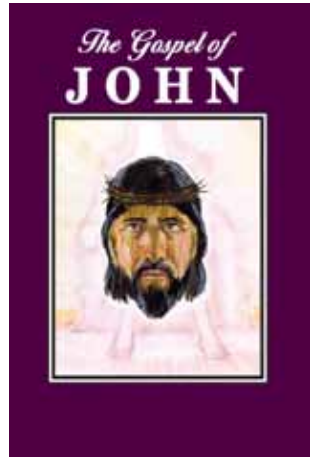
That's right, Andy. That Saviour told you, **"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me"** (John 5:39). He said, **"the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life"** (John 6:63). You went to the right place, "Old Hickory."

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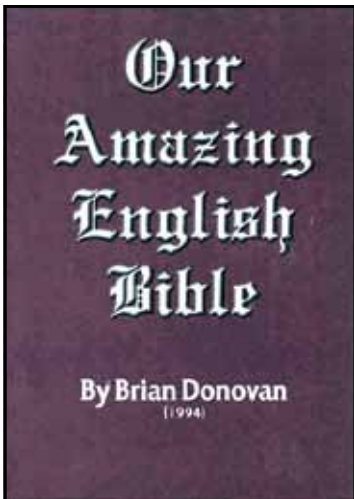
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Der Judenstaat

Continued from 1

in the 1920s, a Jewish immigrant family named Jacobson decided to move from lower East Side Manhattan to Kansas City. A business partnership was formed between Jacobson and a man named Harry Truman that resulted in a haberdashery store that folded in the Great Depression. But this little unnoticed event was the Lord's way of fulfilling His scriptural prophecies. The Lord formed this bond over 25 years before Truman would be in place as president of the USA.

After a visit from his old Jewish friend, Jacobson, and thirty minutes before Ben Gurion made his historic announcement, Truman let an enraged US Congress and State Department know that the USA was going to acknowledge the fledgling state of Israel. The United States "intelligence" community told Truman that if it came to pass, Israel would become a Communist puppet state within five years and detrimental to US interests in the Middle East. Harry did more for the interests of the USA by making this stand than the combined efforts of Carter, Ford, Clinton, Obama, and both Bushes.

The ensuing Arab attacks on the new Israeli state were divinely rebuffed against all odds by the Lord God Himself. Without the necessary planes, guns, ammo, or even uniforms, the Jews turned to flight the combined efforts of the Moslems in Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon. This war of independence in 1948 was a defensive effort that established the new state and fulfilled Bible prophecy. Over the next fifteen years, a stunned Moslem brotherhood rearmed and planned their next attack in 1967. Just before they could launch it, using exceptional intelligence from the Mossad, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol pulled a preemptive trigger, and the famous Six-Day War wiped out the Egyptian air force, as well as Jordan's and Syria's armies.

A few years later in 1973, Israel's woman Prime Minister, Golda Meir, sat among the United Nations, looking around and wondering why the Jews were so hated as she asked herself, "Why are we so alone? Why do we have no one to fall back on? Why are we so hated among the nations? WHY? WHY? WHY?" Being a secular politician with no Bible, Golda never got her answers. Without the Bible, whether Jew or Gentile, you can never get any answers.

That same year, her state was attacked in the Yom Kippur War and caught completely off guard. Facing grim losses, Moshe Dayan met with Meir and spoke of possible surrender, but within three weeks, there was a complete turnaround that found the Moslem killers crying to the United Nations for a cease fire. The Israeli Defense Forces had advanced clear up to Damascus in the north, and were about to destroy the Third Egyptian Army near Cairo in the south, when American "intelligence" intervened in the form of an American Jew named Henry Kissinger. He warned that if the Israelis did not back off, Russia would start World War III. Israel backed off and returned the Sinai Peninsula to the defeated Egyptians, and "peace" was established.

A few years later, a Southern Baptist American president, with visions of grandeur dancing in his head, decided he would bring peace to the Middle East. Jimmy Carter called the Jewish Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, to a summit

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Der Judenstaat

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meeting with his Cabinet. Probably only a coincidence, but Begin was not a purely secular Jew as Golda Meir, but held regular Bible studies in his home every week. Just prior to coming over to meet with the Georgian peanut head, Begin's home Bible study just happened to be in Numbers 22–24. (The Lord God of the Bible and human history probably had nothing to do with this timing.) Begin was particularly interested in Balaam's prophecy found in Numbers 23:9 and asked his scholars what it meant that Israel "**shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.**" One Hebrew scholar told Begin that the Hebrew was in the reflexive form and should be rendered: "this is a people that does not reckon itself among the nations." In other words, it was Jewish mindset that caused them to dwell alone. Another cautioned Begin that the Hebrew root implies "to conspire" and should therefore read: "this people dwells alone and does not conspire among the nations." In other words, it's not our fault; we aren't the ones conspiring against others. A third gave his opinion that Balaam's prophecy stamped Israel as "eternally abnormal," and any attempt to normalize her would end in failure.

Prime Minister Begin came to the conclusion that "other nations are multi-religious and multinational, but Jews are one and the same . . . we begin as a people with the calling out of Abraham, and begin as a nation with the calling out of Egypt. There can be no separation of religion and state in Israel." Armed with this Bible knowledge and the facts of history, Begin traveled across the Atlantic to sit with Carter and his Cabinet. The meeting started with Begin letting the Americans know that the recent visit of Arafat (the PLO killer) to the United Nations and his speech were a farce and void of facts. Arafat claimed that the Palestinians were in the land continuously for a few thousand years, and therefore it was their land.

When Cyrus Vance, the "brilliant" US Secretary of State, said he saw nothing wrong with Arafat's comments, Begin had one of his men read some facts from a book by Mark Twain called *Innocents Abroad*. Twain made a trip to the area in the 1860s and documented that there were no settlements or villages in Galilee for thirty miles in either direction. There were no "Palestinians," there was no "state," and it was a barren empty land about which no Moslem or Arab cared. All Twain saw were a few goatherders.

Carter and his men brushed aside these facts and put pressure on Begin to give up the Jewish homeland to the PLO killers. Carter even had the stupidity to ask Begin why he would not sit down with the PLO, since, after all, the USA sat down with their enemies to end the Vietnam War. He said that with a straight face as if it were a good analogy! The Viet Cong were not attacking the USA, nor did they have a charter that declared they existed to kill every last American, as the PLO charter states about the Jewish people.

Ever since Carter (with the exception of Reagan), the USA "intelligence position" has been to pressure the Jews to give up land for peace. It is a satanic attack against the Bible, against the Lord God Jehovah, and against His people

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Der Judenstaat

Continued from 17

Israel. The official political position of the good old USA is to carve up Israel's land till it becomes indefensible; it does not matter if the politicians are Republican or Democrat, Catholic or Protestant, liberal or conservative. This position is satanic and has sealed our doom as a country.

Do you have some doubts about the authorship of the Bible? Just take a good look at Israel. Right now, the lately established country of Iran, which is biblical Persia, is withstanding Israel. We have come full circle. When the prophet Daniel was praying and finally receiving his vision of the latter days, a spiritual battle was going on **"in high places"** (Eph. 6:12) where the **"prince of the kingdom of Persia"** withstood the angel for three weeks until Michael the archangel stepped in to help (Dan. 10:11-14).

The "political intrigue" of the nations is simply satanic orchestration being placed out against the Bible. Satan hates scripture, and in spite of all his attempts to thwart them, he can only fulfill them. The fact that the Clintons, Bushes, Netanyahus, et al., are unaware of the chessboard does not negate the truth that they are pawns being used to bring about the Lord God's plan for the ages, already penned in black and white in the *King James Bible*. That plan will end with the Jews restored to their homeland and all the Gentile United Nations coming to worship the Jewish King in Jerusalem, with no more Canaanites even in the land as goatherders (Zech. 14:16-21).

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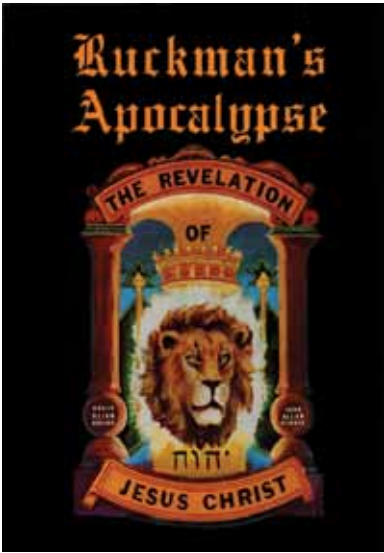
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(Plus Postage—page 18)

The Prophets of Gloom Come Into Their Own

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

For centuries now, off and on, there have been what Bible-rejecting people call “prophets of gloom.” They are marked by prophesying of terrible things to come, mainly the “last day” and the “last judgment.” Since most Bible-rejecters have outlived these “prophets” and seen their “prophecies” fail, this has given the whole world a sense of *false security* that such prophecies will *never* take place.

Well, I am here to tell you that you are about to have them “come to pass.” Of course, they will have nothing to do with “the end of the world” or “the last day.” Anybody who knows the Bible knows how ridiculous such predictions would be; after all, the world doesn’t end (and the Last Judgment won’t take place) until after Jesus Christ has reigned for a thousand years in Jerusalem (Rev. 20). How could “the end be near” when the Millennial reign is still ahead, not to mention the seven years of the Tribulation?

Now such subjects as the Tribulation and the Millennium are topics of “**the holy scriptures**” (Rom. 1:2; 2 Tim. 3:15) and, as such, are not recognized by any political gathering, like the Democratic National Convention, the Republican National Convention, Congress, the Supreme Court, or the United Nations Assembly. The politicians and bureaucrats wouldn’t know about what you were talking if you brought the subjects up, and if they did, *they wouldn’t* take them seriously. They would treat them as myths or legends or fairy tales either to be ignored or looked on with amusement and disdain for those who believe such things.

However, those subjects are found in a *history* book. The world treats the Bible as a “religious” book or a book just to give you moral lessons on life. According to such an attitude, you can’t count on the history found in the Book. But if you take the Book seriously, the Bible not only gives you history as it took place in the past, but as it will unfold in the *future*.

In fact, over half of the Book is *future history*. The scholars may be divided over exactly how many prophecies are in the Old Testament and how many of them have already been fulfilled, but one thing is for sure, there are 400 prophecies which haven’t happened yet; those are 400 details of history that will take place in the *future*.

Now if someone wanted to prophesy “gloom and doom,” he could do it with a clear conscience, and he couldn’t lay it on too thick. You see, there are two other subjects with which the Bible deals with which the Pope, the Catholic Church, Mohammed, the *Koran*, the UN, the State Department, the Supreme Court, the Congress, and the Administration never deal. They never deal with them because they know nothing about them. One of them was laid down more than 1,500 years before Christ was born, which means it was predicted 3,500 years before it takes place. It is about to come through right on the money, and

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The Prophets of Gloom Come Into Their Own

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you are right on the edge of it.

Here are a couple of Bible verses which nobody who is a *positive thinker* will accept. Both of them are true, and both of them will come to pass right in front of your eyes, if you live long enough. Neither one has anything to do with “the Last Judgment” or “the end of the world.” They have to do with *the destruction of the United Nations and the international slaughter on six continents of more than three billion people.*

Jesus said what is in store for this earth will be worse than the universal Flood of Noah’s day. Do you know where that is in the Bible? *Why don’t you?* The UN doesn’t know where it is; neither do the State Department, the ACLU, the NEA, or the American Association for the Advancement of Science. If you want to get what no “science” magazine (like *National Geographic* or *Nature* or *Omni*) or daily newspaper has any more idea than where Sitting Bull’s teeth are, read *Matthew 24*.

Now here is the first *historical verse*. Before Adam was created, somebody said, “**I will be like the most High**” (Isa. 14:14). Having said that, ask yourself some things: Who was it that said that? Did he *mean* it? If so, did he *try* to “**be like the most High**”? If he did, *how* did he do it?

You will find *no discussion* of this by any political body or leader. Do you know why? *Because the world was given to that person to run, and he’s been running it now for 6,000 years* (Luke 4:5–6). The New Testament calls him “**the god of this world**” (2 Cor. 4:4); the Old Testament calls him “**the God of forces**” (Dan. 11:38). You will find no discussion of either verse by any world leader. They threw the Bible out a long time ago.

Now if this person is going to “**be like the most High**,” he will have to have a *book* (2 Cor. 2:17) and a *church* that is his *bride* that is a *city* (cf. Rev. 17). He will have to have *ministers, apostles, and teachers* (2 Cor. 12:13; 2 Pet. 2:1). He will have to have *sons* (Eph. 2:2–3; John 8:44) and *angelic hosts* to back him up (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 12:3–4; Eph. 6:12). He will have to be a *consuming fire* (Rev. 13:11–13). And he will have to beget a son (2 Thess. 2:3). Why? Because that’s the record of the Bible about “**the most High**” (Eph. 5:25–32 and Rev. 21:2; Eph. 4:11; John 1:12; 2 Thess. 1:7–8; John 3:16). But don’t expect the European Union or NATO or the “G-7” Conference to discuss these things. All that material is in *the Book*, and they threw the Book out long ago.

Now, to “**be like the most High**,” this *imitator* (see how the new “Bibles” change 1 Cor. 11:1) would have to have a *son*. In the Book, that’s exactly what he has. That son is called “**the son of perdition**” (John 17:12; 2 Thess. 2:3) as Jesus is called the Son of God. He is the seed of the serpent as Jesus is the seed of the woman (Gen. 3:15). He is the “**man of sin**” (2 Thess. 2:3) as Jesus is the Son of man. He is the perfect *counterfeit* of “**the most High**,” and he is

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The Prophets of Gloom Come Into Their Own

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about to show up. You say, "Show up how? as what?" He is about to show up as a *military dictator who rules the entire world* (Rev. 13). Why will he show up like that? Because that is how **"the most High"** shows up at His return (Zech. 14; Rev. 19–20). When the imitator's counterfeit shows up, the population of the earth will be forced to take his "mark," and if anyone doesn't, he will either starve to death or have his head cut off (Rev. 13:15–18, 20:4). Why? Because he wants to **"be like the most High"** (Rev. 7:1–3; Zech. 14:16–21; Hab. 3:13–14).

Note: *all that information comes from the Holy Bible*. It has been *rejected* by world leaders since World War I and will *continue* to be rejected until that counterfeiter appears on the world stage. When he does, every leader of every country on six continents will gravitate to him like a cow licking up blackstrap molasses (Rev. 12:9, 13:1–8).

That is the first historic prophecy; the second is what I mentioned earlier about God pouring out His wrath on the entire world *worse* than He did in the days of Noah. The definitive verse on this is Matthew 24:21, but you can find detailed descriptions of that time in literally hundreds of verses of Scripture (e.g., Rev. 6, 16; Jer. 4, 25, 30; Joel 1–3; Zeph. 1–3; Isa. 13, 24, 63–64). Those passages are found in a Book that has been available in more than 160 major languages and 200 minor ones since 1900. They come from a Book, which has been carelessly neglected by the world's rulers and dismissed as mythology, fairy tales, "only figurative," and "symbolic." *They don't believe those Scriptures will actually take place literally in history.*

You are now ready: you are ready for Satan incarnate to replace God incarnate (see 1 Tim. 3:16 in a *King James Bible*; it has been changed in the *RV*, *ASV*, *RSV*, *NASV*, and *ESV*) and set himself up as King over his own kingdom (Dan. 8:23). **"Like the most High,"** he will have a kingdom, but it won't be the Kingdom of God as you find it in Romans 14:17 or even Luke 14:15. It will be the Kingdom of Death and Hell (Isa. 28:15, 18; Rev. 6:8).

All of this information has been available to all mankind on six continents, where anyone can get it, for over 400 years now, but it has been rejected by the world's leaders. Why? Because it prophesies *gloom and doom*. Politicians will have none of that. Their "bread and butter" is made by prophesying health (like Obama's new "health care" bill), wealth (like Obama's "redistribution of wealth"), liberty (like Obama's "liberation theology"), and prosperity—"happy days are here again" (like Obama's "hope and change"). The push is for integration, unity, "peace on earth," and universal brotherhood; and any positions to the contrary, say like *the testimony of both Testaments*, is to be *rejected*. If you don't follow suit, you are in for excessive taxation, punitive fines, or imprisonment: *that's* the future.

If you are not a "prophet of gloom" by now, you are no prophet. If you are

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The Prophets of Gloom Come Into Their Own

Continued from 22

busy predicting a “global family” where all men are brothers with God as everyone’s Father, you are about to be proven one of the biggest liars who ever trapped a sucker into believing a “crook.” The prophets of gloom are now in their “native habitat”; their “ships” are about to “come in.” They can take the texts for their sermons from Leviticus 27; Deuteronomy 28; Ezekiel 38–39; Jeremiah 1–25; Isaiah 2–34; Mark 13; Luke 17, 21; Revelation 6–19; Judges 5; Obadiah; and hundreds of other places in the Scriptures. I can guarantee their messages will be *ignored* as if they never existed, because all the verses proving them are *negative*.

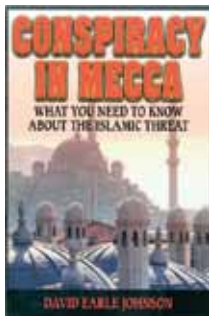
The only *positive* message for a prophet of gloom would deal with the future of the believer who goes by *the Book*. For the Bible believer, the future holds a glorious *rapture*, a “catching up” bodily to God. That includes believers before the Tribulation (John 10; 1 Cor. 15; 1 Thess. 4; Rev. 4) as well as believers before the Millennium (Job 37; Psalms 50; Isaiah 26–27). The one who has something good ahead on his prophetic chart is the man, woman, or child who is listening for a *sound*, not looking for a sign. If you don’t know what that sound is, you had better pick up a Bible, *read it*, and find out. Then you had better *believe* it (1 Thess. 2:13) and *take heed* to it (James 1:22).



Should America Give Away God’s Land?

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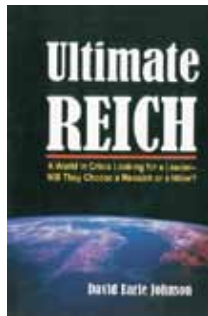
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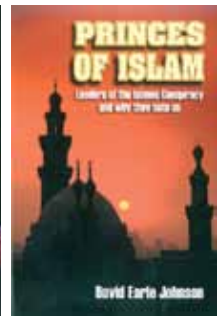
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(Plus postage — see page 17)

Patient Waiting

By Robert Militello

“And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into PATIENT WAITING FOR CHRIST” (2 Thess. 3:5).

Paul’s care for his converts is so obvious in this verse. He wants these former Gentile dogs to go on in their new life despite the trouble their witness for Christ has brought them (see 2 Thess. 1). Grace is given to all believers to take them deeper into the love of God, if they allow God’s grace to put to death the old man (see Tit. 2:11–12).

Doubtless, a closer walk with the Lord causes the believer to long even more for the nearness of his Saviour in every facet of life.

“As the heart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?” (Psa. 42:1–2).

If you are willing and the Holy Spirit takes you into a more intimate relationship with your Lord, your longing **“to depart”** and **“be with Christ”** (Phil. 1:23) must dramatically increase. Paul told the Philippians about his longing (see Phil. 1:21–23). Later, he wrote Timothy and told him graduation day was at hand (see 2 Tim. 4:6). The Apostle to the Gentiles waited for the Lord to come for His Bride in his lifetime, but it was not to be.

In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul tells his converts to wait for God’s Son to return from heaven (see 1 Thess. 1:10). In his second letter, he qualifies that **“waiting”** with the word **“patient”** (2 Thess. 3:5). Trouble and heartache have a way of making your longing for the Lord considerably more intense. He is coming for you, if

you are saved. If you are not walking with the Lord, then waiting, or patiently waiting, for His arrival is not an integral part of your thought life. You may have left the waiting room like Demas (see 2 Tim. 4:10), looking for a more self-gratifying way to pass the time.

Springtime being the season of redemption, Bible believers ought to be longing for and looking for, with more anticipation, the promised escape **“from this present evil world”** (Gal. 1:4 cf. 1 Cor. 15:51–53). The Jews escaped Pharaoh’s Egypt in Spring. In light of the type presented in Song of Solomon 2:8–13, should we not be in a heightened state of expectancy at this time of year? **“The winter is past”** (Song of Sol. 2:11), **“the flowers appear”** (Song of Sol. 2:12), and our ears should long to hear, **“Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away”** (Song. of Sol. 2:10).

When this hopeful season passes without Titus 2:13 coming to pass, I can’t help feeling somewhat deflated.

“Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when desire cometh, it is a tree of life” (Prov. 13:12).

Besides the disappointment connected with having to wait a little longer, Bible believers will discover an ever growing faithlessness even among those professing to be saved.

“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming?” (2 Pet. 3:3–4).

Waiting, waiting, waiting; besides breathing, eating, and sleeping. Waiting for something or someone is part of life on this earth. Early in life we are introduced to the discipline of waiting. It may be a joyful or joyless exercise

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Patient Waiting

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depending on for what or whom one is waiting.

My first awareness of the need to wait came to me as a young child. When my mind first grasped the connection between something called Christmas and the receiving of presents and toys, I began to look forward with great anticipation to that day's arrival. Learning to wait had now become an inescapable part of life. Well, I figured that as long as you had to deal with it, you might as well make the best of it, AMEN?

"But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it" (Rom. 8:25).

Much of the Christian life is spent waiting for prayer to be answered. Waiting for the Lord to grant our petition while under continued enemy assault is a most trying ordeal. Consider Hannah pleading with the Lord for a son while her husband Elkanah's other wife, Peninnah, who gave Elkanah children, was used as a knife to thrust into Hannah's heart (see 1 Sam. 1:1-10).

Waiting often carries you forward in the spiritual life to a greater understanding of your powerlessness. We need to learn, sometimes repeatedly, that our ability to manipulate others to bring about conditions favorable to us is severely limited. This is good because **"He must increase"** and we must decrease (see John 3:30).

"If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my time WILL I WAIT, TILL MY CHANGE COME" (Job 14:14).

Who among us, living in an aging body and no longer able to say "I'm in good health," is not looking forward to a new, maintenance-free body?

When this finally takes place at the calling out of the saints (Tit. 2:13), we will know instantly that some things are well worth waiting for. Waiting, for a believer, can only become tedious when his eyes are fixed upon his circumstances and not upon the promise of God.

If I had my way, I would place a *King James Bible* in every waiting room of every hospital, doctor, dentist, psychiatrist, and lawyer across America. Every magazine and house journal would be relegated to the trash bin. I would have a sign on the wall of each waiting room. The sign would have black letters on a yellow field, like a roadside caution sign or yield sign: **"ALL OF LIFE IS A PREPARATION FOR DEATH; DEAL WITH IT!"**

"And now, Lord, WHAT WAIT I FOR? my hope is in thee" (Psa. 39:7).

Before salvation, I could never understand just how useless and vain life is without Jesus Christ. There was always something to which to look forward. What young man isn't in a hurry to grow up? He waits, not so patiently, to reach the age of full mobility where he can drive, meet girls, and explore new avenues of devilment. The young wait to get older, and the old wait to die, especially here in Florida. Our population is aging. Baby boomers like myself will soon consider the possibility of having to move into an assisted living facility. I hope the Lord has come by then.

Florida's population will continue to grow as the "Boomers" leave the Northeast, with its winters and state income taxes, and search out a place in the "Sunshine State" to die. How does one wait to die not knowing

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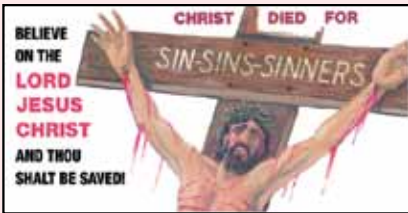
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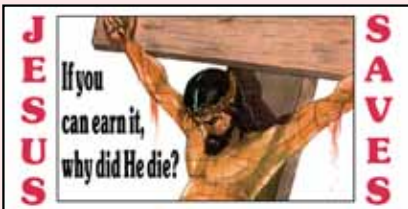
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Patient Waiting

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where his soul will go once it leaves the body? The routine for a large part of the population in Florida is getting up and signing in at the doctor's office or the lab to which they were referred and then, the obligatory trip to the pharmacy. Naturally, all this activity is topped off with phone conversations telling family, friends, and loved ones what the doctor said or what medicine they now have to take. Medical bulletins will then certainly have to be shared with the brethren at church. Is this what the Lord had in mind when instructing us to occupy until He comes (Luke 19:13)?

"The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him" (Lam. 3:25).

In God's word, I find a nation that waited so long for their promised Messiah, and when He came, they missed Him. Imagine waiting for an hour or longer in a doctor's waiting room and then hearing that the doctor had to leave abruptly and you need to reschedule your appointment. That happened to the Jews in A.D. 30–33. Now almost two thousand years later, the waiting room, once filled, is now practically empty. Just about everyone who came back to wait, after rescheduling to see the doctor, has died. Go among the Jews today and ask who is waiting for the Jewish Messiah to arrive. They've given up. The doctor's office phone stopped ringing after six million went to the ovens and gas chambers. Here and there, you may find an old orthodox Jew who really believes in his heart that Messiah is on the way. Most give the belief lip service and nothing more. Isn't that sad?

"Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh

shall find watching" (Luke 12:37).

Just waiting is not enough for a Christian. Watching while waiting is crucial.

"Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not" (Luke 12:40).

Waiting rooms can be relaxing, especially if you are not facing anything particularly threatening at that time in your life. The word *relax* does not appear in my Bible. It's not a good word for a Christian. As Dr. Ruckman has pointed out, words ending in "X" can be dangerous. Watching is not waiting, although both can be managed simultaneously. It grieves the Lord when He asks us to watch and we fail.

"And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour?" (Mark 14:37).

Are you watching? Do you expect the Lord to call you out of the waiting room into His presence at any moment? He may. About a year and a half ago, I was asked if I would marry a young couple here. It was told me that they were both saved but not attending church. In such cases, a careful examination is in order, especially when one or both parties are not personally known to you. A meeting at my place was scheduled. The young couple was told that it would take a few hours, and the discussion would be brutally frank. That's my style; it may not be yours.

Well, it was apparent that they both were saved, but had not taken the word of the Lord seriously for a long time. My marrying them was now conditioned upon both of them repenting and getting in God's word, without

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Patient Waiting

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 delay. Real wisdom involves fearing God, and they needed to make up for lost time. I finished my lecturing, because that is what it was, at about 4:30 p.m. It was a Friday.

Late the next night, the young man, in his twenties, said goodnight to his future bride and rode off into eternity. He wrecked his car, and a call on his cell phone may have had something to do with the accident. Some thirty hours earlier, he was listening intently

to what I had to say about living a life pleasing to God. A few days later, I saw his face in a casket. I know the Lord sent that young man to me knowing he was shortly to leave this earth. Thank God, we have a Saviour who cares for us. He wants us in His word, and if that is not happening, our God can arrange circumstances, like a wedding or funeral, where a preacher has an opportunity to "put it on you."

If you are saved, you should be

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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, 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.**

This is the Creed of the Alexandrian Cult.

Patient Waiting

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in the Lord's waiting room, out of the world and preparing **"to meet thy God"** (Amos 4:12). Here we are in 2015, and I honestly thought we would be home by now. Will the Lord have us waiting much longer? I hope not.

"For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry" (Hab. 2:3).

How's that for an obvious contradiction? The prophet is watching and waiting. He knows judgment is coming, but he has no clue as to when. He suspects it is near because Israel has fallen into serious spiritual decay. The Lord tells the prophet to write the vision, so those who read it may run. Have you read Revelation lately? Do you know what's coming? Are you moving with fear like Noah?

We are waiting while the Lord taries. We know our God is longsuffering, so tarrying should not surprise us. Nevertheless, we know the Lord will come right on time—His time—and **"will not tarry."** From the Lord's point of view outside of time and in eternity, there is no tarrying. Our God does all things well. From our point of view in time, it appears the Lord is tarrying. To bolster this point of view, we are asked to pray, **"Even so, come, Lord Jesus"** (Rev. 22:20).

Well, what if every Christian bom-

barded heaven day and night for the Lord to keep His promise in John 14:3? Would that cut short the perceived tarrying? If **"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much"** (James 5:16), then we ought to believe that our prayers can move God to action, AMEN?

Here's the bottom line; it is really quite simple. While we are in the waiting room, we ought to be praying often, reminding the Lord of the promises He made to come for us. All our problems get solved once and for all when He comes. All cares vanish. The duty of maintaining an aging body is lifted. Having our souls vexed by the filthy conversation of the world around us gets swallowed up in **"joy unspeakable"** (1 Pet. 1:8) the moment we see Him.

You and I may have waited, or are still waiting, for a lot of things to happen in this life, yet nothing except seeing the Lord face to face is really worth the wait. Everything comes and goes quickly in this world. His salvation alone has real value; it is permanent and glorious.

Most definitely, all of life is a preparation for death, and only in this can you truthfully say that "all men are created equal." I pray you'll resist the temptation to fall asleep like Peter. Watch and wait, please, just a little bit longer.

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