



Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 40 No. 3

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

March 2016

Easter Lessons From a Jail Bird

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

"And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people" (Acts 12:4).

In the text you have the only occurrence of the word *Easter* in your *King James Bible*. The word comes from an ancient Babylonian feast to the fertility goddess Ishtar. You will sometimes see Ishtar as Astarte; the Bible name *Esther* is the same word. The names mean "star" and refer to the planet Venus as the morning or evening star.

Because of that, the Fundamentalists and Conservatives say the word "**Easter**" is a mistake in the *Authorized Version*; they change it to "*Passover*" in their new "Bibles." There are two problems with that.

The first is that Passover had already come and gone. Look at verse 3 there in Acts 12: **"then were the DAYS of unleavened bread."** That's not **"the DAY [singular] of unleavened bread,"** which was another name for **"the Passover"** (Luke 22:1, 7); those were the seven days that followed Passover, what the Old Testament called the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Luke 23:5–6).

Second, it was a pagan Edomite King—Herod—in the passage (Acts 12:1) who was observing Easter. As an Edomite ruling over the Jews, not only would he have observed the scriptural holidays of the people over whom he reigned, he would also have observed the pagan holidays of his native country and the Roman government he served. So the *King James Bible* is right, and the consensus of "good, godly, dedicated" apostate Christian scholarship "can go plumb to the Devil" (Billy Sunday, 1927).

Now in the account in Acts 12, Herod kills "**James the brother of John**" (Acts 12:1–2), and when the King saw it pleased those Christ-rejecting Jews, he had Peter arrested and put on death row until Herod got

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CHARACTERS IN THE BOOK OF ESTHER AND THEIR TYPES

By Brian Donovan

The book of Esther is one of only two books in the Bible named after a woman, along with Ruth. Both books give important historical information from the time periods they were written. The Gentile kingdoms of the Old Testament are only important in the sense of how they are used in reference to Israel, and the book of Esther is no exception. The so-called “great” kingdoms of the world, as recorded in the Bible, are only mentioned with regard to how the Lord uses them as His pawns in dealing with His people Israel. Assyria, Babylon, Egypt, Persia, Greece, and Rome are each raised up, and then destroyed, for the glory of the God of the Bible and creation. Just around the corner, the world kingdoms are about to get together against the tiny nation of Israel (Zech. 14:2; Joel 3:2–3), only to be destroyed in one fell swoop by the King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11–16).

The book of Ruth is a picture of the marriage of Jesus Christ to His bride, the Church. Ruth is a Gentile (Moabite) who marries a Jew (Boaz). So the book begins with a funeral (Ruth 1:3—Calvary) and ends with a wedding (Ruth 4:13—Marriage of the Lamb). But the book of Esther is a picture of God the Father (Ahasuerus) marrying His Jewish bride (Esther), but not until He removes His apostate wife (Vashti). So the book begins with a wedding (Esth. 2:17 cf. Isa. 62:4) and ends with the Jews finally at peace (Esth. 10:3 cf. Joel 3:20–21). Even the timing of this end-time wedding is given, as we will see when we look at the types from the book of Esther that deal with prophetic events about to happen.

The events in the book of Esther take place in the kingdom of Persia in the days of Ahasuerus (Esth. 1:1). Since Ahasuerus is a title, as Pharaoh, Caesar, Ptolemy, etc., there is a disagreement among Bible scholars as to which of the Persian kings the Bible is referring to in this story. Without going into all the details, Darius Hystaspis (521–485 B.C.) is the one that best fits the Bible chronology here. Most commentators say this Ahasuerus is Xerxes I (485–465 B.C.); however, this would put an extreme age on Mordecai and his cousin Esther when considering that Esther 2:5–6 tells us that Mordecai was carried away with Jeconiah to Babylon. That date is 598 B.C. This would result in Mordecai being over 110 years old if Ahasuerus is Xerxes I. I am aware that the way around this problem is to say it was Kish, Mordecai’s great grandfather, who was carried away in the Babylonian captivity instead of Mordecai (Esth. 2:5); however, this would be an unnatural reading of the plain English, where the antecedent of the word “**Who**” in Esther 2:6 is a reference back to Mordecai back in verse 5, not Kish.

But all this only furthers the type, as the name of God also is not found anywhere in the book of Esther. Throughout the book, the king only goes by a title,

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Characters in the Book of Esther And Their Types

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Ahasuerus, and his name is never given. In only one other book of the Bible is the name of God absent (Song of Solomon). This caused the devilish Alexandrian scribe named Origen (A.D. 250) to put additional material into Esther (the sixth column of his Hexapla, which is commonly called the *Septuagint*), in order to make sure the name of the Lord was in the book. Some years later, the Roman Catholic Bible by Jerome in A.D. 420, called the Latin *Vulgate*, collected the added material and put it at the end of the book in six chapters (chaps. 11–16). The names *God* and *Lord* are scattered at least 25 times throughout the additions of this apocryphal mess. The Council of Trent (A.D. 1545–1563) then claimed this work authentic scripture and put damnation on anyone who refused to believe it.

Martin Luther (1545) proceeded to remove the additional chapters and lumped them with the other apocryphal books that he recognized as non-scriptural, placing them between the Old and New Testaments. This is due to the fact that Luther, as the translators of the KJV 1611, followed the Hebrew scriptures, understanding that **“the oracles of God”** were committed to the Jews (Rom. 3:1–2), not the Greeks or Alexandrians. The Jewish scriptures were preserved by Jewish scribes and did not contain the name of the Lord anywhere in the book of Esther. Anyone with the slightest amount of spiritual discernment can readily see that the absence of the Lord’s name is not to be equated with the absence of His handiwork.

In any event, the story unfolds in the kingdom of Persia after the seventy-year Babylonian captivity of Judah is over (606–536 B.C.). Mordecai and Esther are among the Jewish population that obviously did not return to the land of Israel when the captivity was past, and in the meantime, the Persians conquered Babylon. The king, Ahasuerus, holds a great feast to show off his wealth and power **“in the third year of his reign”** (Esth. 1:3). Ahasuerus, as a type of God the Father, has rule over a great and peaceable kingdom, as well as being a great benefactor toward the Jews, in spite of what they deserve.

He also has a wife named Vashti who refused to obey her king (Esth. 1:9–12). This makes Vashti a type of apostate Israel today. Notwithstanding the many comments and preaching that present Vashti as a noble, virtuous woman, the truth is that nothing is the Bible record shows that she was asked to do anything wrong or that she had the right to disobey the order given by her husband and king. Vashti was given a plain and simple command, and nothing in it can be considered vile or sinful, even though commentators imagine that she was being asked to put on some kind of lewd display. Vashti is with the wrong crowd and decides that she will not have her king to rule over her, just as Israel would do again some 500 years with Christ (John 19:14–15 cf. Luke 19:14). She refused to obey the word of her king and chose for herself what she would do.

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Recently on a train into New York City, while witnessing to a Jewish man, I asked him if he were expecting the Messiah to show up. He immediately said he did not believe in a Messiah. When I referred him to his prophets on the subject, he flatly told me he rejected the prophets and only went by the Ten Commandments. But trying to live by the Ten Commandments cannot give an atonement for sins, as the Lord requires blood for an atonement (Lev. 17:11).

This is exactly where apostate Israel stands today—in complete disregard and disobedience to her king. As a result, the Lord God has put away His disobedient wife, as found in the book of Hosea (2:2), and horror of horrors, God has actually divorced His wife because of her whoredoms! This means that the modern-day, Fundamental, Baptist “God” is no longer qualified to preach, since He has committed the “unpardonable sin” of divorce.

Vashti is put away, and a wife **“that is better than she”** must be found for the king (Esth. 1:19). Modern-day apostate Israel is spiritually far away from her King and continues in disobedience even in these last days. When the Lord stepped in to fulfill scripture and give Israel back the promised land in 1948, rather than turning back to her husband, apostate Israel took credit for the great victory over her Muslim enemies, citing her own “ingenuity,” “persistence,” and “resourcefulness.” In subsequent victories in 1954, 1967, and 1973, the Jews gave much credit to their superior intelligence agency, Mossad.

Due to rejecting her Messiah in A.D. 33 and claiming she had **“no king but Caesar”** (John 19:15), Israel will soon receive her desired Roman king in the form of the Antichrist (John 5:43). Vashti will be put aside and slaughtered in the coming tribulation, while a remnant of Jews refuse to take the mark of the beast and go into hiding in the wilderness. There she will be prepared for her Husband to take her back (Rev. 12:6; Hos. 2:14–16; Isa. 62:4). This is the **“remnant”** spoken of throughout the Old Testament scriptures (Isa. 1:9, 10:21, 11:11; Jer. 31:7–8; Ezek. 11:13, 14:22; Joel 2:32; Rom. 9:27), that the Lord will save through the tribulation. It is possible that it could be as small a number as 7,000 (1 Kings 19:18), but whatever is left will be the **“all Israel”** that will be saved when He returns to take away their sins (Rom. 11:26–27) and be married to Him.

Enter the new queen, Esther, to be taken in and raised up to marry her king (Esth. 2:16). Esther is a type of the remnant of Israel that awaits her Messiah. From her hiding place during the great tribulation in the wilderness of the rock city (Psa. 60:9), she will cry out, **“Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord”** (Matt. 23:39).

Did anyone pay attention to the timing of when this new marriage takes place? **“In the TENTH MONTH”** of **“the SEVENTH YEAR”** (Esth. 2:16). The preparation for Esther to become queen took from **“the THIRD YEAR”** (Esth.

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1:3) to **“the SEVENTH YEAR”** (Esth. 2:16). That is correct, three-and-one-half years to put away Vashti and take Esther. Esther is purified (Esth. 2:12) from among the **“virgins”** (Esth. 2:2 cf. Matt. 25:1–13) and married to her king after the great tribulation. She dwelt an orphan, without mother or father (Esth. 2:7), in a strange land (Heb. 11:9), with all the odds against her.

But behind the scenes, Esther has a great Friend who looks after her every day (Esth. 2:10–11). Enter Mordecai, a strong type of the Holy Spirit and the unsung hero of the story. He gives Esther wisdom (Esth. 2:10), shows persistence in looking after her welfare every single day (Esth. 2:11), and is completely loyal to his king. His work goes mostly unnoticed, yet he continues to do right.

Mordecai brought Esther through her orphaned years, and when the wrong king shows up, he refuses to bow (Esth. 3:2). His job is to glorify only Christ (John 16:14), not the Antichrist. Haman wants to rule with an iron fist and force everyone to bow, and it infuriates him that a single man will not do it.

Though the pagan Persians treated their rulers as gods, not so Mordecai. The old proverb that said, “When the monkey reigns, dance before him,” held no weight with Mordecai. The Democrats in Washington, D.C. have had to hold to that proverb over the last eight years, but not Mordecai.

Why can't you bow, Mordecai? The whole world bows to the Antichrist; why not you? His only answer is, “I am a Jew” (Esth. 3:4). Nothing more needs to be said as he stands fast. The silence of Mordecai in the gate was more deafening than all the trumpets blaring that were hailing Haman.

This causes the Antichrist to show great wrath and desire to kill every single Jew (Esth. 3:8–9). His attempts are almost successful, but behind the scene is the Holy Spirit (Mordecai), knowing that the word of God must come to pass, even if Esther holds her peace (Esth. 4:13–14). It does not matter that the whole world will come against the Jews (Esth. 3:13 cf. Zech. 14:2). It does not matter that the Antichrist stands in the holy place (Esth. 7:1 cf. 2 Thess. 2:4), with **“power and signs and lying wonders”** (Esth. 3:12–13 cf. 2 Thess. 2:9). **“The scripture cannot be broken”** (John 10:35), even if the Lord has to use a seemingly insignificant circumstance like a king being unable to sleep one night (Esth. 6:1–2).

Deliverance for God's bride must come from some place (Esth. 4:14), and the remnant must get through the great tribulation and be saved (Rom. 11:25–27). Not until the Antichrist is hanged will the king's wrath be pacified (Esth. 7:10). **“The triumphing of the wicked is short”** (Job 20:5). The vision shall **“surely come; it will not tarry”** (Hab. 2:3). **“Though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished”** (Prov. 16:5).

In the book of Esther is one of the greatest pictures in the Bible of the unseen hand of God. In one of the only two books in the Bible that does not bear

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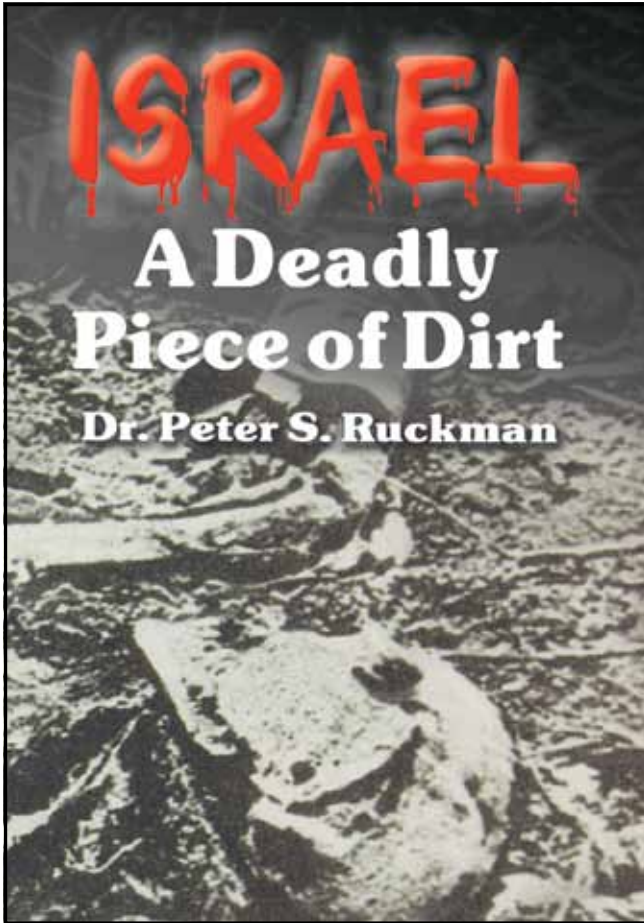
God's name (the other being the Song of Solomon), there He is behind the scenes, making sure that all of His will comes to pass. Though Iran (Persia), ISIS, and the whole Muslim world gather together to wipe out Israel, not a word of scripture can be broken; they must fall. The leader of Hezbollah in Lebanon (Nasrallah) once said, "We [the Lebanese] are capable of defeating this entity [Israel] and can make it disappear . . . therefore Hezbollah will never recognize Israel, not today, not tomorrow, not even in 1,000 years." What an ignorant "Freudian" choice of words! Isaiah 60:13–14 show that Lebanon will come to the Jew, and for 1,000 years they will bend the knee and recognize that Jerusalem is **"the city of the LORD."**

According to the Lord God, Obama and the U.S. Supreme Court, who both recently declared that Jerusalem is not part of Israel, must bend and call her, **"The Zion of the Holy One of Israel!"** (Isa. 60:14). In writing his majority opinion in June 2015, the Roman Catholic Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy refused to allow passports for Americans born in Jerusalem to read Israel as the country, agreeing with the Muslim-leaning Obama's statements and religious bias. Kennedy is the same nincompoop who gave the swing vote to allow queers to "marry," and then by law forced an open abomination (Obama-nation) on the USA. This country can now boast of putting its fist into the air, aimed at the Lord God, on both His word on Israel and on sodomy. Do not worry. The Lord's name may not be allowed in this country, but you can be sure that His unseen hand is at work.

Another hidden gem in the timing of the marriage of Esther to her King is found in Esther 2:16. Not only are we told that the marriage takes place **"in the seventh year"** of Ahasuerus, but **"in the tenth month."** The type could very well be an answer to a number the prophet Daniel uses in Daniel 12:12 when he says,

"Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days."

Since the great tribulation is 1,260 days (Rev. 12:6, 14, 13:5; as well as Dan. 7:25, 12:7), and since that period ends with the Second Coming of Christ at the Feast of Tabernacles (Neh. 8:17; Hos. 9:5), the 1,335 days could be pointing to the marriage. The Feast of Tabernacles is on **"the fifteenth day"** of the **"seventh month"** (Lev. 23:34), and when you add 75 days to that date, making 1,335, it comes out to the tenth month. This is when Esther is married to the King, and **"Blessed is he that . . . cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days"**—sometime after the tribulation period of 1,260 days and sometime into the millennial reign of the Lord Jesus Christ. **"Then the king made a great feast"** (Esth. 2:18), matching the blessing for those **"called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb"** (Rev. 19:9). That takes place on the earth, after the return of the Lord Jesus (Luke 12:36).



THIS addition to the Biblical and historical studies shows the spiritual decline of Israel from the prophets of the Old Testament to the Reformed and orthodox theology of today. At the same time, Dr. Ruckman traces how God has restored Israel to its present political State (and beyond) in fulfillment to His promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Possibly the most unusual book Dr. Ruckman has ever written. The research behind this book is greater than any previous work, with the exception of his two-volume work on church history.

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Easter Lessons From a Jail Bird

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through with his bunnies and egg hunts.

There are some great truths we can learn about Easter from Peter's experience here in jail. The first is *some people "are taken captive" by the Devil "at his will"* (2 Tim. 2:26). Man gives Satan the opportunity to control him by sinning against God.

If the Devil wants to work a fellow over, all he has to do is go to God and get permission (see Job 1-2). Jesus told Peter, "**Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat**" (Luke 22:31).

The Devil takes advantage of the nature of your body to reject something foreign to it, and the Holy Spirit is foreign to you in your natural state. You don't have to learn to be crooked, but you do have to learn to be holy. A man is taken captive by Satan from his birth (Eph. 2:1-3).

The next lesson is in verse 5 of Acts 12: "**Peter therefore was kept in prison.**" *Mankind is in prison.* That prison is the body of sinful flesh. That's why people take drugs, get drunk, practice transcendental meditation, etc.: they are trying to get out of "jail."

Paul recognized that. He said, "**O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?**" (Rom. 7:24).

I've preached to many a congregation where there are guys there in their forties and fifties whose whole life was just hell inside, and they

spent all their time trying to keep it shut up. Henry David Thoreau said, "Most men lead lives of quiet desperation."

That is why a lot of Americans think hell is here on earth. They got a taste of it here before they get there. The sad thing is, some of those type of people are *saved*. They made such a mess of their lives that they put themselves back under "**the yoke of bondage**" (Gal. 5:1).

The third lesson we learn is that *men are appointed to die*. Herod had Peter on death row and was just waiting for the right time to execute him. That Bible says, "**it is appointed unto men once to die**" (Heb. 9:27). Unless the Lord Jesus Christ comes back, every person reading this page is going to die. You have an appointment to keep, and you are going to keep it.

"Death comes on with reckless footsteps, To the hall and hut. Think you, Death will tarry knocking Where the door is shut?" No, sir, it won't. When it is finally time, you will keep your appointment with death, and it won't matter how you feel about it or what plans you had.

The question is not whether you are appointed to death; the question is *how* you face death. The Christian can face death with hope. He has the hope of Heaven; he has the hope of the resurrection. He doesn't have to "**sorrow . . . as others which have no hope**" (1 Thess. 4:13).

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The night before Peter was to be executed, he wasn't restless and in a panic; he was sound asleep. That's calm, brother. A good conscience can sleep in a thunderstorm.

The Apostle Paul wrote, "**I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand**" (2 Tim. 4:6). Why? He was ready to go home and see his Saviour (Phil. 1:23); that's why he could call death "**gain**" (Phil. 1:21).

The next lesson is in Acts 12:6—"**Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains.**" I learn from this that *mankind is asleep spiritually and is spiritually bound*. Over in Mark 11, a colt was tied, and the disciples were commanded to "**loose him**" because "**the Lord hath need of him**" (Mark 11:2-3). When Jesus called Lazarus out of the grave, He told the people standing around, "**Loose him, and let him go**" (John 11:44). Both of those are pictures of salvation.

Do you know why unsaved people get upset with you when you witness to them? You are waking them up out of sound sleep. How would you feel if I came into your bedroom around 3:00 in the morning, got about an inch away from your ear, and yelled, "HEY! WAKE UP!" Do you think you would be kindly disposed towards me? Well, that's how an unsaved person feels when you tell them he's lost and headed for Hell. You are waking him up out of a sound sleep.

I have had 200-300 Catholics

saved in my ministry, and about twelve of them are full-time ministers now. I have never led a Catholic to Christ where the same pattern didn't repeat itself. First he got mad, then he got scared, and finally he got saved. Every Catholic whom I ever led to Christ followed that same pattern. He gets angry first—simply furious—because you kick him out of his sleep.

Lost men are bound. They are bound by tradition. There was a fellow who visited Rome one time and saw the statue of the black St. Peter. So many people had lined up to kiss the toe of that statue, that the toe had been worn away. Well, when he got up to see it, he decided to measure with his thumb and forefinger how much had been "kissed away." After he had measured the toe and had kissed it himself, the next forty-fifty people in line did the exact same thing. They were bound by tradition and didn't even know why they did what they did.

The unsaved are bound by whatever the news media tells them to believe. The news media says integrate, so they integrate. It says abortion is a constitutional right, so they support "reproductive choice." The news media says, "Get rid of the Confederate flag; it's a sign of racism," so they do. It says two sex perverts deserve the right to "marry," so they "toe the line." It doesn't matter that what the news media pushes doesn't work and

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ends up bringing ruin; they swallow whatever is flushed down the "glass toilet" (the TV).

The next thing we learn from this account is that *men need light from God*: "**the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison**" (Acts 12:7). Poor, old Hank Williams wrote a song called "I Saw the Light," but he never saw it a day in his life. That chronic alcoholic, right before he died, was being driven by a College student to a concert up in Canton, Ohio. It was raining out, and the kid driving the car noticed Hank staring out into the night. He tried cheering Hank up by singing "I Saw the Light." Hank just sat there, gritting his teeth, saying, "There is no light; there is no light."

Man needs light because he has been blinded by "**the god of this world**" (2 Cor. 4:4). One of the ways he does that is to give the sinner *false light*. He transforms himself "**into an angel of light**" (2 Cor. 11:14) that is not "**the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world**" (John 1:9).

That Bible says, "**To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them**" (Isa. 8:20). God gives the lost sinner light *through His word*.

"**The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple**" (Psa. 119:130).

"**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path**"

(Psa. 119:105).

If "**the light of the glorious gospel of Christ**" is ever going to "**shine**" through to a poor, blinded sinner, it is going to have to come through that Book (Rom. 10:17). A little girl was talking to her friend one time and said, "Down at our church, we're having a 'rebible.'" Of course, she meant to say "revival," but "reBible" is a good term for a real revival. A revival is when a Christian gets back in that Book like he's supposed to and recommits himself to believing its words and practicing what it says.

Something else I learn from this passage is that *salvation is instantaneous*: "**Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands**" (Acts 12:7). Peter was delivered immediately, and if you get saved, it will happen the *moment* you trust Christ. It's not a long, drawn-out process. It takes a lifetime to build Christian character, but you don't get saved by character.

If God saved you according to how good you were, just think about how good you would have to be. Why, you would have to be as good as His Son. After all, His Son was the only person in the entire history of the world with whom He was "**well pleased**" (Matt. 3:17, 12:18, 17:5).

Do you know what your goodness is like to God? That Bible says, "**all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags**" (Isa. 64:6). Your righteousness, alongside "**the righteousness of**

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God" in Jesus Christ (Rom. 10:3-4), is no better than a pile of bloody rags from down at the hospital along with a bunch of oil-soaked, greasy rags from down at the garage compared to a spotlessly clean silk suit.

Acts 12:8—"**Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals.**" After salvation, *the Christian is to put on the proper "clothes."*

"And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness" (Eph. 4:24).

"And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints" (Rev. 19:8).

"Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace" (Eph. 6:14-15).

The Christian's "change of clothes" should accompany *following Christ*: **"Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me"** (Acts 12:8). When blind Bartimaeus got saved, he threw away his old garment and followed Christ (Mark 10:50-52). Jesus told Matthew, **"Follow me,"** and Matthew dumped his job **"at the receipt of custom"** and got him a new one following the Saviour (Matt. 9:9).

If you follow the Lord, He will get you through. The fellow who got me into soulwinning and personal work was a converted Catholic named

Glen Schunk. Glen Schunk went through World War II leading troops to Christ. One time, he and his buddies were coming back from a reconnaissance patrol through a thick snow. They got turned around in the snow and had a hard time finding their way back to their unit. They came to a fork in the road and didn't know which way to go, so Glen got down on his knees and prayed for God to show them which path to take.

The Lord impressed Glen to take the left path, so they did. Admittedly the Lord doesn't often do that, but Glen felt that God definitely told him to take the left path. It was a good thing they did too, because the next day when they made an attack on enemy lines, Glen's unit came to that right path and found a German machine gun nest, about fifty yards down it, with three machine guns aimed right down that trail. If Glen hadn't been following the Lord, he and his buddies would have been dead.

Finally, we learn that *an unsaved man is not in his right mind until he comes to Christ*: **"And when Peter was come to himself"** (Acts 12:11). When that prodigal decided to repent and return home, Jesus said, **"he came to himself"** (Luke 15:17); before that, he was out of his mind with covetousness, greed, and lust. Paul says that when we get saved, **"God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind"** (2 Tim. 1:7).

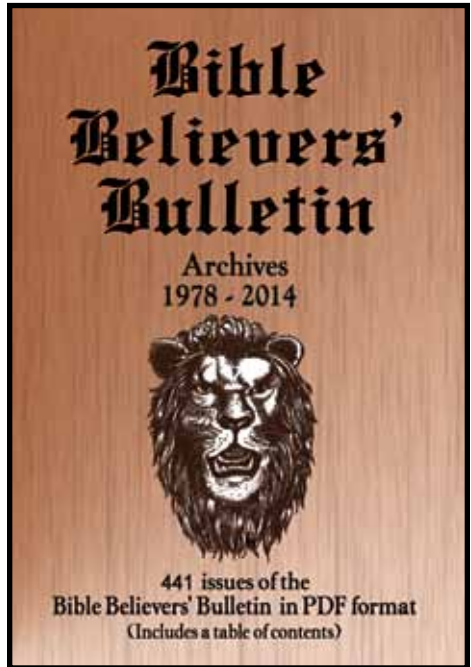
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Important Notice

Due to his health, Dr. Ruckman is no longer able to answer any correspondence sent to him. He already has more mail than he will be able to answer. We must ask, therefore, that no more correspondence be sent to Dr. Ruckman. If you have already sent a letter to him and do not receive an answer, your understanding is appreciated. Please know that Dr. Ruckman appreciates your love and concern, but he has reached that point in his life, with macular degeneration, where he simply cannot keep up with the demands of answering all the mail sent to him. Thank all of you for your cooperation and continued prayers.

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Easter Lessons From a Jail Bird

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What's more, a sinner can get *assurance of salvation* when he comes to Christ: **"Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me"** (Acts 12:11). He doesn't have to "hope so" or "think so" when it comes to going to Heaven; he can *know so*.

"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).

Paul said, **"for I KNOW whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day"** (2 Tim. 1:12).

With Peter, this deliverance amounted, figuratively, to a resurrection (cf. Heb. 11:19). The evidence of resurrection is all around you in the Spring, much more so up north. God takes those trees that have looked dead all Winter and brings them back to life in the Spring.

I wish you could get ahold of that. Beloved of God, the graveyard can't hold you when you go. The old saying is: "You can't keep a good man down." And if you are saved and have Christ's imputed righteousness, *you are coming up*: **"the dead in Christ shall rise"** (1 Thess. 4:16).

You have been given an earnest of that now when you got saved. The Bible says, **"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed**

away; behold all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5:17). **"Buried with him by baptism into death";** raised to **"walk in newness of life"** (Rom. 6:4).

Brethren, my days as a lost man aren't to be compared with my life as a child of God. Before I was saved, I was polishing off a case of beer every day, smoking something like five–six cigars a day, playing dirty music as a disc jockey by day and a dance band drummer at night, and fornicating as opportunity presented itself. After I got saved, God gave me a family, made me sober, called me to preach, and allowed me to have a garden, hunt, fish, and play hockey. The friends I had before I was saved saw me go from a drunk on his way to becoming a chronic alcoholic to inviting children to vacation Bible school, saying, "Get in the car with the bunny on the windshield." You talk about passing **"from death unto life,"** boy; that was it (John 5:24; 1 John 3:14).

"Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;

Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—

I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;

My chains fell off, my heart was free

I rose, went forth, and followed thee."

Charles Wesley

PREPARING PARISHIONERS FOR THE SON OF PERDITION

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

It is a well known fact that all the Reformers referred to the Popes, both individually and collectively, as the *Man of Sin*, the *Son of Perdition*, and the *Antichrist*. Some examples are:

1. Martin Luther—"We here are of the conviction that the papacy is the seat of the true and real Antichrist . . . personally I declare that I owe the Pope no other obedience than that to Antichrist" (Froom, *The Prophetic Faith of our Fathers*, Vol. II, pg. 121).

2. John Calvin—"I deny him to be the vicar of Christ, who, in furiously persecuting the gospel, demonstrates by his conduct that he is Antichrist" (Calvin, *Tracts*, Vol. I, pg. 219).

3. John Knox—"As for your Roman Church, as it is now corrupted . . . I no more doubt but that it is the synagogue of Satan, and the head thereof, called the Pope, to be the man of sin of whom the apostle speaketh" (Knox, *The Zurich Letters*, pg. 199).

4. William Tyndale—"The pope's forbidding matrimony, and to eat of meats created of God for man's use, which is devilish doctrine by Paul's prophecy . . . are tokens good enough that he is the right antichrist, and his doctrine sprung of the devil" (Tyndale, "An Answer to Sir Thomas More's Dialogue" in *Works*, Vol. III, pg. 131).

6. Huldreich Zwingli—"I know that in it (speaking of the papacy) works the might and power of the Devil, that is, of the Antichrist" (*Principle Works of Zwingli*, Vol. VII, pg. 135).

You will also find the *King James* translators making the same identification in the Epistle Dedicatory to the *Authorized Version* ("which hath

given such a blow unto that Man of Sin, as will not be healed"). Of course you won't find it in the "New King Jimmy Version" put out by Thomas Nelson. John Wesley identified the Pope that way as well; as did Cotton Mather (Puritan) and Roger Williams (Baptist). The founders of every major Protestant denomination all made that profession, and for good, Scriptural reasons (see 2 Thess. 2:3-4; 1 Tim. 4:1-3).

But here comes "Father" Kenneth Ryan, an "expert" in Catholic apologetics, writing for *The Catholic Digest*, answering a Roman Catholic girl who had been witnessed to by a Biblebeliever and had been told that the Pope had the number 666 (see Rev. 13:18) on his crown. The reference is to the inscription VICARIVS FILII DEI, which all Popes had on their miter up until the "reign" of John XXIII (1958-1963), when it was quietly removed to turn the church into a Communist organization. The title means "Substitute Son of God," and such megalomania didn't fit in too well with "oppressed minorities," "social justice," "guaranteed wages," etc.—that is, the current agenda of Pope "Francis." To the girl's question, "Father" Ryan answers as follows, and we quote:

"Among the *prejudiced*, the claim has been made that if you use the pre-classical system, 666 comes to VICARIVS FILII DEI, one of the *official titles* of the Pope" (pg. 112).

Well, does it? They never say, do they? *They never deal with the facts*. Like Karl Keating, Kenneth Ryan's "apologetic method" is to make a

Continued on 15

PREPARING PARISHIONERS FOR THE SON OF PERDITION

Continued from 14

“shocking statement” so you will think, “How could anyone possibly believe that?!”

Let us speak for Father “Fifth-Amendment, Deaf Mute” who can’t finish a train of thought after he has launched into it. Here are the *facts* with which Father Ryan couldn’t deal. “VICARIVS FILII DEI” is Latin, and in Latin, certain letters have numeric values (“Roman numerals”); in this case, V (5), I (1), C (100), L (50), and D (500). So add them up:

1. Two “Vs” equal 10.
2. Six “Is” equal 6.
3. One “C” equals 100.
4. One “L” equals 50.
5. One “D” equals 500.

Add them up! Never mind some close-minded bigot accusing you of being “prejudiced”; *just add them up.* Even a bigot can add 500, 100, 50, 10, and 6 together: they come up to 666 no matter who does the math. If you don’t care for that *fact*, it is because you are a *prejudiced bigot*.

Now to sidetrack the poor girl whom he is answering, he is going to give her some other people whose names and titles add up to 666 to make her think the phenomenon couldn’t possibly mean anything in regards to the Pope.

“With about the same amount of accommodation and hedging, someone else has used a set of letter numerals amounting to 666 to get the name of Hitler.”

Hitler was a Roman Catholic just like the Pope; he was a type of the Antichrist just like the Pope. Although he didn’t wear 666 on his forehead,

he made a concordat with the man who did.

“Going next to Hebrew, 666 would be NRWN QSR (Nero Caesar), which is in that language is the name of the ROMAN Emperor Nero.”

Exactly. Tic, tac, toe; *Rome* three times in a row.

“The first to attack the Pope this way were the late medieval heretics the Albigenes and Waldenses” (pg. 113).

Aw! Com’on, Kenny, baby. Don’t be bashful; tell the young lady what your church *did* to those “late medieval heretics.” Don’t you think she and your other readers would like to know what the Roman Catholic Church does (*when she can get away with it*) to people who believe the Pope is the Man of Sin? Go ahead, Kenny; tell her.

You won’t? Then we will. The accounts can be obtained in two works available here at the Bible Baptist Bookstore: *Foxe’s Book of Martyrs* (RC-1620 @ \$11.99) and *Martyr’s Mirror* (BG-1012 @ \$45.00). The Pope ordered their *extermination* and launched a *military crusade* against them as he did the Mohammedans in the Holy Land. The Pope had them tortured, slain, exposed to the elements in the dead of winter, and burned alive—*about 500,000 of them.* It was kind of like Mohammed having anyone who made fun of him *murdered*; Roman Catholicism and Islam have a lot in common.

“The early Reformers Wycliffe and Huss took up the idea, but I would *guess* that in the first place, they said only that the Pope should wear the

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PREPARING PARISHIONERS FOR THE SON OF PERDITION

Continued from 15
number of the beast" (pg. 113).

Would you give a quotation for that "guess," Mr. Ryan? No, he won't; they never do. This is the same church that burned John Huss after promising him safe conduct; their excuse was that it was perfectly all right to lie to a "heretic" (see the same thing with Mohammed and "infidels").

"The Popes . . . took some consolation from the fact that the LORD HIMSELF was called Beelzebub, the prince of devils" (pg. 114).

What consolation would that be to a Pope? Christ was casting out devils when He was called that; no Pope could cast out even a mosquito. Jesus Christ was the sinless Son of God; the Popes were a bunch of licentious, avaricious, megalomaniacal religious fakirs. Jesus Christ was *the truth*; every Pope from Leo I onward would lie to you just as quick as look at you if it would advance the power and wealth of *him* or *his church*. If you want the documentation for what I just said, look up pages 770-779 of *Halley's Bible Handbook* (RF-1619 @ \$15.99) and read the whole sordid mess. That's not "name-calling" (see below); that's *history*.

"That's all it is, name calling. The reason that people still go around believing the Pope has 666 engraved on his crown . . . follows from the Hitler principle: the bigger the lie, the easier it is to get people to believe it. One reason the lie about the 666 on the tiara has not been long since 'nailed' and removed from circulation is the moral impossibility of proving a negative proposition."

What is there to "prove"?

1. He admitted "*VICARIVS FILII DEI*" was the Pope's official title.

2. It is a *fact* that all the Roman numerals in the inscription add up to 666.

3. Since there are no other Roman numerals in the title than the ones we listed, the title adds up to 666.

What is "the moral impossibility"?

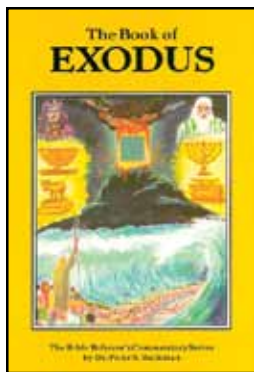
"How a PUZZLE JOKE like 666 got into Sacred Scriptures can be explained from the practices of the *Jewish scholars* at the time. The number juggling operations of this school were known as 'gematria' . . . nearly everyone loves a puzzle. The combined joy of finding an answer to a puzzle and getting in a clout at the Pope explains why some people want to put the devil's number on the Pope" (pg. 116).

First, no "Jewish scholar" wrote Revelation; John was an unlettered commercial fisherman turned preacher (Acts 4:13). Second, it is the mind that has "**wisdom**" that understands the "puzzle," and no one without "**understanding**" could get it (Rev. 13:18). Next, it is no more a "puzzle joke" than the *Bottomless Pit* (Rev. 9:11, 11:7, 17:8).

The joke is on the fool who allows his title to bear the number of the Son of Perdition and allows his church members to disregard the prophecy in regards to that number. All combinations of 666 from Latin, Greek, and Hebrew point to *Rome*. Not even *Ronald Wilson Reagan* (six letters in each name) is exempt, for he appointed the first official U.S. ambassador to the Vatican.

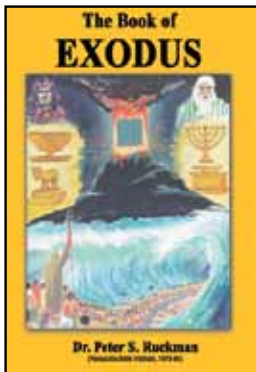
"All roads lead to Rome," and in this case, it is Route 666.

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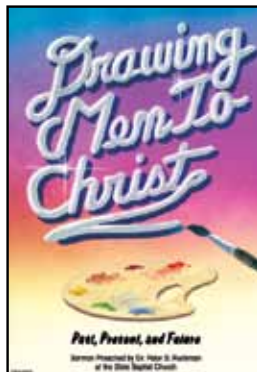
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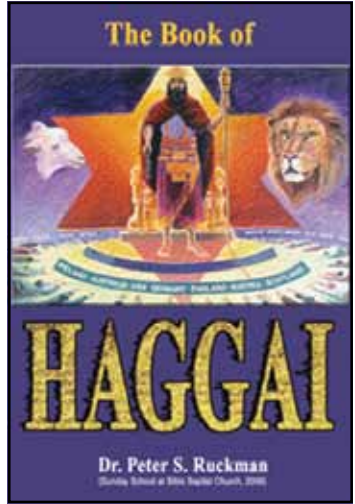
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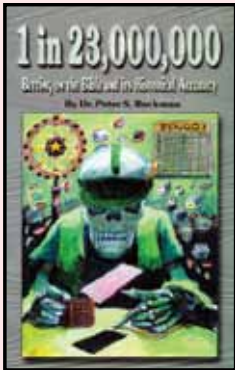
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Does Greek Help?

By Dean Hays

(Part Five of Eight)

We have been asking the question, "Does Greek help us in our understanding of the Bible and what it says?" In the last couple of articles, we have been examining manuscript evidence for some key passages of scripture dealing with Christ: His Deity (1 Tim. 3:16), His sinlessness (John 7:8), His resurrection (Mark 16:9–20), and His ascension (Luke 24:51). These have all been changed in the new "Bibles," based on the "original Greek," and the results are attacks on the doctrine of Christ.

Now there are other "big" verses at which we could look, like Colossians 1:14 where the "**blood**" is removed, or Luke 2:33 where the new versions make Joseph Christ's father, or John 3:13 where the omnipresence of Christ is attacked by removing "**which is in heaven**" from the end of the verse, or Acts 4:27, 30 where even the *New King James Version* changes "**holy child**" to "*holy servant*." Going through Jack Moorman's book, I began to notice something. It was not just changes to the big, major verses dealing with Christ that destroyed the doctrine; it was the small, dinky, seemingly insignificant changes that chipped away at the doctrine until it was completely undermined.

Now what would be a "seemingly insignificant" change? Something like removing *Lord* from the name *Lord Jesus*, or removing *Lord* from the phrase *Lord Jesus Christ*. That's a small thing, a very small thing. If that were presented to someone and that's all that could be said was wrong with his Bible, I would have to admit that would be nitpicking a little. But if you could be shown a whole *series* of verses where the Sonship or the Lordship of Jesus Christ is disassociated with His name, that would no longer be "nitpicking." One or two, yes; but if I give you *thirty*, someone else is doing the nitpicking. If I can follow those up with *forty more* where the title of *Christ* is disassociated with Jesus' name, something is bad wrong with the new versions.

1) Matthew 8:29—"Jesus, THOU SON OF GOD" becomes just "*Jesus*."

2) Matthew 13:51—"Jesus, THE SON OF GOD." A footnote is usually included to cast doubt on the verse: "Some MSS do not have '**the Son of God**.'"

4) Mark 9:24—"LORD, I believe." "**Lord**" is removed so that you are only left with "*I believe*."

5) Mark 11:10—"cometh in the name of the Lord" is removed altogether.

6) Luke 7:31—"and the Lord said" is removed altogether.

7) Luke 9:57—"LORD, I will follow thee." No "**Lord**" in the verse.

8) Luke 9:59—"LORD, suffer me first to go and bury." No "**Lord**" in the verse.

9) Luke 22:31—"AND THE LORD SAID, Simon." The "**Lord**" doesn't say anything to "**Simon**" because the new versions got rid of that part.

10) Luke 23:42—"LORD, remember me." That's the thief on the cross getting saved, so the new "Bibles" change "**Lord**" to "*Jesus*" so the thief won't be addressing Deity.

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Does Greek Help?

Continued from 21

11) John 9:38—“**LORD, I believe.**” The new “Bibles” will usually include a footnote casting doubt on the word “**Lord**” for the reader.

12) Acts 9:29—“**in the name of the Lord JESUS.**” This time, just to be different, the word “**Jesus**” is removed.

13) Acts 19:10—“**heard the words of the LORD Jesus.**” “**Lord**” is gone.

14) Acts 22:16—“**on the name of the LORD.**” “**Lord**” is gone again.

15) Romans 6:11—“**Jesus Christ OUR LORD.**” “**Our Lord**” is stricken from the text.

16) Romans 16:18—“**Lord JESUS Christ.**” “**Jesus**” is removed.

17) 1 Corinthians 5:5—“**day of the Lord JESUS.**” “**Jesus**” is removed again.

18) 1 Corinthians 15:47—“**THE LORD from heaven.**” “**The Lord**” is booted out of His Heaven here.

19) 1 Corinthians 16:22—“**love not the Lord JESUS CHRIST.**” The new versions get rid of “**Jesus Christ.**”

20) 2 Corinthians 4:10—“**dying of THE LORD Jesus.**” They get rid of “**the Lord.**”

21) Galatians 6:17—“**marks of THE LORD Jesus.**” And they get rid of Him again!

22) Ephesians 3:14—“**Father of OUR LORD Jesus.**” Jesus is not “your Lord” here, at least not in the new “Bibles.”

23) Colossians 1:2—“**and the Lord Jesus Christ.**” The whole expression disappears.

24) 1 Thessalonians 1:1—“**from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.**” This time, the new versions got rid of both the Father and the Son: the entire ending of the verse is gone.

25) 1 Timothy 1:1—“**LORD Jesus Christ.**” They get rid of “**Lord**” again.

26) 1 Timothy 5:12—“**LORD Jesus Christ.**” And again.

27) 2 Timothy 4:1—“**LORD Jesus.**” And again!

28) 2 Timothy 4:22—“**Lord JESUS CHRIST.**” “**Jesus Christ**” is removed this time.

29) Titus 1:4—“**and the LORD Jesus Christ.**” And now we are back to “**Lord**” being removed.

30) 2 John 3—“**LORD Jesus.**” As it is here.

Did you notice a “pattern” there? Why were they all removed from the text? When you hear that the *King James Bible* does a better job of magnifying the Deity of Christ, that is the *truth*.

But not only is Jesus disassociated with His identity as Lord, He is also disassociated with His title of Christ. Here are forty places where Christ is disassociated from Jesus in the newer, modern, up-to-date, easier-to-understand Bibles, either in the text or in the footnotes.

Matthew 16:20

Ephesians 3:9

Continued on 23

Does Greek Help?

Continued from 22

Matthew 23:8

Philippians 4:13

Luke 4:41

Colossians 1:28

John 4:42

1 Thessalonians 2:19

John 6:69

1 Thessalonians 3:1

Acts 16:31

1 Thessalonians 3:13

Acts 19:4

2 Thessalonians 1:8

Acts 20:21

2 Thessalonians 1:12

Romans 15:8

1 Timothy 2:7

Romans 16:20

2 Timothy 2:19

1 Corinthians 5:4 (twice)

Hebrews 3:1

1 Corinthians 9:1

1 Peter 5:10

1 Corinthians 9:18

1 Peter 5:14

1 Corinthians 16:23

1 John 1:7

2 Corinthians 5:18

1 John 4:3

2 Corinthians 11:31

2 John 9

Galatians 3:17

Revelation 1:9 (twice)

Galatians 4:7

Revelation 12:7

Galatians 5:15

Revelation 22:21

That's seventy places where Lord or Christ is disassociated from the name Jesus. Who's behind that?

Moreover, the phrase "**Lord Jesus Christ**" is changed 22 times in the new versions. It appears 84 times in the *King James Bible*, so that means 26% of the occurrences are messed with. That's an attack on the Deity of Christ: "**Lord**" for God the Father, "**Jesus**" for God the Son, and "**Christ**" for God the Holy Spirit (see Col. 2:9). But it goes unnoticed because it doesn't look like a big thing. Those are "**little foxes, that spoil the vines.**"

Next month, we will examine the manuscript evidence for other erroneous readings of the new "Bibles" against *fasting*.

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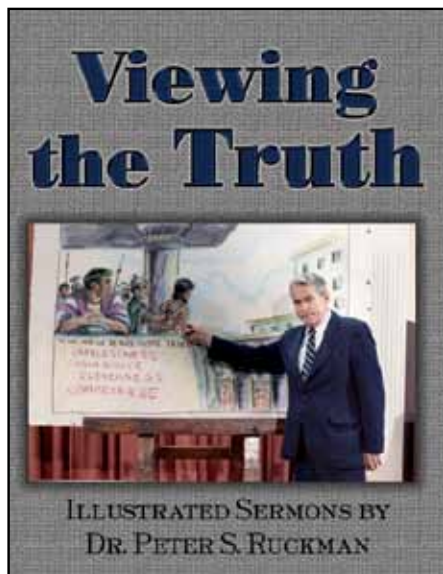
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Who's Your Daddy?

By Robert Militello

“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do” (John 8:44). If God is everyone's Father, as Pope Francis often reminds us, then Jesus was badly misinformed and not at all politically correct.

“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first” (2 Thess. 2:3). Since the creation of the League of Nations in 1920, and its successor the United Nations in 1945, no pope has labored as aggressively as Francis to recast the image of the Holy See in the minds of non-Catholic heads of state. International political correctness has been so warmly embraced by the Jesuit Pope Francis that a doctrine taught by Rome for centuries has been conveniently thrown under the bus.

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER, BUT BY ME” (John 14:6).

For the United Nations and the Vatican to fully reconcile, the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man must be taught as doctrine, regardless of what Jesus said on the subject. Also, if Rome is to seduce apostate Israel into relinquishing its claim to all of Jerusalem, it must fall away decisively from a position the Jews will forcefully reject. Francis is now fully on board with the world spirit of inclusivism. To be a “Holy Father” to Catholics only is yesterday's thinking. Today, he must be the world's “Holy Father.”

By design, the first epistle that appears in the New Testament is written to Christians in Rome. That epistle is all about doctrine, and it teaches **“the gospel of the grace of God”** (Acts 20:24), a gospel not taught by the Catholic Church. All religions teach what Rome teaches: do x, y, and z for God; hope you've done enough good to outweigh your misdeeds; and *maybe* you'll make it to heaven. This spiritual nonsense gave rise to the expression: “All roads lead to Rome.” They do when you reject **“the gospel of the grace of God.”**

Rome, under Pope Francis, is presently becoming the champion of the Fatherhood-of-God doctrine, because that is what is necessary to court the nations and marry the Holy See to the United Nations. Incidentally, this marriage will end in disaster for Rome.

“And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire” (Rev. 17:16).

After the nations who were seduced by the Roman whore burn her, they too will be destroyed.

“Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy” (Zeph. 3:8).

So the Lord is maneuvering Rome into a fatal embrace with the UN.

Who's Your Daddy?

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Last September, when the Pope addressed the UN General Assembly, he enthusiastically pledged the Vatican's support to combat so-called "global warming" by urging the nations to find a solution to the problem and "save the planet." In 2013, the pope, who was *Time* magazine's "Man of the Year," warmed the hearts of those who reject God's words by answering a reporter's question about homosexuals and the church. Pope Francis, charged with the Jesuit passion to embrace the world, said, "Who am I to judge?" "**The god of this world**" (2 Cor. 4:4), speaking through his chosen religious vessel, wants to make certain that no one believes he or she is under "**the wrath of God**" (Rom. 1:18–27 cf. Eph. 5:6; Col. 3:6). To send such a signal to sinners is to weaken the teaching that "God is love." If the Jesuit, Catholic pope is to be the "Holy Father" of all, then all must believe God loves them without conditioning that love on believing Jesus is the only way to God. That pious sounding "Who am I to judge?" was Rome's way of telling the Western World, where homosexuality is gaining acceptance, that the Vatican's bed was now inviting the UN to sample its pleasures.

"I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen of Egypt. I HAVE PERFUMED MY BED with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon. Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves. For the goodman is not at home, he is gone a long journey" (Prov. 7:16–19).

Rome thinks it has Jesus Christ in a wafer stored in a little tabernacle on an altar. This is what it demands Catholics believe. But I know the Jesuits, having gone to their school. They (many, not all) know the Lord they profess to serve is not at home in their church. He left a long time ago, as Proverbs 7:19 indicates. Nevertheless, to keep the biblically ignorant masses in Europe under Rome's rule, the doctrine of Christ's body and blood present in the Eucharist was taught as sacred truth.

As a Catholic, I believed the Eucharist was some sort of spiritual "viagra" able to impart life to a dead soul. Thank God for His grace, or I would still be walking the aisle to the communion rail, ready to receive a wafer powerful enough to cleanse my heart and make me fit for heaven. Sadly, the "power" I received Sunday morning had vanished by the time Tuesday or Wednesday night came around, sometimes earlier.

"Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God" (John 8:41).

Everyone wants to believe God is his Father. Who wants to discover that they might be a bastard child (see Heb. 12:5–8)? Jesus was accused of being illegitimate, born out of lawful wedlock. In Ephesians 2:1–3, Paul showed that those outside of Christ are "**children of wrath**," not children of God.

How could Pope Francis win the hearts of unrepentent homosexuals by telling them that they are "**children of wrath**," fulfilling the desires of the

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flesh and of the mind? No, the self-proclaimed successor to Peter gave hell's best answer: "Who am I to judge?" Perverts around the world were comforted, while many Catholics who still fear God were dismayed. Even Putin of Russia saw the pope's response to the homosexual issue to be a further sign of the West's decadence.

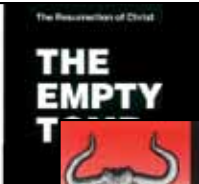
In these last days before we leave, Rome will work hard at developing a strategy to make its bed more inviting to Moslems and secular Jews. Jesuits are masters of strategic planning and geopolitical intrigue. Last November, Pope Francis visited his flock in Africa, where Moslems have become a real problem for the future of the Catholic Church. Africa will be the place where the Jesuits will first try their hand at bringing about a peace between Moslems and non-Moslems. **"The god of this world"** will find a way (with the Lord's permission) to unite these antagonists the way he brought **"Pilate and Herod"** together at the appropriate time (see Luke 23:12).

Late last year, during the pope's trip to Africa, he visited a mosque in the Central African Republic, where violence between Moslems and Christians (actually Catholics) is commonplace. There he prayed with the imams and said Christians and Moslems are brothers. "Together, we must say no to hatred, to revenge, and to violence . . ." Again, the smooth words **"and fair speeches"** had their desired effect (Rom. 16:18). A woman, Nicole Ouabangue, whose husband had recently been axed to death by Moslem

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crazies, told a reporter, "If there is anybody who can resolve our problems on earth, it is him."

"The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords" (Psa. 55:21).

Among other things, Satan is an hypnotist. Examine the films of Hitler's speeches and note the hypnotic power Hitler had over rational, intelligent Germans. Peace talks are a prelude to war. The more the pope calls for peace, the closer the world moves toward war. Obviously, the devil is engaged in unifying the world against the Lord's Christ (Psa. 2:2). Before Armageddon, Rome will attempt to establish a forced peace called "*Pax Christi*" (the peace of Christ). This will be a counterfeit of the *Pax Romana*, which was enforced by Rome during the Lord's first advent. Things that are old become new again.

Talk of "peace, peace, peace," which the popes have been spewing out since before the First World War, help people to retain the belief that, in the end, everything will work out. The book of Revelation is a knife in the heart of all humanists; all those who want to believe that man can run planet earth without God, hate that book. Jews don't want to believe that book, although Israel is saved in the end. The pope wants Israel to believe that peace is possible with Moslems.

"And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him" (Gen. 4:8).

Note the "peace talks" initiated by Cain in a peaceful atmosphere just prior to murder. What's really "**new**" "**under the sun**" (Eccl. 1:9)? What's "new" for me, and you also if you are saved, is a home in New Jerusalem someday. Until then, while we are at home in this body of flesh, we will become more and more "marginalized" (a favorite media word these days) by stubbornly denying the Fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man.

A lot has changed over the years. My Jesuit instructors preached on hell. They knew how to frighten you. "**The law**" was the "**schoolmaster**" Paul mentions in Galatians 3:24. My attempts to keep the law ended in frustration, so I gave up. Afterwards, the Lord found me wallowing in sin and rescued me. In those days, the "All is well; there is no hell" view was nothing the Catholic Church would dare embrace. That's not the case anymore.

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, AND FEW THERE BE THAT FIND IT" (Matt. 7:13-14).

A message such as this is very harmful to the present-day, public-relations effort being put forth by the strategists in the Vatican. To effectively promote the lie that God is everyone's father, He must be presented as a

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loving Father and not a vengeful one. Mostly everyone having to go to a loved one's funeral this year wants to believe in heaven and that, somehow, God widened the gate to let the loved one get inside. The most notable expressions of disgust I have ever seen while preaching were on some faces in front of me while I preached a funeral and spoke about hell. Thankfully, the Lord strengthened me.

“Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD” (Jer. 1:8).

Crowd-pleasers, politicians, and especially Pope Francis strive mightily to please everyone and must be politically correct in all their utterances.

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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.

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Have you ever heard a politician refute the Fatherhood of God doctrine? Well, Mike Huckabee, former governor of Arkansas, might speak the truth because he was once a Baptist minister. Why he left the ministry to go into politics is a mystery. It should be the other way around. He went from the highest calling to one near the bottom.

George Bush was quick to remind everyone, after the Twin Towers went down, that we all worship the same God. Political correctness demands that no one be labeled a child of wrath for not believing that Jesus is the only way to God. In our pulpits today are men who want to be liked. If preaching truth makes enemies, you'll find most of those enemies are religious people.

“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” (Gal. 4:16).

Pope Francis wants the UN to embrace him and his whorish church. He will not let the word of God interfere with his agenda. Pope Benedict XVI's “retirement” was engineered by the Jesuits to put their man in and accelerate the movement to join the Vatican with the UN. Being a friend to all is what Rome is all about, because all roads must lead to Rome. She alone among all the cities of the world is called “the Eternal City.”

“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God” (James 4:4).

This spiritual adulterer, the supposed “Vicar of Christ” on earth, speaks for over one billion Catholics who know about as much scripture as a Jew from Brooklyn knows about farming. Francis, today, is the devil's prized pupil, adroitly learning the use of spiritual hypnosis as well as Hitler learned the art of political hypnosis. Did you see the faces of the people lined up on the streets of New York, Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia last September when the pope visited those cities? There was a glow on those faces—the same glow of wonderment and awe on the faces of millions of Germans who saw and heard Hitler speak. Obviously, the style employed by Hitler is not that with which Francis would be comfortable. Our world is looking for a peaceful shepherd, an internationalist who speaks for all nations, including ours.

“For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil” (Prov. 5:3).

As the time draws ever closer when Jesus will remove His church, look for Rome and the UN to put aside what enmity remains. **“Pilate and Herod”** were moved by an unseen hand to forego their snipings at one another, because Jesus had become an irritant to the ruling Sanhedrin and a threat to the peace of Rome in Jerusalem and Judea. There is a Book that makes the UN and Rome feel insecure and very uncomfortable. That Book is the reason why powerful people must lie to the masses continually. While we are still here, make sure everyone knows you are in line with that Book and being an enemy to this world is the result of having the right Father. Amen?

RADIO LOG

ALABAMA		
Huntsville-Decatur WBXR 1140 AM		10:30 A.M. Sat.
CALIFORNIA		
Lancaster KFXM 96.7 FM kfxm.com (streaming)		7:30 A.M. Sun. 7:30 A.M. Sun.
COLORADO		
Aurora KLTT 670 AM		10:30 A.M. Sun.
FLORIDA		
Pensacola WEBY 1330 AM		8:00 A.M. Sun.
INDIANA		
Indianapolis WBRI 1500 AM		6:00 P.M. Sat.
KANSAS		
Kansas City KCNW 1380 AM		6:30 P.M. Sat.
LOUISIANA		
Alexandria-Lafayette-Lake Charles KWDF 840 AM		9:00 A.M. Sat.
MICHIGAN		
Lupton WMSD 90.9 FM		8:15 P.M. Wed.
MISSISSIPPI		
Tupelo WCPC 940 AM		10:00 A.M. Sat.
NEBRASKA		
Omaha-Lincoln KLNK 1560 AM		6:00 P.M. Sat.
NEW MEXICO		
Albuquerque-Santa Fe KXKS 1190 AM KKIM 1000 AM		11:00 A.M. Sat. 8:00 A.M. Sat.
NORTH CAROLINA		
China Grove WRNA 1140 AM		2:30 P.M. Sun.
Kannapolis WRKB 1140 AM		2:30 P.M. Sun.
PENNSYLVANIA		
Wilkes-Barre/Scranton WITK 1550 AM		6:00 P.M. Sat.
SOUTH CAROLINA		
Greenville WLFJ 660 AM		7:00 A.M. Sun.
WYOMING		
Cody KOFG 91.1 FM International SS Hour		10:30 A.M. Sun. 6:00 P.M. Sun.
Theological Seminar of Air		1:30 A.M. Sat. 4:00 P.M. Sat. 2:00 A.M. Sun. 4:00 P.M. Sun.
CANADA		
Thompson, MB CHTM 610 AM Theo. Seminar of the Air		9:30-10:00 A.M. Sun.

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Andalusia-Ch. 63 Covington Co.-Ch. 42 Opp-Ch. 59 UHF-Ch. 25		10:00 AM Sun. 10:00 AM Sun. 10:00 AM Sun. 10:00 AM Sun.
CALIFORNIA		
San Pedro-Cox Communications San Diego-Cox-Ch 24 & 18 San Diego-Time Warner-Ch 16		6:30 PM Fri. 4:00 PM Wed. Time varies
CONNECTICUT		
Willimantic-Charter Comm.-Ch 192		5:30 PM Tue.
IDAHO		
Pocatello-TCI Cable-Ch 12		1:00 PM Sun. 2:30 PM Tue.
IOWA		
Dubuque-Media Com-Ch 81		Times Vary
MASSACHUSETTS		
Springfield-Public Access-Ch 12		5 PM Mon.
MICHIGAN		
Battlecreek-Access Vision-Ch 11		3:00 PM Sat.
MONTANA		
Missoula-MCAT-Ch 12		2:00 PM Mon.
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Broome-Time Warner-Ch 6 Buffalo-Public Access-Ch 20 Elmira-Corning-Ch 1 Farmington Time Warner-Ch 12 Mid-Hudson Cable-Ch 11 Lockport-Ch 20 LCTV		4 PM Mon. /6 PM Wed. 5:05 PM Sun. 9:00 AM Sun. 8:00 PM Sun. 3 PM Wed. 4:00 PM Mon. 10:30 AM Tues. 10:00 PM Fri. 12:30 PM Sun. 4:00 PM Fri.
Suffolk-Ch 20 Woodbury-Cable Vision-Ch 71		
NEW MEXICO		
Albuquerque Community Cable-Ch 27 Los Alamos-PAC 8		5:00 PM Mon. 6:00 PM Sun. 2:00 PM Tue.
NEW ZEALAND		
Mainland TV Nelson		9:00 AM Sun.
OKLAHOMA		
Tulsa-Ch 47-2 (antenna)		6:00 PM Fri.
PENNSYLVANIA		
York-York CATV-Ch 16		9:00 PM Mon. 3:00 PM Tue.
TENNESSEE		
Pikeville-S.E. Tenn. St. Regional Correctional Facility		Times Vary
TEXAS		
Abilene-KTXS-Ch 12 Brownwood-Ch 77 San Angelo-Ch 55		7:00 AM Sun. 7:00 AM Sun. 7:00 AM Sun.

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