



Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 40 No. 6

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

June 2016

The Old Soldier Fades Away

By Brian Donovan

On Thursday, April 21, 2016, the Lord told one of His servants that it was time to come home and rest. For the last sixty years, Bible-believing Christians have had a great example of enduring **“hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ”** (2 Tim. 2:3). Dr. Peter S. Ruckman was the point man in the battle for the *King James Bible* in these last days. The Bible believers today, who have benefited from his writings and Bible commentaries, have little idea of the troubles this man withstood as he almost singlehandedly was used of the Lord to keep the Body of Christ pointed toward the Book in this Laodicean age. Just as the Lord used a stubborn German named Martin Luther to keep a single eye on his calling to withstand the Roman Catholic Church and its anti-Christian papal head to begin the retreat of the Dark Ages that had reigned over Europe, so Dr. Ruckman kept his eye on his calling to rebuke, ridicule, and answer the so-called Christian “scholars” as they tried to take the *KJV* away from the Body of Christ in these last days.



Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

Since 1965, with the founding of the Pensacola Bible Institute, Dr. Ruckman began training men to teach, preach, and defend the Book. Over these last fifty years (1965–2015), he taught over 1,500 men and women in the classroom, as he handed them the only authority in which they could have complete confidence. He possessed an intellect that allowed him to assimilate material from thousands of books and put the information out, as he would say, “over the plate waist high.”

There were two things that especially set this man apart from every other intellectual of his time. The first was his desire to see souls saved. He never lost the vision that lost souls go to hell without Jesus Christ. His time was not spent out of touch behind a desk as he went after lost souls in the churches, in

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The ESV, a Roman Catholic Bible

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

(Part Three of Three)

Due to several inquiries to the Bookstore, we have been examining the *English Standard Version*, the current piece of apostate trash being promoted in Conservative and Fundamental circles. The idea is that since the *ESV* was not translated by "Liberals," as the *Revised Standard Version* was, it is acceptable as a *replacement* for your *King James Bible*. But after comparing the *ESV* readings in 32 verses (as given in chap. 10 of *The Christian's Handbook of Manuscript Evidence*) with readings of the *RSV* and the Roman Catholic *Douay-Rheims Version* of 1582, what we have seen, so far, is not only do the *ESV* and *RSV* match the Jesuit *Rheims* "Bible" in many instances, but the *ESV* often *still* reflects the Liberal theology of the *RSV*, even when the Catholic Bible does not. We continue here with our comparison.

33) *Acts 8:37*. Here is another example of the Liberalism behind the *ESV* and *RSV*. Whereas the *Rheims Version* agrees with the *AV* and has the confession of the Ethiopian eunuch to the Deity of Christ, the *ESV* and *RSV* get rid of the verse from the text altogether. Why? Because, as we saw under John 9:35; Luke 23:42; and Acts 9:5–6, the Conservative translators and revisers on the *ESV* committee are being led by the same spirit that led the *Liberals* on the *RSV* committee. It is an *unclean spirit* that can't stand to see a sinner get saved because it is losing one of its *own* (John 8:44).

34) *John 3:13*. Here is a verse that testifies to the *omnipresence* of Jesus Christ as *God*. Naturally, then, the Conservatives who put out the *ESV* could not tolerate such a clear testimony to Christ's Deity. So they joined the *Liberals* who put out the *RSV* and *got rid of* "**even the Son of man which is in heaven**"—*even though the Catholic Rheims Version retained the phrase*.

35) *Revelation 13:8*. The Catholics, like the *King James* translators, believed Satan was a *real person*, so, like the *AV*, the *Rheims* "Bible" has everyone on earth worshipping "**HIM**" in this verse. The "Conservatives" on the translation committee of the *ESV* bought into the Liberal idea of the *RSV* that Satan is only an *influence*, so they, like the *RSV* translators before them, have a *thing* being worshipped instead of a *person*: "*IT*."

36) *1 Timothy 6:20*. Somebody (oh, I wonder who it could be?) doesn't want you looking out for "**science**," so he had his lackeys on the *Rheims*, *ESV*, and *RSV* committees change the word to "*knowledge*."

37) *2 Peter 2:17*. The Catholics teach Purgatory and make money off praying people out of it (see our comments on Matt. 23:14), so they don't want you thinking "**outer darkness**" (Matt. 22:13, 25:30) is "**for ever**." Joining the Jesuits (*Douay-Rheims*, 1582) in getting rid of those last two words are the Conservatives who translated the *ESV* and the *Liberals* who translated the *RSV*.

38) *Luke 4:4*. Somebody doesn't believe in living "**by EVERY WORD OF GOD**," so they get rid of them (*ESV* and *RSV*)—probably because they don't believe in the WORDS of God but only the "Word" of God, meaning the "fundamentals," "message," "principles," "thoughts," etc. At least that is what the Fundamentalists at Bob Jones, Tennessee Temple, Liberty, and Dallas Theo-

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The ESV, a Roman Catholic Bible

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logical Seminary believe. Amazingly, this time, the Catholic *Douay-Rheims* is actually more orthodox than the “Conservatives” who put out the *ESV*, for it retains God's words in the verse.

39) *1 Corinthians 11:29*. This time, the *Douay-Rheims* retains “**the Lord**” after having booted Him out of His Book back in *1 Corinthians 10:28* and *1 Corinthians 15:47* (see our comments on those passages). Unfortunately, He did not fare so well here in the *ESV* and *RSV*; those two apostate corruptions got rid of the Lord from His Body.

40) *John 18:36*. The Catholics may have been Postmillennial in their theology, but at least they believed that Christ's kingdom would *one day* be “*of this world*.” The *Douay-Rheims* agrees with the *King James* here and reads, “**but NOW my kingdom is not from hence**.” The *ESV* and *RSV* promote an Amillennial interpretation to the verse by getting rid of that word “**now**” so Christ's kingdom will *never* be a visible, physical, literal kingdom with Jerusalem as its capital and ruled by a Judean Jew (*Zech. 14*).

41 & 42) *2 Timothy 2:15*. Both the *ESV* and the *RSV* get rid of the only command in the entire Bible for you to *study* it. Not even the Jesuits (1582) went that far, though they obscured the key as to how to study the Bible by changing “**rightly dividing**” to “*rightly handling*.”

The exact same thing occurs in *John 5:39*, where the *AV* and the *Rheims* retain the only command in the Bible to *search* it. The *ESV* and *RSV* get rid of the command by translating the imperative (“**search the scriptures**”) as a declarative (“*You search the scriptures*”). *Somebody doesn't want you to know that Book* (cf. *Matt. 22:29*). I wonder, oh, I wonder, who that could possibly be.

43) *Acts 2:30*. The *ESV* and *RSV* both join the *Douay-Rheims* to kick “**Christ**” off “**his throne**.” It's not some innocuous “*one*” of David's “*descendants*” who will sit on the throne of David; it will be *Jesus Christ*, as the *AV* states.

44) *Luke 4:8*. There could not be a better verse to close on. You see, no modern translator or reviser believes the Devil has anything to do, one way or another, with the translation on which he is working. But if that Bible is correct, Satan is highly interested in corrupting and subtracting from what God said (*2 Cor. 2:17*; *Luke 4:10–11*). It is no wonder, then, that the Catholic Bible, as well as the *ESV* and *RSV*, all cover up for the Devil by removing “**Get thee behind me, Satan**” from the words of Christ in this verse. The Devil was right there, in the revision committees, guiding those translators in their choice of words, just as the Holy Ghost guided the *King James* translators in their choice of words. For proof, get Gail Riplinger's work *New Age Bible Versions* (KJ-1738 @ \$19.95), where she demonstrates to the tune of 690 pages that the modern translations are *Satanically inspired*.

Now that is the *English Standard Version*. It is just as Catholic as the Jesuit *Rheims* “Bible” of 1582 and just as Liberal as the version it claimed to “fix”—the *Revised Standard Version* of the National Council of Churches. The fact that it “cleaned up” a few *RSV* and *Rheims* readings, like *Isaiah 7:14* and *Romans*

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16:1, did not change the overall character of the work. The profession of the translators meant nothing when it came to attacking the Deity of Christ in 1 Timothy 3:16 or attacking the Trinity in 1 John 5:7 or attacking the doctrine of Christ's Virgin Birth in Luke 2:33 or the doctrine of His Incarnation in Acts 4:27, 30. The *ESV* is overwhelming Catholic in its character, and it is more Liberal in its theology than the Catholic "Bible" of the Counter-Reformation, the *Douay-Rheims Version*, translated by the Jesuits in 1582.

That is the translation currently being "fawned over" by apostate Conservatives and Fundamentalists in America. Accept it as an "accurate" or "clearer" translation of the Holy Scriptures, and you will commit *spiritual suicide*. It will kill you deader than a hammer, spiritually.

(Editor's note: The material in this article was adapted from chapter ten of Dr. Ruckman's work *The Christian's Handbook of Manuscript Evidence*, RK-93 @ \$13.95).

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The Old Soldier Fades Away

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the jails, and in the streets.

As the greatest preacher and teacher in this country, he continued to train men to go outdoors and make the streets their pulpits. Dr. Ruckman was preaching on the street in Pensacola at 93 years of age (September of 2015), until the day he could no longer stand. He followed the example of the Old Testament prophets, the first Christians in the book of Acts, as well as our spiritual forefathers throughout church history, to go **“without the camp, bearing his reproach”** (Heb. 13:13).

He led by example and simply said, “Follow me, men.” His example went largely unheeded, as the majority have refused to preach outdoors, as they picked up a culture and acceptability that he despised. However, there is still an army scattered throughout the USA and on the foreign mission fields taking the gospel to the streets; they are glad to be able to get into this line of Bible believers, even as they were taught.

The second thing that set him apart was his approach to the Bible. Dr. Ruckman never used his intellect to sit in judgment of the scripture, nor did he use it as a qualification to teach the Bible. During the last few months of his life, he spoke to me about his concern about not ever teaching anything against the truth. His approach to the scriptures was never in pride, but to learn what **“saith the Lord.”** He was always learning and showed a humility in his study that allowed him to subject

himself to things in the scriptures that were new to him.

His great intellect was not his approach. Instead, he desired to have the Lord look his way and made himself of the number that **“trembleth at my word”** (Isa. 66:2). The Lord made this man a great Bible teacher, as evidenced in his commentaries and the ministries of the many who sat under his Bible teaching for three years. Even those who ridicule and scoff at him today, still secretly use his teachings.

As the pastor of Bible Baptist Church in Pensacola since the early 1970s, Dr. Ruckman fulfilled the scriptural command to shepherds to **“Feed the flock of God”** (1 Pet. 5:2). His Sunday school lessons and sermons were spiritual food that strengthened our church members, who still appreciate it to this day. Only a few carnal, selfish babies, who spend their time on Facebook doing nothing for the Lord Jesus Christ, complain that “he wasn’t much of a pastor.” Translation: “He didn’t give me the attention I get from other useless Christians who tweet and post and share in my pitiful, meaningless life.” He preached classic sermons that could cover a subject like no others. You could listen to “Behold the Man,” “Body, Soul, and Spirit,” “The Gospel Punchboard,” “Sin, Sins, Sinners,” “Hypocrites in the Church,” “The Kingdom of God Vs. The Kingdom of Heaven,” “The Greatest Thing You Can Do,” and many others over

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and over, and get something from the Lord every time.

Dr. Ruckman founded the Pensacola Bible Institute and taught the young men and women who have been coming for fifty years. He was tireless in his efforts to give his best to his students every night. I watched him keep teaching as he dragged a bad leg back and forth to class, and fight eye trouble, stomach trouble, and personal battles raging inside. The thought of cancelling a class was a foreign idea to him, whether it was for a hurricane or sickness or personal troubles. He would get into the pulpit without giving anyone a clue as to what he was going through at the time. He lived what he preached and **“played the man”** (cf. 2 Sam. 10:12).

At his funeral, a few hundred men trained at PBI, and still in the ministry today, came and paid their last respects in gratitude for what he meant to them. Many others would have loved to have come, but followed his example of “duties never conflict” and stayed in their respective fields.

Over the years, he handed over classes to the point where I have been keeping a schedule that includes fifteen hours per week teaching at the Pensacola Bible Institute. It is impossible to think of scaling back after watching his example right into his nineties. As long as the Lord allows, we will keep the school open and continue to train men in the same courses that have been offered over the last

fifty years, 28 of those years of which the Lord has allowed me to be a part. Students are taught verse by verse the complete books of Matthew, John, Acts, Romans through Titus, Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, Revelation, Genesis, Exodus, and Daniel. They are taught Hebrew and Greek, as well as how to handle the Nestle’s Greek text and apparatus. Besides all that, they are also given two years of Church History, Theology, and survey courses on the Old and New Testaments.

There is an emphasis on missions and personal soulwinning in the courses called “Baptist Missions” and “Visitation.” Just this past year (2015–2016), another three men hit the foreign fields (Germany, Sicily, and Ethiopia) with the Book in their hands. Dr. Ruckman’s desire to get men onto the foreign mission fields has affected many. Bible Baptist Church puts approximately 50% of its budget into foreign missions, with PBI graduates serving as missionaries in Africa, Europe, Asia, and North and South America. We will continue to try to put support into men who will leave the USA and preach the gospel in foreign lands.

On a personal note, Dr. Ruckman took me under his wing 39 years ago, and over those years, we became close friends. We played hours and hours of racquetball together, went fishing, made hospital and home visits together, taught and preached together both in the pulpit and on the

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When he took a bad fall last November, he broke some ribs, punctured a lung, and never fully recovered. His wife Pam never left his side; she gave him the best care any man could ask for. He never wanted the hospitals and doctors to bleed away the Lord’s money in just trying to keep him breathing. Due to her care and the mercy of God, he was able to remain comfortable at home. When he could no longer get off his back and fight, he wanted everyone to let him go home. His dying wishes were met, and his wife knew what they were. The *King James* Bible believers got to reap some benefits of the extended years of Dr. Ruckman’s ministry, in part, because of the great care he was given by his wife during

their 27 years together. Her rewards will come later at the Judgment Seat of Christ, when as “**the weaker vessel,**” she will be “**heirs together of the grace of life**” (1 Pet. 3:7).

During these last few months, I became even closer to him, as I was able to visit about five times a week and spend time with him as he was on his back. We prayed for each other, and when he was too weak and blinded to do it himself, I read the scriptures to him that he so loved and defended. One time, he grabbed my hand and held it tight, and said, “You have the right Book; now run with it.”

The Lord manifest Himself in that room a number of times; some of it is too special to speak about. He gave me the *King James* Bible 39 years ago, and I was able to give it back to him as he took his last breath on this earth. To see the scriptures minister to that great soul is something I can never forget. His last hours were

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simply peaceful. There was nothing dramatic except how the words of the *King James Bible* carried him away so peacefully as he went to meet the Saviour about whom he preached by faith for so many years. After finishing reading Psalm 18 to him, and honored to be right at his side, I watched the spirit of my pastor, my preacher, and my friend leave his body with one last strong breath . . . and his race was over.

We have had a great opportunity to have been trained in the pure word of God by a man who believed every word. Brethren, **“we have not followed cunningly devised fables,”** but **“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed”** (2 Pet. 1:16, 19). We have the scriptures in our possession; preserved in English in the *King James Bible*, defended by others with their blood and the lives of their own families, and handed down with little cost to us.

Dr. Ruckman did his job well and ran his race. We may not actually know until the Judgment just how much the Lord used this man to temporarily stave off complete apostasy. Surely we can take some ridicule and hold this Book up for the little time we have left and fight against an age that is prophesied to be unaware that they are **“wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked”** (Rev. 3:17).

We are living in a world of an effem-

inate Christianity that thinks the Internet can replace the local church, that thinks live streaming is a replacement for paying the price of assembling with other believers, that thinks there can be such a thing as a computer pastor, and that believes texting and tweeting can replace preaching on the street and soulwinning. Our great example taught us otherwise. By the grace of God, let us fight and wear the ridicule of our Laodicean enemies as a badge of at least doing something right. **“Even so, come, Lord Jesus”** (Rev. 22:20).

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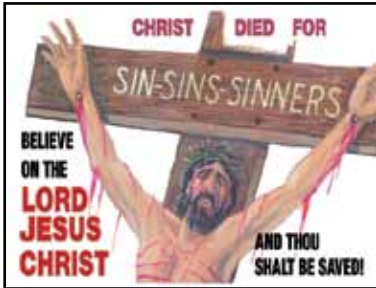
- Bro. Donovan's "A Testimony to Dr. Ruckman" DD 606 \$4.95
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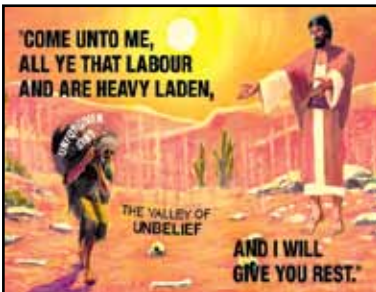
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The Star-Spangled Sodomites

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

“Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you: And the land is defiled: therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants” (Lev. 18:22, 24–25).

“For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet” (Rom. 1:26–27).

We are dealing with what is known as homosexuality. In the Bible, it is a sin called *sodomy* (1 Kings 14:24, 15:12, 22:46; 2 Kings 23:7). Of course, there are all kinds of little euphemisms for it to cover up the fact that it is *sin*: “gay” (a news-media fabrication; the word *gay* means “happy.” Sodomites are some of the most miserable, discontented, unhappy people you will ever meet. That is why so many of them are dope heads and chronic alcoholics), “same-sex relationship,” “alternative lifestyle.” Those are all “double-speak” terms for *sex perversion*.

At one time in this country, sodomy was a crime: one could be arrested and jailed for committing it. There used to be commercials warning children about sex perverts. Not anymore. The government has passed laws not only permitting it, but forcing you to tolerate it, approve of it, promote it, teach it to your children (sodomites *can't reproduce*, so they *recruit*), and “celebrate” it, under penalty of law. The “criminals” now are not those who commit acts of perversion against nature, but those who won't participate in the sin of two sex perverts.

Already since the Supreme Court legalized “same-sex marriage,” one lady has been fined \$135,000 because she wouldn't bake a cake for two sex perverts' “wedding,” and someone else had their business shut down because she wouldn't make floral arrangements for another one. The goal of the sodomites has never been “civil rights”; it has been to shut up any and all opposition to their filthy sin. They want to take away every constitutional right you have to believe and practice the Book.

Back in 1962 and 1963 (Engel vs. Vitale and Abington School District vs. Schempp), we were told there couldn't be prayer or Bible reading in the public schools because “separation of Church and State” meant the Church can't have any part in anything run by the government. Now the government is telling us what we pastors can and cannot preach in our pulpits. They are trying to run the Bible out of the churches just like they ran it out of the schools. One Democratic legislator even tried introducing a bill declaring the Bible to be “hate

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literature." Parts of the Bible have already been declared illegal in places like Canada and Sweden. Pastors there have been arrested, fined, and jailed just for *reading* Romans 1 from their pulpits.

In this article, I am going to give you what the *Bible* says about the sin. If a preacher is called to preach by God, he is called to "**Preach the word**" (2 Tim. 4:2); not his own opinions or prejudices, and not what government or society approves. He is called to preach "**ALL the counsel of God**" (Acts 20:27), not just the parts he feels comfortable preaching or those parts that won't get him into any trouble. So here, I am going to give you from the words of God in the Scriptures what *God* says about sodomy: what it is, how you get it, and the goals of those who practice it.

The Bible is primarily a book of *prophecy* (2 Pet. 1:19–20), and the Bible's prophecies are always true. It prophesies that the time right before the return of Jesus Christ will be "**as it was in the days of Lot**" (Luke 17:28–20). "**The days of Lot**" were the days of the sin of sodomy (Gen. 18–19). So in these last days, the sin of sodomy will be prevalent.

The first time the word *sinner* shows up in the Bible, it is a reference to the

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The Star-Spangled Sodomites

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Sodomites.

“But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly” (Gen. 13:13).

Now we understand from the New Testament that **“ALL have sinned, and come short of the glory of God”** (Rom. 3:23) and that **“ALL unrighteousness is sin”** (1 John 5:17). But the first time God talks about **“sinners,”** He connects it to the sin of the Sodomites. God Almighty considers that sin one of the worst that can be committed.

Things don't change in the New Testament under “grace.” I gave you the verses in Romans 1 where Paul talks about the sin of sodomy. In the context, it is a part of a list of sins in verses 29–31; go read the list. Did you notice that not one sin in that list, *including the sin of murder* (Rom. 1:29), is even given a whole verse, but the sin of sodomy gets *two whole verses*. The Holy Spirit winds up that passage by saying **“they which commit such things are worthy of death”** (Rom. 1:32). The fact that God is having mercy on the sodomites in the New Testament and giving them a chance to repent and get saved (1 Cor. 6:9–11) doesn't change the judgment of God against that sin. The penalty for that particular sin under the Law was *death* (Lev. 20:13), and if a sodomite got what was coming to him for his sin, *that's* what he deserves. *That's* the teaching of the New Testament.

The sex perverts, though, turn the New Testament up on its ear just like the five Supreme Court Justices who found a “right” to sodomy in the Constitution. One dyke said, “Opponents of ‘gay’ marriage often cite Scripture, but what the Bible teaches about ‘love’ argues for the otherwise.” She is saying the New Testament *approves* of two faggots or two dykes getting “married” because it's “love.”

A man who marries a man or a woman who marries a woman is a *sodomite* in the Book. That is why the *New International Version* removes the word from its text. It had a male sodomite (Marten Woudstra) and a female sodomite (Virginia Mollenkott) on its committee, who had the word taken out so you wouldn't identify it as a sin. But the Bible is very clear in both Testament. It doesn't speak of *any* sodomite, single or married, with any tolerance.

In that Book, sodomy is an **“abomination”** (Lev. 18:22), and its practitioners, **“the abominable,”** end up on the Lake of Fire (Rev. 21:8). *That's* the New Testament.

According to the Book, the sin of sodomy *defiles* a land (Lev. 18:25). The command of the New Testament is to lay aside such filth and receive the words of God in that Book (James 1:21). “Marriage” has nothing to do with making it right at all.

The butch goes on to say, “Most of us no longer heed Leviticus on haircuts

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Bro. Donovan's Meeting Schedule

June 3-5

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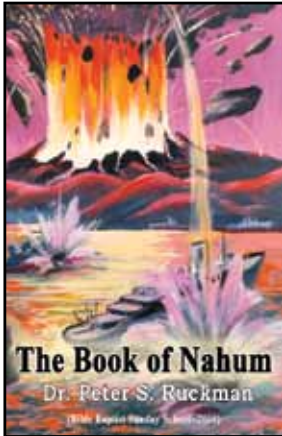
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(MP3 FORMAT)

NAHUM



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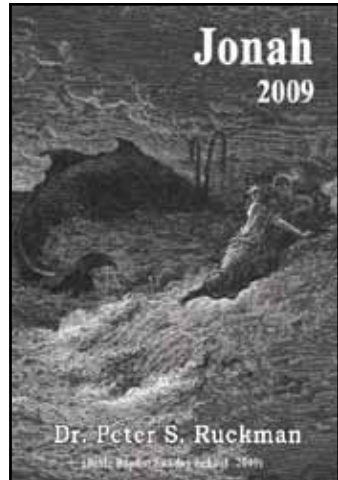
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JONAH



A 2009 verse-by-verse exposition of the book of Jonah by Dr. Ruckman during the Sunday School hour at Bible Baptist Church.

DB-32-09-1

\$8⁹⁵

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The Star-Spangled Sodomites

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or blood sacrifices. Why should we still accept its stance on homosexuality? I'll tell you why—because that “stance on homosexuality” was reaffirmed in the New Testament. The nature of sodomy is people of the same gender fornicating with each other (Jude 7), and fornication is *still* forbidden in the New Testament (Acts 15:20; 1 Cor. 6:13, 18, 10:8; 2 Cor. 12:21; Gal. 5:19; Eph. 5:3; Col. 3:5; 1 Thess. 4:3).

Paul said if you wanted “**to avoid fornication,**” “**every man**” was to “**have his own wife,**” and “**every woman**” was to “**have her own husband**” (1 Cor. 7:2). How are you supposed to do that if the two getting married are both of the same gender?

One of these Frisco, fairy, fruitloops said when he was going through a wedding ceremony with his partner in fornication: “We will become man and man.” If sodomite “marriage” is approved in the New Testament like that Lesbian woman purports, isn't it supposed to be man and *wife* (Eph. 5:28, 31)? Well, which one of those men is the wife? You mean to tell me you can have a marriage with no wife or no husband? Every marriage in that Book is between a man and a wife. There is no marriage between two people of the same gender; there *can't* be, not if you are going to the Book to justify what you are doing.

Now do you want to know why those two faggots (and that is the right word for them. A faggot is a bundle of sticks to be *burned*—Jude 7) wanted to get married? “Love” had nothing to do with it. They both had HIV (AIDS), and they told the Associated Press that “marriage is important to them because they want to share a *health insurance policy.*” In other words, they wanted to get married to get a buck—\$\$\$ (1 Tim. 6:10).

Sodomy in the Bible starts with Ham. “**Noah awoke . . . and knew what his younger son had DONE unto him**” (Gen. 9:24), not just what he had seen. So Noah curses Ham's *seed* because that's what Ham used. The descendants of that cursed seed settle, among other places, in Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 10:19).

So Jesus says, “**as it was in the days of Noe**”—SODOMY—“**so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man**” (Luke 17:26). Before the Lord's return, the sodomites are active and rampant just as they were in Noah's day and Lot's day. And what you should notice about both Noah and Lot is that they both were *before* any Jewish theocracy; they were under “grace” before the Law was given. Jesus said it would be like that in the New Testament, before He comes back.

Sodomy is a perversion of the normal sexual relations God established between a man and a woman (Matt. 19:4–5). In Leviticus 18, it is classified right alongside incest and bestiality. If you are going to correctly identify sodomites, you would call them sex perverts, not “gays.” “Gay” is the positive “spin” the

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sodomites put on themselves to rid themselves of the stigma that accompanies their perversion.

G. K. Chesterton said, "The way to change a culture is to change the meanings of words." So the news media, with their "double-speak," makes everything negative a positive. No one dies; they "expire." Don't tell a lost person he is headed for Hell; tell him he's going to "Hades." There are no bums or hobos; they are "transients." There are no drunks or lushes; they are "chronic alcoholics." Your vocabulary is being changed to condition you to think differently of *sin*.

Sodomites justify their sin by saying they have a right to "love" whom they want. They might have some form of "love," but it is an unnatural love (Rom. 1:26; 2 Tim. 3:3). The myth is that love is a *feeling* that manifests itself through sex. Well, if "**God is love**" (1 John 4:8), you reckon that means He has been fornicating with anybody like Baal, Ashtoreth, Jupiter, Neptune, Venus, Diana, and the rest of that pagan rabble?

First John 4:10—"Herein is love . . ." What? That God fornicated with somebody? Don't be stupid. ". . . **not that we loved God, but that he loved us . . .**" How? By going to bed with us? Don't be sick! That is how a sodomite would reason. A sodomite equates love with lust and inordinate affection. The love of God was shown toward us when he "**sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins**" (1 John 4:10). So the first time the word *love* shows up in the Bible, it has nothing whatsoever to do with sex at all, even natural sex between a husband and wife. It has to do with the love a father has for his son; yet he willingly sacrifices him to the will of God (Gen. 22:2). It is a type of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (Heb. 11:17–19).

Love in that Bible is choosing to esteem someone so highly that you are willing to die for that person (John 15:13). Jesus Christ did this even for those who *weren't* His friends (Rom. 5:6–10). That's not shacking up with someone because you can't control your lusts. Martin Luther said, "Cursed be that love . . . for whose sake the word of God must be put at stake." If your "love" is contrary to what's in that Book, it's cursed; it's *damned*. If you have to get rid of the Book in order to have your "love," then *to Hell* with that love.

"**The first and great commandment**" is NOT to love your fornicating partner with all your heart, soul, and mind; it's to "**love the LORD THY GOD with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind**" (Matt. 22:37–38). These sex perverts don't know what love is. "Love" didn't "win" when the Supreme Court forced sex perversion on the whole nation; *inordinate lust* did. This nation thumbed its nose at what God said in His Book and secured to itself the damnation that accompanies that action.

America has been seduced by Hollywood and the news media. It, as a nation, now, has abandoned every Biblical basis for marriage and the family, and

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is dead set on destroying *both*. I am not talking about politics here. I am talking about policies that are contrary to the purpose of marriage and the family.

For instance, abortion defeats the purpose of God putting man and woman together. When God created the man and the woman, He said, **“Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth”** (Gen. 1:28). Every baby killed by abortion, whether it is murder or not, defeats the original purpose of marriage. The man and woman come together *to have children*.

That is why sodomite “marriage” is a fraud. A man and a man can’t produce a child; ditto a woman and a woman. Sodomites *can’t reproduce*; they *recruit*. They have now gotten the government to help them recruit.

The purpose of homosexual “marriage” has nothing to do with one being a “helpmeet” to the other or having children. It has to do with a perversion of sexual pleasure. It is like Samson messing around until he lost his strength, eyesight, and freedom. It is like David messing around until he lost a baby and had God unleash the sword on his household. It is like Solomon messing around until he became an idolater and lost the kingdom for his sons after his death.

The purpose for God placing man on this earth was first *to glorify God*: **“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness”** (Gen. 1:26). Second, it was to *raise godly children*: **“Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth”** (Gen. 1:28). Third, it was to *picture Christ and the Church*: **“For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church”** (Eph. 5:31–32).

Homosexuality is an abomination in regards to all three purposes of marriage. It doesn’t glorify God, it doesn’t produce godly children, and it doesn’t model Christ and His Church. God didn’t create marriage to be an abomination.

“Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge” (Heb. 13:4).

Then two men or two women shacking up with each other isn’t marriage, no matter what the Federal government says. You just read back in Leviticus 18:24–25, that that kind of perversion *defiles* a land. Legalizing it doesn’t clean it up.

Sodomite marriage is justified on the basis of “love,” but it is *not* the love of God or the love in that Book. The love that’s from God—called **“charity”** in 1 Corinthians 13—**“Rejoiceth not in iniquity** [like the sins listed in Lev. 18 and Rom. 1], **but rejoiceth in THE TRUTH”** (1 Cor. 13:6). What is **“the truth”**? John 17:17—**“Sanctify them through thy truth: THY WORD IS TRUTH.”** If your love isn’t in accordance with what is written in that Book, it is the wrong kind of love; it is illegitimate.

If “the world is moving in this direction,” as that sodomite said of his “mar-

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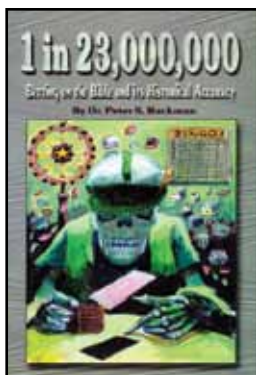
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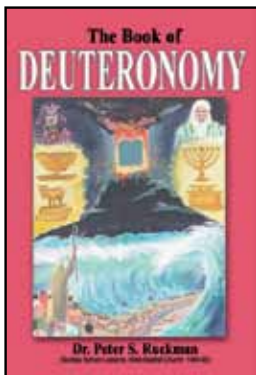
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The Star-Spangled Sodomites

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riage” to his partner in fornication, that is not a sign of “evolution”—things getting better and better. That is a sign of its *depravity* and *degradation*. Every dispensation in that Book ends that way, and the Church Age is no exception (read Rev. 3:14–22). According to Jesus Christ, this world ends up as wicked and depraved as it was in the days of Noah and Lot, and sex perversion was one of the marks of both those time periods.

The source of sodomy is *the heart*. Jesus said, “**out of the heart of man, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornication**” (Mark 7:21). Back in the Old Testament, God said, “**the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and . . . every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually**” (Gen. 6:5). He said, “**the heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked**” (Jer. 17:9). If you “follow your heart” without any regard to what God says in His Book, you will follow it straight down to *Hell*.

Now contrary to what some of the brethren think, it is possible to get saved out of this abominable deathstyle. There were members of the church at Corinth who *had been* “**effeminate**” and “**abusers of themselves with mankind,**” who got washed in the blood, sanctified, and justified (1 Cor. 6:9, 11).

When you see some queer holding up a sign that says “God loves gays too,” he doesn’t know about what in the world he’s talking. God doesn’t love any sinner enough to approve of his sin. The love of God was manifested in His Son dying for sinners to pay the penalty for their sins (Rom. 5:8). If a sodomite won’t repent of that sin (i.e., change his mind about it and agree with God on it) and accept the sacrifice Jesus made to save him from that sin, God doesn’t love him enough to keep him out of Hell. “**The wrath of God abideth on him**” (John 3:36).

I will tell you something, though, about sin in the life of a saved person. A sinner, after he gets saved, may struggle with a particular sin the rest of his life; God may not deliver him from it the moment of salvation. But I guarantee you that if God saved you, you are not going to *brag* about that sin with which you struggle. Imagine someone carrying around a sign saying, “I’m a sot drunk, and I’m proud of it”; “I’m a serial killer, and I’m proud of it”; “I’m a thief, and I’m proud of it.” Why would any Christian who has been saved say, “I’m ‘gay’ (a sex pervert!), and I’m proud of it”?

No Christian is proud of his sin. Don’t tell me you know Christ as your Saviour, and yet, you enjoy bragging about the very things that put your Lord on the cross. You would have to be full of the Devil to be proud of the thing responsible for crucifying your Saviour.

In closing, the goals of the sodomites are:

1. *The corruption of children.* Seventy-three percent of homosexuals have

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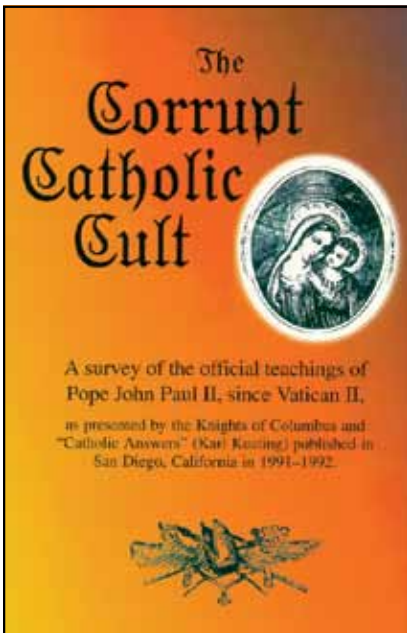
The Star-Spangled Sodomites

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fornicated with boys sixteen years old and younger. As I said, *sodomites don't reproduce; they recruit*. That's why they want their filthy sin taught all the way down to children in kindergarten. That's why the militant homosexuals support pedophiles like the "North American Man-Boy Love Association." They want control of your children as their hunting grounds. That's not "homophobia"; that's a *fact*.

2. *Absolute control of the American culture*. They don't want "equal rights" or even "special rights"; they want *superior rights*. They want to dictate to you how to *think* about them, how to *act* toward them, how to *talk* about them, and they want it *enforced by law*. That goes for your business, your school, your church, your family, and your *personal life*.

Now brethren, the test, since the Supreme Court made this abomination the "law of the land," will be whether you will stick with the Book or cave in to public pressure. When it comes to this country, it is going to reap what it sows (Gal. 6:7-9). The original Sodomites did (Jude 7), God's chosen people did (Isa. 3:9; Lam. 4:6; Ezek. 16:46-50; Amos 4:11), and *America will too* (Psa. 9:17).



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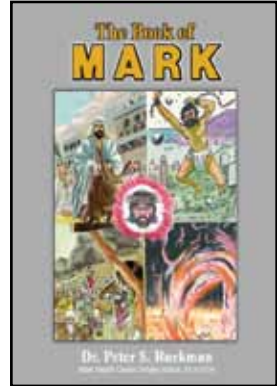
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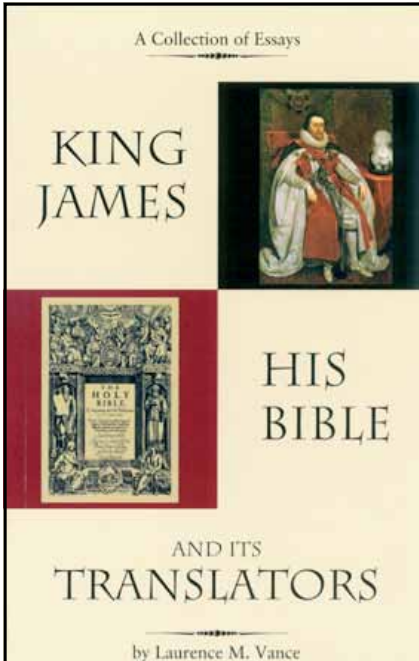
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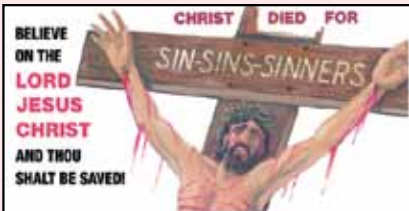
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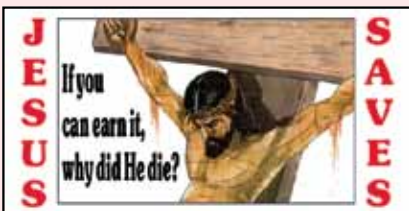
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Does Greek Help?

By Dean Hays
(Part Eight of Eight)

I am concluding this series of articles on the value of Greek in Bible study. Undoubtedly this installment will be much shorter than the preceding ones, but I wanted these closing remarks to stand on their own. This is a sort of epilogue to the series.

The issue has always been one of *authority*: What is the authority by which everything else is judged? If we go to “the Greek”—even the *correct* Greek—as we saw in the first two articles, it all depends on whose definitions are chosen to translate.

I am not even going to discuss the differences between the so-called Majority Text (the actual or critical edition) and the *Textus Receptus* (which came out in several editions under five basic editors) and the *King James Bible*. Unbelieving scholarship likes to take God’s providential working through history, culminating in a book proven to be without error—our *King James Bible*, and turn it on its ear to prove no Bible, anywhere, at any time, is infallible or inerrant. That is because, in the end, *scholarship* becomes *its own* final authority.

That is why even the correct Greek should not be the final authority for the believer. As we saw with our discussion on *agape* and *phileo*, a poor understanding of what the Bible actually says can result in an erroneous translation of the correct text.

My final authority is the *Authorized Version* of the Holy Bible: the *King James Version* of 1611. That Book showed me Jesus Christ and taught me about Him.

It wasn’t always that way with me. When I first got saved, the first Bible I owned was an *NIV*. I was just stupid enough, as a new babe in Christ, to think that when I held my *NIV* and read it, I had the pure words of God without a single mistake.

It is kind of funny, looking back on it and knowing what I know now. I had a much higher opinion of the *NIV* than even those who put it out. I just figured that if it were God’s word, as it claimed to be, that it was a perfect Book. It was perfectly logical to me.

That is why it was very easy for me to accept the *KJV* as the pure word of God when I got ahold of the right material. I trusted that if God had inspired His word that He could preserve it for me today. I thought that was what I had in an *NIV*, and lo and behold, I found out it wasn’t. But when I was given the right material, as I have tried to give you in these articles, it was easy for me to get the distinction.

So trust your *King James Bible*; you won’t ever go wrong. Don’t ever let anybody tell you that you have to be educated or smart to understand or know your Bible. Don’t ever feel intimidated by somebody’s education—EVER! Even if someone asks you a question you can’t answer, don’t give up the Book. The key to understanding the Bible is not the education to change what it says, but

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Does Greek Help?

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the faith to believe it (1 Thess. 2:13).

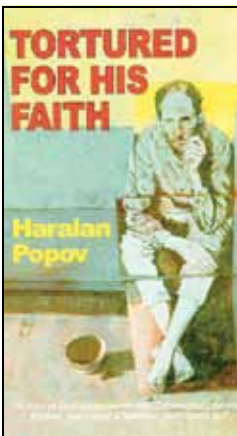
When Jesus came to this earth, He didn't go to the universities to get His disciples; He went to the commercial fishermen, the tax collectors, the average everyday people. They weren't known for their education (Acts 4:13), but they were known for believing what God said, as He said it (John 6:68; James 1:21; 2 Pet. 1:19; 1 John 5:13).

That is why God gave us our English Bible—so we could know what he said without having to rely on education. I am reminded of the words of William Tyndale, who made the first translation of the “original Greek” into what is known as “modern English.” He said to an educated scholar of his day, “Before ere long, I shall make it that the boy that driveth the plow will know more scripture than thou dost.”

That's how it was when I got saved. When I got saved, I didn't know much more about the Bible than that English plowboy of Tyndale's day. But thanks to that *King James Bible*, I got to know the Book and the Jesus of the Book. Greek didn't help one bit.

Before being finished, let me once again recommend to you the following works for further study to help you understand and defend your *King James Bible*.

1. *The Answer Book* by Sam Gipp (KJ-1743 @ \$6.95).
2. *Early Manuscripts, Church Fathers, and the Authorized Version* by Jack Moorman (KJ-1835 @ \$25.00).
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God's Junkyard Dog

By Robert Militello

“If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained” (1 Tim. 4:6).

I had hoped never to write a eulogy for Dr. Ruckman. The **“blessed hope”** of Titus 2:13 was going to make that unnecessary; yet here we are. He has gone home to glory, and we are parted for a while.

Among those who die in Christ, there are no lasting goodbyes. We who remain must endure a brief separation. Scripture comforts us in our grief, for the word tells us plainly that our loved one is **“with the Lord”** (2 Cor. 5:8).

Dr. Ruckman is alive now more than at any time his soul remained in his earthly body. No saint can die in the eyes of our God; his or her body merely falls asleep (1 Thess. 4:13).

A vast majority of lost people believe in life beyond the grave; they just don't know in what way life continues. The expression used to describe the continuance of life is: “He passed on.” Passed on to where? Only God's word speaks with authority on that subject.

Today in America, the authority and influence the Bible once had is long gone. Everyone has an opinion, or no opinion at all, and truth is thought to be relative and not absolute. So there is uncertainty as a result of non-belief, and doubt brings fear. One of the most pathetic lies you will ever hear is a lost person saying he has no fear of death.

God, in His mercy, prepared Bible Baptist Church for the departure of its beloved pastor. Dr. Ruckman lingered for months after falling in his home. That fall occurred just weeks before his 94th birthday, and the cancellation of his annual outdoor birthday cookout heightened our sadness. Dr. Ruckman's eyes had been going bad for some time, and he had bouts of vertigo, so we all knew his body was in decline. Nevertheless, his mind and spirit were lively. He had not lost touch with reality, and my conversations with him, though brief, reaffirmed this observation. His passing would be the removal of a still animated soul from a worn-out, aging body. He left us on his journey home with a full tank of gas. Bless the Lord!

Those who knew him loved him, and those who knew their Bible knew how much the *King James* Bible meant to Dr. Ruckman. He magnified the word and mounted a determined counterattack against so-called “Christian scholarship,” which had labored for years to destroy faith in the *Authorized Version* of 1611. He labeled that bunch of Bible correctors “the Alexandrian Cult.” One man with a church and school in Pensacola was willing to take on all the Bible colleges in America professing belief in the original manuscripts of scripture which no one had. Dr. Ruckman entered into a spiritual war that was to last over sixty years. He walked into a lions' den and preached, wrote books, made recordings, held Bible conferences, and **“stopped the mouths of lions”** (cf. Heb. 11:33) destroying faith in the words that made America the greatest nation on earth.

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God's Junkyard Dog

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More than a few pastors called him a servant of the devil, bent on destroying churches and setting brother against brother. To say he was slandered is an understatement. He was seen as the arch-villain of America's most distinguished Bible colleges, such as Bob Jones University, Tennessee Temple, and a score of others. In these schools, where the only qualification needed to teach Bible was a willingness to correct the *King James* text with the "original Greek," Dr. Ruckman was a reincarnation of Judas. If you knew Peter S. Ruckman, you knew that **"none of these things move me"** (cf. Acts 20:24). Lies, slander, and even threats rolled off him like water off a duck's back. He was the scourge of "spiritual correctness," as well as Christian scholarship. Just read *God is Love* by Dr. Ruckman, and you'll know this is so.

My connection with Dr. Ruckman goes back 35 years. I knew he was interested in organized crime and had extensive knowledge of its history and activities. During the years when I pastored a small church in Brooklyn, I would send him clippings from the New York newspapers about the latest misdeeds of the Cosa Nostra. In 1994, at the January Bad Attitude Baptist Blowout, I got to spend some personal time with him, and I regaled him with stories about the Mafia that never made it to the newspapers. Let me tell you, there was something about Peter Ruckman that told me that if the Lord hadn't saved him, he would have been a fit candidate for organized crime. He would have had to change his name to something like Pietro Ruccotoli or something, but he certainly had a Sicilian mind when it came to understanding human nature and its weaknesses.

In September 1995, Dr. Ruckman came to New York to preach a revival at my church. I so much wanted him to have a memorable trip that I overloaded the four days with things to see and do. He was going to get a New York experience whether he was prepared for one or not. The speed and pace of moving around in New York didn't faze him at all. He was up for it, and so was Pam, his dear wife.

I put him up in a Brooklyn hotel, after picking him up at Newark International. We went to a Middle Eastern restaurant that first night. It was Labor Day weekend, and the city seemed relaxed and not quite as threatening. I told him to get a good rest, because there were a lot of things to see in a short time.

Besides preaching five services, one of which was attended by someone and his wife known to the Bonanno crime family, Dr. Ruckman's visit to the Big Apple included places tourists don't see or don't know. The preacher from Pensacola was allowed to preach at New York City's notorious Rikers Island. I had to pull some strings with the Black Muslim head chaplain to arrange that. Later, Dr. Ruckman and I, and some church members, got on the subway and went to Wall Street. There, Dr. Ruckman took my bullhorn and preached across from the New York Stock Exchange. Let me tell you,

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God's Junkyard Dog

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no one dies of boredom in the Big Apple; there's always something going on. Dr. Ruckman made a contribution to the day's activities.

Well, I may not recollect exactly the order in which we visited various places, but here's a rundown of them, besides Rikers Island and Wall Street. We took Dr. Ruckman to the Isaiah Wall in front of the UN. Later, we got on the subway again and went through Chinatown and Mulberry Street in Little Italy. On Mulberry Street, I pointed out the Ravenite Social Club, where John Gotti, the head of the Gambino crime family, had his headquarters. If you didn't notice an FBI man or two hanging around Mulberry Street, you had to be blind.

Some weeks before Dr. Ruckman's visit, I was able to arrange, through a friend of mine with City Hall, connections for a private tour of the New York City Police Museum. The museum was temporarily closed to the public because of remodeling. This was going to be a special treat, and when we got there, I knew it would be difficult to pull him away from the exhibits. Peter S. Ruckman was, for an hour or so, a kid in a candy store eyeing all the treats set before him. He was fascinated with a tommy gun used by Al Capone's gang before Al Capone left Brooklyn for Chicago. He examined police mugshots of gangsters belonging to the famous Jewish gang, Murder Inc. They did contract killings for the Mafia families in Brooklyn in the thirties and early forties.

Dr. Ruckman amazed me with his knowledge of crime history in New York. I had introduced Dr. Ruckman as a famous author from Pensacola, Florida who was also a crime buff, so the museum curator said, "Let him take as much time as he wants here." I've got a photo in my Bible of Dr. Ruckman, where he is holding the Al Capone tommy gun with a sinister look on his face. Looking back, I am so thankful to my Lord and Saviour for giving me the opportunity to make that memory, and now to write about it and tell others.

Another highlight of the trip to New York was the "crime tour" on which I took Dr. Ruckman. There were a number of places I wanted him to see, places that are known only to those who have read all the literature on organized crime in New York. The tour included a stop at the house on Garfield Place in Brooklyn, where the Capone family lived; also, the church where Big Al got married: St. Mary Star of the Sea. I took Dr. Ruckman down Union Street and pointed out the place where, years ago, was a club where a thug named Galluccio knifed Al Capone across the face because Big Al made a lewd remark about the man's sister. "Scarface" left Brooklyn shortly thereafter to become king of the Chicago rackets.

Our crime tour included a restaurant on Surf Avenue in Coney Island, where a Mafia boss ate and a dozen bullets prevented him from finishing his dessert. I pointed out the place where the Half Moon Hotel stood on the Coney Island Boardwalk. There, a Jewish gangster named Abe "Kid Twist" Reles was under police guard prior to testifying for the state against fellow

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Murder Inc. gangsters. Somehow, "Kid Twist" flew out the window and died. The police said he committed suicide, but word had it that the cops had been bought and pushed Abe out. The *New York Daily News* ran the famous headline: "The Canary That Couldn't Fly." Dr. Ruckman was well-schooled on all the particulars of the incident and the investigation that followed.

We went past a few other places where famous "rubouts" occurred, but it started to get late. I wasn't able to take him to Sparks Steakhouse in Manhattan, where John Gotti's men killed Paul Castellano, the boss of the Gambino crime family. I told Dr. Ruckman I could do very well running a tour business on Saturdays, covering about ten locations. People pay well for offbeat stuff like this; so why not capitalize on it?

Driving in Brooklyn after dinner Saturday night, I went down to 86th Street, which has an elevated subway line running above it. To my surprise, Dr. Ruckman asked me if this were the elevated line pictured in the famous chase scene in the movie "The French Connection." I said it was and asked him how he knew that. Remember, I didn't think Dr. Ruckman watched any movies. Well, he never answered me, but he did have a slight smile on his face, so I went no further with my inquiry. Sitting next to me was the world's foremost authority on the *King James Bible*, and I was beginning to realize that all his reading and studying of God's word did not disconnect him from the world in which lost men live. We lost a peculiar treasure when the Lord took him home. Thank God, I'll see him again.

Peter S. Ruckman was a Renaissance man, having talent in music, art, and a good understanding of philosophy and psychology. He was well-learned in world history, and especially military history. There was little about World War II he did not know. We had a number of conversations about German generals and blitzkrieg tactics.

Dr. Ruckman was an expert on all things German. My German mom found him amazing. When I moved to Pensacola, I listened to his radio program on a local AM station early on Sunday mornings. The introductory music for the program was the German national anthem: "Deutschland Über Alles" (Germany over everyone). I called the station owner, who was from New Jersey, and I asked him if he knew the music being played before Dr. Ruckman's Bible broadcast. He said he did not, and that as long as Dr. Ruckman paid the going rate, he could play whatever hymn he wanted. Imagine if a Jew in Pensacola had inadvertently turned on the radio and knew that hymn. The Body of Christ lost a fearless man when his soul left for heaven. God bless his memory.

Among the things about which I liked to talk to him were hockey and the era of the big bands (1930–1946). Growing up in New York, I was a New York Rangers fan and a hockey fanatic. After I met Dr. Ruckman, I was genuinely surprised by how much he knew of the game. He was familiar with the great stars in hockey, such as Bobby Hull, Gordie Howe, and "Boom

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Boom" Geoffrion of the Montreal Canadians. He knew that Jacques Plante of the Canadians was the first NHL goalie to wear a mask after taking a puck in the face. Plante was booed by the crowd when he first put on the mask. These were things I never expected a Bible teacher in Pensacola to know.

Besides Mafia history, World War II, and hockey, we shared an interest in the history of the big band era. This was the music Dr. Ruckman played and to which he listened before his conversion. I would mention a famous dance hall, and he knew where it was and what famous bands played there. His ability to recall facts and anecdotes of a subject with which he was familiar was truly astounding. I would mention a name—Artie Shaw, for example—and Dr.

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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.

God's Junkyard Dog

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Ruckman knew how many wives he had. Even into his nineties, he remained sharp. I would hum a tune, and he would tell me the name of it and the band.

As I am writing this remembrance, I am thinking to myself of just how multifaceted this man was. He projected authority when preaching and teaching, but he was a shy man, essentially. Dr. Ruckman had a sharp sense of humor and was skilled in the use of sarcasm. If you possess a *Ruckman Reference Bible* and read the notes on the bottom of most pages, you'll see just how beautifully sarcastic he could be when dealing with those who messed with the text of the Book. He called himself "God's Junkyard Dog," and although a mild-mannered man, he did not hesitate to "show his teeth" if someone dared challenge the purity of "his" Book.

My respect and admiration for Dr. Ruckman was based on the fact that he was, of all things, a man of the Book. The Book belonged to him, and he to the Book. It was an indissoluble marriage. He served his generation with distinction. The Body of Christ owes a great debt to him, whether it realizes it or not.

He was a military man from a military line. His willingness to fight for his Lord and for the *King James Bible* unsettled Christians who opted for compromise over confrontation. God help this bunch at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Only then will the real effect of his ministry become clear.

Until then, we are all entitled to our opinions of the man and his work. Frankly, our opinions don't matter; only one does. I wonder how many mouths will gasp when Dr. Ruckman receives his rewards. Will the critics he had here on earth—and there were many—want to compare report cards then?

"Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few" (Eccl. 5:2).

Peter Sturges Ruckman: November 19, 1921—April 21, 2016.

Joshua 1:9



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see page 18)

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