



Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 41 No. 1 "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17) January 2017

The Vatican Cult

By Brian Donovan

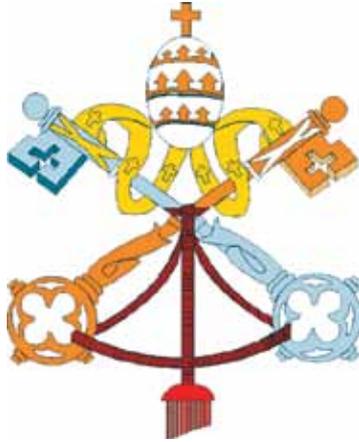
During the New Testament times, the Vatican plain was a flooded zone of malarial swamp, and a breeding ground for snakes. This made the area the perfect spot for Satan to found his church. It was not until about 41 A.D., when the emperor Caligula began transforming the area in order to use it for chariot races, that it even became a habitable piece of ground that eventually came to house the present day basilica of St. Peter's in Vatican City. Caligula was also responsible for having the huge pagan obelisk, presently standing in the center of St. Peter's square, brought from Egypt to Rome around the same time.

The spiritual foundation for the cult now housed in the Vatican area of Rome has it's roots in the pagan Babylonian religion of Nimrod (Gen-

esis 10), with it's goddess worship of Semiramis being replaced by the Roman Catholic Marian goddess.

The present pope has proven that he is no exception in leading this cult in their pre-occupation with the dead. In 2013, Bergoglio (alias Francis) held, kissed and venerated a box containing what his cult says are the almost two thousand year old remains of the apostle Peter. This was the first public showing of the remains that were

"found" under the basilica at St. Peter's a few decades ago. The faithful thousands who gathered to witness the momentous event were all supposed to quietly ignore the fact that their cult leaders had already been publically displaying Peter's skull in the basilica of St. John's in Rome since the ninth century. But that never stopped the dolly worshiping cultists since in the past there has been two skulls of John the Baptist on display in two different locations. In their defense, one of the skulls is much smaller than the other, which allows for one of them to be from when John



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Living In The Past

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:13–14).

“Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof” (Matt. 6:34).

In our text, Paul says he forgets the things in the past and presses forward into the future. So Paul has some concern for the future, but as far as the past is concerned, it's gone. When it comes to time, you can't live in the past, and you can't live too much in the future. You have to live *today, now*.

Bob Jones Sr. said, “The best preparation for tomorrow is to do what you ought to do *today*.” He said, “The way to face this world is prepare for the worst and hope for the best.”

Christ speaks of *day-to-day living*. Living occurs one day at a time. You have to take life one step at a time. Lao Tzu, the Oriental philosopher, said, “The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.”

“Happy the man, and happy he alone,
He who can call today his own:
He who, secure within, can say,
Tomorrow do thy worst, for I have lived today.”

“Be fair or foul, or rain or shine
The joys I have possessed, in spite of fate, are mine.
Not Heaven itself, upon the past has power,
But what has been, has been, and I have had my hour.”
(Horace, the Roman poet)

What Horace was saying, as applied to us, is, if you live every day like you ought to live it, you'll be in the will of God; if you live every day like you ought to live it, you don't have to worry about the past or the future. You've had your “hour.” If you have done your best, that's all you can do.

God's people are bad about going and digging up the past. They're always talking about “old times” and “if so-and-so hadn't done that” and “if I'd just done this” and “what am I going to do now that I've done this (or this happened).” You can't undo the past; the past is *done*. The future hasn't come yet, so there's no use messing with it. You have to live *now*. You can't change the past, but you can ruin a perfectly good present by worrying about the future.

Living in the past is characteristic of several kinds of people. It is characteristic of *older people*. That is natural, because when you get to the end, most of your life is behind you. Grandparents always like to talk about the “good old days.”

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The truth of the matter is, the “good old days” were not always good. When I went to my fiftieth high school reunion, it was the first time I had been back with that crowd since I had graduated. I didn't recognize anybody there. It reminded me of an old “Sam and Silo” cartoon strip where the two go to their high school reunion. Silo said to Sam, “We don't belong here, Sam. It's full of *old people*.” Going to a high school reunion is like going to a masquerade ball where no one takes his mask off.

A guy comes up to a fellow at his high school reunion and says, “If it isn't my old buddy Bill Smith. My, how you've changed. Your hair used to be blonde; now it's brown. You were short and now you're tall. You had blue eyes, and now you have brown eyes.” The other fellow says, “My name's not Bill Smith; it's Harold Wilson.” “How about that,” says the first guy, “you've changed your name too.” You hardly know anybody at a high school reunion.

Some people get up in years, and after looking back over their lives, they decide to write their biography. Years ago, I wrote *The Full Cup* because I wanted to get it done before I “kicked the bucket.” Whenever I see one of my contemporaries write his autobiography, the thought always occurs to me that he is about through; he figures there are no more victories or conquests ahead.

B. R. Larkin, in the last ten years before he died, was always preaching about back on the farm where he grew up. Practically none of his audiences had been raised on a farm. They didn't know anything about farm implements or churning butter or carding wool. He was living back fifty to sixty years. You can't do that; you lose contact with those around you.

Are you living in the past? You folks under forty, what right have you got to live in the past. The saying is, “Life begins at forty.” If that be so, what are you young people in your twenties and thirties doing dwelling on your “glory days” back in high school? That's the characteristic of someone “up in years,” not just beginning life.

Living in the past is the characteristic of *defeated people*. When someone gets “down in the dumps” and begins to lose at life, he gets to complaining. Back in Exodus 16:3, those Israelites who had come out of Egypt had been traveling through the desert for a couple of months, and they got to complaining, saying, “Why did you bring us out to this desert to die of hunger. Where's the milk and honey you promised us? Would God we were back in Egypt **'by the flesh pots**.’” What a strange thing to say! That's where Pharaoh was killing their babies! But they were discouraged, see.

One of the greatest soldiers in the Bible was Joshua. There are only two men in the Bible who never lost a battle in which they personally fought: one was David and the other was Joshua. But when Joshua was persuaded to send a couple of battalions to take Ai instead of leading the whole army as he ought to have done, those Jews came back whipped with their tails between their legs. Joshua got down on his face before the Ark of the Covenant, pray-

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ing, "Oh God! Why did we ever leave Egypt?" He was talking just like those Jews had done back in Numbers 13–14 when they got the "evil report" of the ten spies.

The ads for Christian universities and colleges, like Bob Jones, Cedarville, Maranatha, and Pensacola Christian, are now looking like the ads for secular schools. All the glory is in the past. Now, it is just the pretty girls and the sports and the "excitement" and the "focus," etc. That is the talk of someone who has been cowed by the spirit of this age.

The Germans (at least the Germans about whom I learned, coming up; maybe not this new EU bunch) have all kinds of faults, but looking back over their shoulder after something has gone wrong is not one of them. The old general, Blücher, who fought against Napoleon, was called "Old Forwards." He led the cavalry charge when he was *seventy years old*: first horse in. One time when the German army was getting its socks whipped off them, an officer turned to Blücher's drummer boy and said, "Beat a retreat." That boy couldn't do it because Blücher had never taught him how to beat a retreat. It was always *forward, advance, attack*.

When the debacle of World War II was over in Germany, a lot of those cities were bombed to the ground, and the people were starving. In a nightclub in Berlin, a girl came on stage to sing, clothed in an old soldier's outfit all torn to pieces. The song she sang was about the condition of the German soldier in that tattered uniform. The end of that song went like this: "A thousand years have passed away (the Third Reich), together with the moustached majesty (Hitler). And now we must begin again. Forward march! Otherwise it is too late." That's what those Germans were thinking the year after they lost the war. Forward! Never mind the concentration camps or the Gestapo or the millions of casualties or the bombed-out cities. Forward!

I wish I could put some of that into Christians. "**Forgetting those things which are behind.**" When Paul got through, all he had to say about the past was: "**I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith**" (2 Tim. 4:7). After that, it was: "**Henceforth . . .**" (2 Tim. 4:8). He was right off into the future; he didn't dwell on the past. Where there is victory, you can live today and look forward to tomorrow.

Living in the past is characteristic of an *unhappy people*. Unhappy people talk about the past all the time because it represents a time when they didn't feel as they do now. That's why drunks get together at the VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) to talk about "old times." They're always "crying in their beer" about days gone by. When I went over to the Philippines, I looked up my buddy who was a Filipino scout in the 86th Division. I think I talked to him eight minutes about the old days. I wasn't about to rehash all that stuff "back when."

Did you know that 90% of the tourists to Las Vegas are over sixty years old? The magazines and the "Travel Channel" give you a false impression. They show you a ravishing young model in a slinky evening gown with some

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suave, sophisticated “hunk” in a tuxedo at the craps table, with drinks in their hands, laughing and having a good time. The truth is, it's some old couple who've been married over forty years, at some cheap motel, playing the slots. They might take in a show or two at one of the casinos, but the highlight of their visit is the in-house buffet. Those casinos will bring in entertainers who were big when those old couples were in their twenties and thirties. They're living in the past; that's what's going on. Those folks are unhappy in the present.

I am happy *right now*. I have no desire to think about the past at all: the less of it, the better. Among the “swing” band leaders to whom I listened in my younger days, my favorite was Artie Shaw. I still have a CD with thirty minutes of his music. He was the only one I really liked. He was “semi-classical” for his time (he's practically “classical” compared to the mess put out these days). But I can't get the “experience” now from listening to him like I did back then. Seeing those old people who used to be my classmates in high school didn't stir up any fond memories at all. It was like looking at the face of a dead man.

No man who spends as much time as I do in the Book can have any contact with the past. After you read that Book, preach that Book, teach that Book, put out the tracts, write the books, go to the youth camps, preach out there on the street, there is no more contact with the old life and the old crowd at all. A wall has been built by that Book that I will never get across.

I sat at a table at that reunion in Topeka and thought to myself, “What am I doing here?! I don't belong here; this isn't my place.” I wanted about ten of my church members with me so I could mess up the whole party. No link with the past was left.

Slide pictures were shown of the old high school. One of them was a cartoon I drew back in 1939 for a school paper. It showed a bunch of kids “jitter bugging.” In the background, as those slides were shown, played Glenn Miller's “Moonlight Serenade.” I tried to go back in my mind to that time, but I couldn't. For me, it's forward, “no turning back, no turning back.”

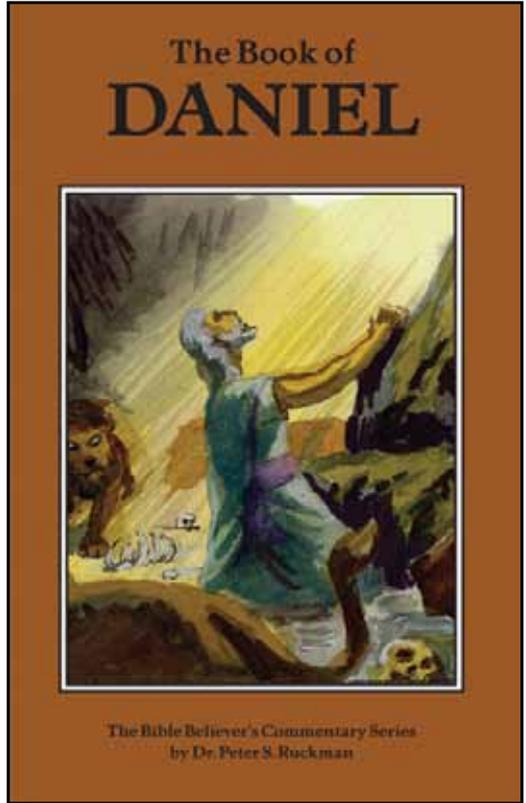
Why do people live in the past? Well, in the first place, the past always seems rosier when you look back on it. Things look brighter at a distance. “Well, when I was a boy . . .” Yeah, from what I remember being a boy, it was hell on wheels. There were no “juvenile delinquents” when I was a boy; they were all *hardened criminals*.

The problem is, our minds tend to “paint” the past better than it was. You take being raised on a farm. The tendency is to remember the meadows, the birds in the spring, the home-cooked food, and the like. What is forgotten or overlooked are the back-breaking chores, mustard plasters on the chest when you had the flu or pneumonia, castor oil for most every other ailment, trips to the woodshed that nearly peeled the skin off your backside, long walks, sweating so bad you thought you would die, getting to bed early, and getting up in the dark to go milk the cows.

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It has been my observation that the people who complain the most have nothing about which to bellyache, and those who have something real about which to complain don't do much complaining at all. Whenever I hear someone complaining when they really don't have anything over which to complain, I always think of a line I heard in a movie one time. An actor named Victor Mature was playing a gangster, and there was a scene where he was about to shoot a "squealer." The "rat fink" was begging for his life, crying, "Don't do it, George; don't do it." Victor Mature's character replied, "Aww, cut it out, Marty; you're breakin' my heart." That's the first thing I'm tempted to say to these Christians who are always griping and bellyaching all the time.

Next, people live in the past because *it is an alibi to quit and do nothing*. These people who are always talking about what they *used* to do, let me ask you something: "What are you doing *now*?"

A business manager called in his sales staff once and announced, "We are having a special contest this week. Whosoever sells the most *gets to keep his job*." Now what if the Lord treated you that way, Christian? The Apostle Paul said, "**Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord**" (Rom. 12:11).

Living in the past *magnifies self by association*. You might not be aware of the egotism involved, but whenever you keep harping on what happened in the past to you, whether good or bad, you are drawing attention to yourself with complete disregard for anyone else listening to you who wasn't present when it happened.

The question is, does what you are rehearsing over again *edify* any of your listeners. Sometimes talking about the past is a good thing if it *challenges* someone to do right or if it *comforts* someone or if it *encourages* somebody. Paul said, "**Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification**" (Rom. 15:2). What you say should be for "**edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers**" (Eph. 4:29).

Talking about past experience is perfectly all right, but you shouldn't live in the past. Sometimes it is absolutely necessary to talk about past experience because history teaches things. You are supposed to learn by experience, so it is all right to talk about the past if it will edify, comfort, encourage, or *educate* somebody. You can *help* somebody with your past experience, but you should never *dwell* there.

Now, what are the results of living in the past? The first is, *you get an unreal picture of the present*.

"Life by the yard is hard, but life by the inch is a cinch" (Anonymous).

"One step, and then another, take thy way—Live day by day" (Julia Harris May).

The only day you have to live is *today*. You don't have to worry about yesterday, and you don't have to worry about tomorrow. Bob Jones Sr. used to say, "The right road leads out at the right place." Christ's words in Matthew

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6:34 are an admonition not to worry about what's out in the future because you have enough about which to worry *right now*.

"I have no yesterdays,
Time took them away,
Tomorrow may not be mine, But I have today."
(Anonymous)

You say, "Ruckman, people won't let me forget the past; they keep bringing it up." Then ignore what those folks say and stay away from them.

Living in the past caused two of the biggest mistakes that were ever made in World War II. Before the war began, the French remembered the trench warfare of World War I, so they based their whole plan of defense against German invasion on that past experience. They built a whole line of fortified entrenchments, called the Maginot Line, along their eastern border. The Germans simply bypassed them through the Netherlands and Belgium, and were in France within 48 hours. The French were living in the past back in World War I. Hitler wasn't going to make a frontal assault on the Maginot Line and become embroiled in a long trench warfare like Germany did back in World War I.

Hitler blew it too. Hitler attacked Russia, like Napoleon did. He attacked too late in the year and became bogged down in a winter war, like Napoleon did. Then he tried to hold Stalingrad like a fort. Airplanes made forts obsolete. You can't hold a fortified position if there are air strikes bombing the britches off you. Hitler was living in the past.

Living in the past gives you a false picture of the present. A deceived Christian always mistakes flattery and friendship with the fruit of the Holy Spirit. A deceived Christian always supposes "**that gain is godliness**" (1 Tim. 6:5). If you want to see a picture of a sick Christianity, watch the Trinity Broadcasting Network. Those people have no concept of the present condition of Christianity or this country. They're always talking about the Holy Spirit sweeping this land in a great revival. No such thing is going on. I traveled this country for years and years, and I can tell you by observation and experience that all hell is breaking loose. A "mighty revival" and "working of the Holy Ghost," your foot!

The problem is television. You get to watching television, and you perceive life in pictures. I had the hardest time when I was growing up because, to me, people were just pictures on a movie screen. Lester Roloff used to complain about that with the teenagers who came to his homes. They didn't know how to respond to affection and discipline because they had been raised on pictures. *Pictures aren't real.*

Neither forwards nor backwards is a real position. The real position is *right now*. Looking forward or backward too long will land you in trouble. There's nothing wrong with studying prophecy, but some of these prophecy "buffs" get

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so absorbed in it that it takes up all their time. That's the wrong position. Dwelling all the time on what God used to do in the revivals of Edwards, Finney, Moody, and Sunday sends a lot of preachers chasing a will-o'-the-wisp. You are right here, right now. You are not back in the days of Moody or Sunday. I think some people can't face the situation as it is, so they run from it.

Living in the past produces *proud, carnal persons*. They sit around bragging about their past victories. That's why some of these combat veterans are so hard when it comes to the gospel. They've been through some things. When you try to tell them about their need for Christ, they think, "Well who are you?! You've never been through what I've been through. Who are you to talk to me?!" They get that way from living in the past.

Finally, living in the past *can cause discord among those who weren't there*. They feel cut off from you. I saw that thing at Bob Jones back in 1951-52. I loved Bob Jones Sr. and had the greatest admiration for him. But I noticed that every time he got up to speak, he would talk about when he started the university. Pretty soon, every message was about Bob Jones University, and a lot of the students graduated thinking the school was God. They had no loyalty to their local church at all; their loyalty was to the school.

Live now—*today*. Christ may come—*today*. I made some guesses throughout my life about when the Lord would return (and guesses were all they ever were). You say, "He didn't come, Ruckman." No, He didn't. You say, "What do you have to say about that?" I was disappointed, *but I'm still looking for Him to come*. Like M. R. DeHaan said, "*Perhaps today*."

Here are the words of some unknown Mongolian poet, which were written 700 years before Christ:

"This little strip of light
'Twi'xt night and night
Let me keep bright
Today."

"And let no shadow of tomorrow
Nor sorrow
From the dead yesterday
Gainsay
My happiness today."

"And if tomorrow shall be sad,
Or never come at all,
I've had—at least—
Today."

Are you unsaved? Well, the time for you to trust Christ is *today*. **"NOW is the accepted time; behold, NOW is the day of salvation"** (2 Cor. 6:2).

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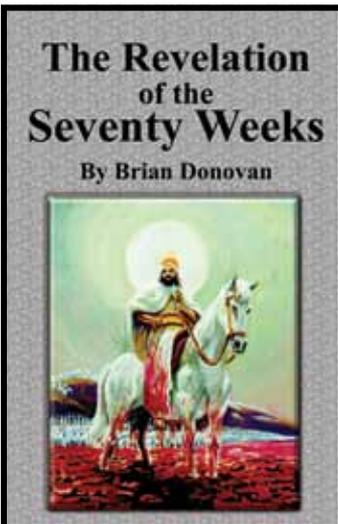
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was a young boy, with the larger one being taken as an adult. Even now, the Amien's Cathedral in France displays a skull of John Baptist while the Muslims have his skull encased in gold in Istanbul, along with his right arm, Joseph's turban, and a bowl of Abraham's (this is no joke as I have seen them myself).

The history of Peter's remains begins with the fable that Peter was martyred in Rome after serving as the first Roman Catholic Pope. Visitors can walk down into the Mamerline prison and view the place Peter was supposedly held before being crucified upside down. Since the scriptures have nothing to say about all of this, the cult simply makes up their own fairy tales while telling the faithful that they must hold to Roman Catholic tradition where the scripture is silent. When the apostle Paul writes his letter to the saints at Rome, he sends greetings to over twenty Christians there, including the famous Tryphena and Tryphosa, Urbane, Rufus, Stachys and Phlegon (Romans 16:8-15), yet Paul never asks any of the Christians in Rome to say hello to Peter, or acknowledge his supposed presence and leadership there. Quite a slap in the face to the first "Pope" wouldn't you say? The Bible believer simply understands that Peter was not in Rome. But the Roman Catholic professor Marherita Guarducci informs us that Paul omitted Peter's name for "reasons of prudence", and that "it is not improbable" that Paul had Peter in mind when he said that he did not come to Rome because he did not want to build upon another man's foundation (Romans 15:20).

This is typical Roman Catholic "Bible study". The same professor also uses veiled references by Ignatius, Clement, Irenaus, and Tertullian (anything but scripture) in a feeble attempt to convince readers that Peter was even in Rome.

The Roman Catholic Church must admit that the scriptures do not place Peter in Rome, so they try to get around the problem by saying that when Peter wrote his first epistle, his reference to being "at Babylon" (I Peter 5:13), was actually a code name for Rome. This unbelievable admission means that Peter was trying to hide his location to avoid persecution, after telling the Christians he was exhorting to expect and embrace the coming trials, persecutions and reproaches they were to suffer with exceeding joy, and not to be ashamed when they came (I Peter 4:12-16), but if they did not mind, as their spiritual leader, he was going to use codes so no one would know where he was. But even more telling is the Vatican cult's admission that Rome itself is the identification of John's "MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" (Revelation 17:5). Combined with her use of "purple and gold", being "decked with gold and precious stones and pearls", as well as "having a golden cup in her hand" (Revelation 17:4), the reader should have no problem identifying this spiritual harlot who is "drunken with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus" (Revelation 17:6). When the apostle John was carried up to the third heaven to see the end of the church

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age, he was given the vision of this spiritual harlot called Mystery Babylon and the Vatican cult is admitting that he was identifying them.

The Roman Catholic "proof" that Peter was in Rome comes mainly from apocryphal literature from Egypt and the Orient that dates to about two hundred years after Peter was dead (The Acts of Peter and The Apocalypse of Peter). In 330 A.D., the historian Eusebius wrote that Peter was "honored with a splendid tomb overlooking the city" (Rome), but the cult leaders hope that their followers never look into the fact that this "splendid tomb of Peter" was only set up fifteen to twenty years earlier by the pagan emperor Constantine and his relic hunting mother Helena, around 313 A.D., some two hundred and fifty years after Peter was dead. Connie had a church built at the Vatican that stood for centuries until about 1506 when Giuliano della Rovere (alias Pope Julius II) commissioned the architect Bramante to design the largest basilica in Roman Catholicism. Both men died before the project could be completed and the present basilica was designed by Michelangelo in 1547, who was commissioned by the hater of Martin Luther, Alessandro Farnese (alias Pope Paul III). In a fitting and truthful pamphlet by Martin Luther titled, "Against the Roman Papacy Instituted by the Devil" (1545), he wrote, "...it is unknown where in the city the bodies of St. Peter and St. Paul are located, or even whether they are there at all. Even the Pope and the Cardinals know very well that they do not know".

Almost 400 years later, Achille Ratti, alias Pope Pius XI from 1922-1939, was able to carry out two very lucrative moves for his church, the first of which was to sign the Lateran Treaty with the Fascist Mussolini, which secured \$100 million from the Italian government which he invested through Bernardino Nogara, who set up an offshore firm during the great depression of 1929 (Grolux Investments) to invest on three continents, making it almost impossible to trace the riches of the Vatican cult. The real estate of a large part of the most expensive business district in London is held by Grolux, allowing the Vatican to rake in millions of dollars in income on a whim. The second best thing Pius XI did for the cult was to drop dead on February 10, 1939, causing workers who were preparing the place for his crypt, to "accidentally" come across some ancient remains underneath the basilica floor that have now been officially declared by the Vatican cult to be none other than those of Peter himself. In other words, this pagan cult, which has always been preoccupied with not only venerating and praying to the dead, and sees nothing wrong with publically displaying skeletons and skulls of the deceased, now claims that after over 1950 years, they have uncovered nine bones and a partial skull of the apostle Peter. Since the "love of money is the root of all evil" (1 Timothy 6:10), the reader can discern the motive for this foolishness.

The list of relics owned by the Vatican cult over the years, has included many different pieces of the cross on which Jesus Christ was crucified, the

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nails driven into Him on Calvary, the "shroud" from His burial (never mind that the scriptures plainly show that the head and the body of Jesus were wrapped separately, not in a single shroud- John 20:6-7), along with too many unmentionable objects that would make a normal person blush. Only a lost pagan without the light of the Bible would think that these "relics" are holy and that pilgrimages to their sites actually mean something. Both Jews and Christians are well aware of the scriptural view of these things. In the Old Testament history, when the Jews burned incense to an idol, Hezekiah destroyed the brazen serpent made by Moses and reminded them it was nothing more than Nehushtan, "a piece of brass" (II Kings 18:4). In the New Testament, Paul commended the saints at Thessalonica because they "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God" (I Thessalonians 1:9).

Recently, the pagan Pope Francis declared one of his dead nuns (Teresa) to be a saint. This was pushed through in spite of the fact that her "verified miracle" was the supposed healing of a cancerous ovarian tumor of an Indian woman after placing Teresa's picture on her abdomen. However, according to reports by the doctors who were caring for the woman, nine months of drug treatments preceded this act, and it was diagnosed as a cyst. It is also claimed that the Vatican did not check with her medical caregivers. This poor Albanian nun who took on the alias Mother Teresa, according to her own testimony, spent almost forty years in "darkness, torture and loneliness" in

her life as a "saint". In her own words, this unsaved soul wrote, "the silence and emptiness is so great that I look and do not see...I call, I cling, I want, and there is no answer...where is my faith?...I have no faith". That is a far cry from the words of the real saint Peter who wrote, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope...whom having not seen ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory" (I Peter 1:3, 8).

The Vatican cult has a process by which one of their own is declared to be a saint after death, which is completely against the scriptures. The scriptures declare a saint as one who is "in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 1:1, Philippians 1:1, Colossians 1:2) and the reader should notice this is while they are still alive. Any sinner who receives the Lord Jesus Christ, is a saint by faith, not by a process of elevation after death. In another of its anti-scriptural teachings, the Vatican cult says that a dead person can be declared a saint through verification of one or more "miracles". These miracles include proof of levitation, bilocation (being in two places at the same time, which may account for John the Baptist having one skull in Istanbul and another in France at the same time), incorruption (the body does not decay), or stigmata (the wounds of Jesus Christ appeared on the saint). Many of the "saints" of Roman Catholic legend have exhibited two or three of these "miracles". Padre Pio, a Capuchin monk, prayed

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The Vatican Cult

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in a stupor-like trance and levitated while speaking directly to his guardian angel, Mary and Jesus. Beginning in 1918, his hands and feet began exhibiting the stigmata, with the wounds smelling like perfume and flowers. This was "verified" by the Vatican cult physicians. One historian (Luzzatto) said the wounds were faked using carbolic acid, which was proven to be purchased by the padre from a pharmacy. Pius XI (1922) doubted Pio as a fake and banned him from performing public masses or showing the wounds to anyone. Pius XII (1939) reversed the conclusion of his infallible predecessor and encouraged the faithful to attend Pio's masses, as he had become quite the moneymaker for the cult. Montini (Paul VI -1960's) dismissed all charges and accusations against the padre and Karol (John Paul II) canonized Pio as a saint in 2002. This yo-yoing back and forth is not unusual in the Vatican cult. In the case of one of their most celebrated "saints", Thomas Aquinas, the follower of Aristotle's philosophy, had his teachings condemned by his bishop in France, only to be canonized a saint fifty years later by the Avignon Pope John XXII, and then declared to be one of only thirty three "Doctors" of the cult by Pius V in 1567. In his book titled "Summa Theologica", St. Tommy taught that heretics should be excommunicated and then killed. It was a good thing for him that the Vatican cult was distracted as it became a two headed monster during the lifetime of Aquinas, having one pope in Rome and another in Avignon France, otherwise, Tommy might have been killed and condemned to hell by

his own teachings.

In another case that defies the imagination, Catherine of Siena (1380) was declared a saint by the Vatican cult after it was "proven" that she was pierced in her hands and feet after praying before a crucifix with a dead Christ hanging on it. The account claims that bolts like lightning shot from off the crucifix, hitting her in her hands and feet. In addition, one faithful priest of the cult claimed that the cookie god flew out of his hand (like a frisbee we suppose) and into her mouth as he was about to give her the wafer at a mass. If that isn't sure proof of sainthood, what is? After Catherine's death, the hometown folk in Siena wanted her body returned home, but unable to get the corpse past the Vatican guards, they decapitated her and carried the head in a paper bag. When a guard asked to look in the bag, he could only see a bag full of flowers, but the flowers materialized back into her head, once they got back to Siena, qualifying for a bonafide "miracle" if you ever heard of one.

These are not just the wild claims of fanatical family members, but accepted "verified miracles" by the cardinals and popes of the Vatican cult. As a matter of fact, the only way to become a "saint" in the cult is through at the request of the local bishop and then canonization by the pope himself. This is the Vatican cult that the Lord warns His people to come out of "that ye be not partaker of her sins" (Revelation 18:4). Right around the corner, the Lord is about to reward this harlot with plagues and her end is with fire during the coming tribulation period (Revelation 18:15-18).

The Final Solution

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

The title above is a good example of “double speak.” “Double speak” is a polite word for a *lie*. It is a “politically correct” way of covering up for *plain talk*. Some other good examples would be “shower room” for *gas chamber*, “substance abuser” for *dope head*, “AIDS” for *GRID* (Gay Related Immune Deficiency), “gay” for *sex pervert*, “adult consent” for *adultery*, “premarital sex” for *fornication*, “enriched curriculum” for *studies in sex perversion and paganism*, “chronic alcoholic” for *drunkard*, “sexual orientation” for *trying to cast sex perverts as normal*, “homophobia” for *trying to make straight people abnormal*, etc.

In the media, “double speak” has become a habit. It is used in conjunction with “buzz words” to elicit a knee-jerk emotional response from the audience. “Buzz words” would be words like *Palestinian* (to make you think of some poor, oppressed people being kicked out of their homeland when there is no such thing as a “Palestinian”), the *West Bank* (to make you think of a small strip of land adjacent to the Jordan River, when in reality it is over a third of the land of Israel), *Muslim Brotherhood* (to make you think of a political fraternity looking out for the best interest of Mohammedans, when it is actually a *terrorist organization*), *Northern Ireland* (to make you think of a region of the island of Ireland usurped by imperialistic Protestants, when it is the country of *Ulster* and part of Great Britain), and *peace process* (to make you think two warring parties are trying to come to a reasonable agreement to end hostilities, when in actuality it is a delaying tactic to *rearm for another attack*).

The “double speak” term *final solution* was used by Hitler for *the genocide of the Jewish race*. All Moslems in the Middle East understand this, and all their schools teach it in the *primary grades*. All Moslem leaders (Imams, Ulamas, Sheiks, etc.) use “double speak” like “ethnic cleansing” and “occupied lands” to make the rest of the world think of the Jews as *foreign invaders* bent on killing the native population of Moslems and Arabs in the nation of Israel, when the situation is the *exact opposite*. Hitler’s “final solution” for peace and prosperity in Europe was to make it “*Judenrein*”: free and pure from all Jews. Seventeen nations in “the Islamic Nation” in 2013 take this position.

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NOVEMBER'S SERMONS

Brian Donovan

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The Final Solution

Continued from 15

Now there is no “final solution” to any problem without a *final authority*. Our way of putting this is: “Nothing is settled right until it is settled with *God*.” We consider *Him* to be the Final Authority, and we believe He has conferred that authority in *words* in a *Book* which He has put in the universal language of the Twenty-first Century—the *Authorized Version* of the Holy Bible. Whatever “final solution” there is, *He* is the Author of it. Hitler, Mohammed, Islam, the Pope, the EU, and the UN are not even in the race, much less “also rans”; they just fancied themselves to be.

Here is the actual history of “war” and its “final solution.” It can be obtained in at least 160 languages in 2013.

1. All wars spring from *covetousness* (James 4:1–2).

2. The first war was declared before mankind showed up on this earth, and that war was over *final authority* (Isa. 14:12–15; Ezek. 28:15–17).

3. The issue of final authority is what Satan presented to Eve in Genesis 3:1–5. Since that time, the main occupation of all mankind has been *war*. According to the *Encyclopedia of Military History* (1986), there have been 4,345 battles since 3500 B.C. That’s a war every nine to ten months. The Germans say, “In case of rain, the war will be held in the auditorium.”

4. A war pops up in Genesis 14:2. Jacob got involved in armed combat in Genesis 48:22. Pharaoh goes out with his cavalry against Israel in Exodus 14 and is defeated by the “**man of war**” (Exod. 15:3–4). As soon as Israel leaves Egypt, the people are attacked by Amalek (Exod. 17:8–16). And of course, the books of Joshua–2 Chronicles are the accounts of battle after battle, and war after war.

5. Jacob prophesied the Second Advent of Jesus Christ would come with war and battle (Gen. 49:11, 24). You can read the details in Isaiah 63; Daniel 2; Joel 2–3; and Revelation 19. All these passages describe the upcoming *total slaughter of the United Nations* (see Jer. 25:15–28; Isa. 24:3–6 cf. Psa. 105:8–11; Zeph. 3:8).

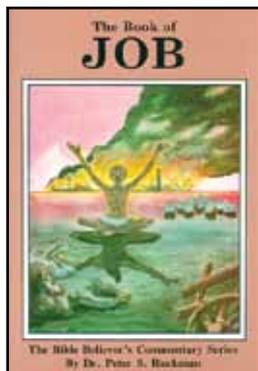
The Final Authority fixed the “final solution” and told you *when* it would happen and *what would take place* when it did. Not one member of the UN or one major news outlet on six continents has any more idea of the “final solution” than Harry Potter or Barbie Doll.

Here is how the Lord laid out history when it comes to the Final Authority and war. There are three religious groups that desire to rule the United Nations. All three tie Church and State together exactly as Nebuchadnezzar did in Daniel 3. All three envision the day when *they* will conquer and overcome the other two to become “top dog” when it comes to ruling the world with *their* religion. These three religions are *Roman Catholicism*, *Islam*, and *present day Judaism*.

On the sidelines are two competitors. Though they are technically religions, they appear as merely “philosophies” (Col. 2:8). One is *humanism* (double speak for *atheism*), and the other is *communism* (double speak for the elimi-

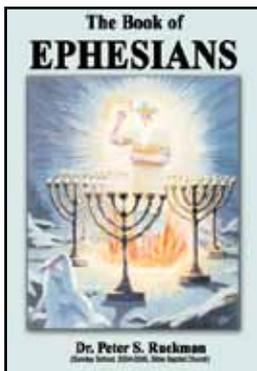
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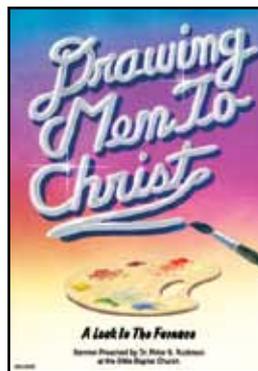
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The Final Solution

Continued from 16

nation of all classes, races, sexes, and nations).

The important thing to remember is that no religion or philosophy can come to world power without the permission of **“the god of this world”** (2 Cor. 4:4; Luke 4:6). Whatever “face” the upcoming world power puts on, the kingdom that is coming is the Kingdom of Death and Hell (Isa. 28:15; Rev. 6:8). Its head is a *monotheist* (James 2:19) who believes in the “fundamentals of the faith” (Mark 5:7). He not only desires economic and political control of the nations (Rev. 13:7, 16–18), but *religious worship* as well (Rev. 13:4, 8, 14–15). His kingdom will come, and his will be done, on earth as it is in *Hell* (Dan. 8:9–12, 23–25). The Final Authority set up that scenario, and 192(+/-) nations will not be able to change any part of it.

Now here are the claims of the “Big Three” to the control of the earth. First is the Roman Catholic Church. According to its leaders (*Catholic Encyclopedia*, Vol. XIV, Enc. Press, NY, 1913, pg. 369; “Summa,” part 3, Thomas Aquinas, London, 1914, pg. 499), the Catholic Church believes *all* governments should be run by “the Church,” and the only true Church is *their* church. All Hindus, Buddhists, Protestants, Jews, and Moslems fall under *125 curses* pronounced by Catholics at “the holy council of Trent.” Anyone can go “online” and get a copy of it. Not one of those curses has ever been rescinded by any Pope or council since 1564; in fact, every pope has to swear to uphold them before he can take office (the Tridentine Confession).

The Roman Catholic Church was the first *armed, military* “Christian” church (see the Crusades) to enforce its religion at *sword point* (burning at the stake, torture chamber, etc.). The Catholic Church claimed that *it* got all the Old Testament promises made to Israel concerning a *literal, earthly kingdom* (400 of them); therefore, *it* was to control *all governments on earth* (“*Unam Sanctam*,” Pope Boniface VIII, *Short History of the Catholic Church*, Wedewer and McSorley, Herder Book Co., St. Louis, 1923, pg. 103).

Following in the footsteps of the Catholic Church was a fornicating, demon-possessed, slave-owning, slave-selling, epileptic polygamist (Mohammed). He claimed that anyone who followed *him* and believed what *he* believed would be chosen by God to get all the promises given to Israel of an *earthly kingdom* (400 of them). It was *his* “church” (Islam) destined to control *all governments* on earth.

Both the Catholics and the Moslems figured *they* were the ones to replace the “original” Church-State (Matt. 21:43). This time, though, the “Church-State” was *ordained by God*. God called out the *nation of Israel* as a *military church* (Acts 7:38; Exod. 6:26, 7:4) to enforce His laws on every nation on earth (Deut. 14:2, 20:9–18, 28:7, 10; Isa. 45:14, 49:22–23, 60:12).

Old Mohammed’s *slavery* was included (Exod. 12:44, 21:2; Josh. 9:23). His *prayer habits* were instituted (Psa. 55:27; Dan. 6:10). His *genocide* was practiced (1 Sam. 15:1–3). His *polygamy* was in effect (1 Kings 11:1–3). Mohammed’s “Sharia laws” were in operation 1,900 years before he was born

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The Final Solution

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(Deut. 17:18–19).

Then, just to make the “Papas” at Rome happy, God gave Israel “holy days” (Lev. 23), “holy water” (Num. 5:17), “holy offerings” (Exod. 30:10; Lev. 2:10), “holy clothes” (Exod. 35:21; Lev. 16:4), and “holy incense” (Exod. 31:11). All Islam and Catholicism are, are *counterfeit* forms of Israel in the Old Testament; they are *religious thieves*.

“**Thine is the kingdom**” (Matt. 6:13) is a *Jewish* prayer (cf. 1 Chron. 29:10–11). That is why the Catholics removed the last fourteen words from Matthew 6:13 so the pope could get “**the kingdom**.” The *RV*, *ASV*, *RSV*, *NASV*, *NIV*, and *ESV* followed him to the letter.

Catholicism has a counterfeit Levitical priesthood (after the Final Authority told you that every Christian is a priest—1 Pet. 2:5, 9). Both copycat Church-States have a counterfeit Jewish plan of salvation—*faith and works*. No Roman Catholic could ever be a real New Testament Christian unless he rejects what his religion teaches about salvation, the New Birth, and forgiveness of sins (Eph. 2:8–9; Tit. 3:5).

Those are the three “contestants” for world domination, and although God chose that last Church-State in the list to “bring in the kingdom,” the nation violated the *Final Authority* when it rejected its Messiah for a Roman dictator (John 19:15 cf. Deut. 17:14–15). That caused the nation to *lose* the promise

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Bro. Donovan's Meeting Schedule

January 20–22

Bible Believers Baptist Church
3857 Hartley Road
Jacksonville, FL 32256
Pastor David Peacock
(904) 334-5783

February 10–12

Open Door Baptist Church
7688 Market Ave. N.
Canton, OH 44721
Pastor Bob Butterfield
(330) 494-9774

March 10–12

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105 Springvale Rd.
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Pastor Steve Schmuck
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The Final Solution

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of worldwide dominion for the next 2000+ years until its Messiah returned in power to take over the nations by *armed force* (Rev. 19; Zech. 14; Isa. 63; Psa. 110).

So now, all three pretenders vying for world domination are defunct and have been left to operate under *Satan* (Luke 4:6; 2 Cor. 4:4). *In this age*, Rome, Mecca, and Jerusalem are *out* of God's plan altogether. Not one of them can claim any divine authority for *one single move* they make to control any government with their religions.

Since all three Church-States are under the control of "**the god of this world**" (2 Cor. 4:4), they all "major" in attempting to overthrow everything the Final Authority revealed about *kingdoms, nations, and wars*. Thus, if any Christian lines up with the UN's "global community" (a Communist move to get rid of all individual nations), he is joining those three Church-States under the *curse of God*. He is helping prepare the way for a Roman Catholic-Moslem-Jew who *himself* seeks to be the final authority (Rev. 13:1–2) so he can carry out Hitler's "final solution" in earnest (Dan. 11:33, 12:1; Rev. 12:13).

In the meantime, to prepare the stage for the one who will "**come in his own name**" (John 5:43), the news media has created a "god" that seeks to eradicate the United States in one swat. This "god" does this with "global citizenship." The statement is: "the burdens of *global citizenship* continue to *bind* us together." See that word "bind." Do you know what the Final Authority says about it?

"Gather ye together first the tares, and BIND THEM IN BUNDLES TO BURN THEM . . . As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 13:30, 40–42).

According to the news media "god," you are no longer a citizen of the United States; you are a citizen of Iraq, Egypt, Spain, India, Morocco, Iran, Greece, Italy, Germany, China, Japan, Brazil, Australia, etc. The news media "god" dragged you backwards 22 centuries into the lap of that pagan fruity-Frisco-faggot Socrates. It was Socrates who tried to wiggle out of being tried for sexually corrupting young men in Athens, Greece. He told the magistrates of Athens they had no right to judge him because he was not a "citizen of Athens," but a "citizen of the *world*."

Twenty-two centuries of man's progress overruled in *one year by one man*. You see, the news media "god," the "global citizen," I quoted was *Barack Hussein Obama* (July 24, 2008). He's the one who's forcing the faggots into the military and giving them the "right" to "marry"; he's the perfect clone of Socrates. Obama stripped you of your citizenship and turned America over to Canada, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Russia, France, and *Africa*.

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The Final Solution

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Here is what the Final Authority had to say about Obama's "globalism":

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 John 2:15).

"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).

The "final solution" for all the problems of mankind that have been accumulating since 4000 B.C., as authored by the Final Authority of the universe, is the annihilation of all three false religious systems, plus 191 Gentile nations that got together to "bind" themselves to each other in "global citizenship." The Final Authority will set up a "thousand-year reich" (Rev. 20:1-6) with His Son as **"KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS"** (Rev. 19:16).

No Catholic Church-State will survive in any shape or form. Not one "Islamic Nation" will be left on the face of the earth. A *new* "Judaism," sporting "Zionism" (Psa. 2:6; Isa. 2:2-3; Zech. 14:16-21), will be established under a *Jewish* Messiah (John 4:22) applying Matthew 5-7 to the Jewish people and the world.

That is the "final solution"—the *real* one—from the Final Authority. Dissenting opinions by *anyone, anywhere, at any time, under any conditions*, are to be taken just as seriously as Laurel and Hardy teaching world history in conjunction with the Three Stooges.



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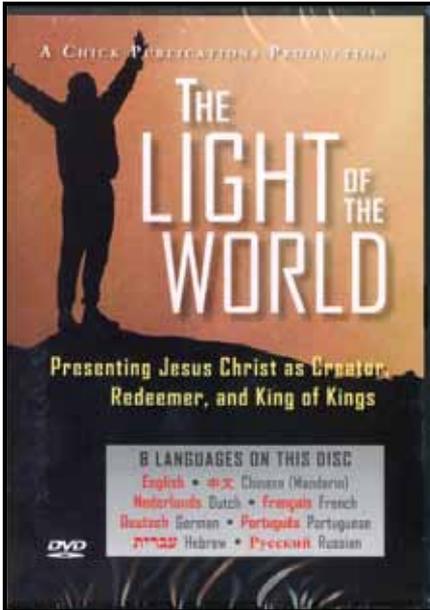
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“Vessels of Wrath”

By Robert Militello

“The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil” (Prov. 16:4).

The year 2017 will see the Lord filling the cup of his indignation, allowing evil people to proliferate like flies near the trash bins of a Chinese restaurant.

“When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish; it is that they shall be destroyed for ever” (Psa. 92:7).

Will the anger of the Lord approach the level it did in Genesis 6:5–7? Did anyone outside of Noah’s family have any idea of just how near to disaster they had come?

Right now, that part of Christ’s body still on earth is what is holding back the explosion of wrath from heaven. What disgust must have been in the heart of God to say, **“for it repenteth me that I have made them”** (Gen. 6:7). What does the Lord see from heaven today? **“The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence”** (Gen. 6:11).

Mockers in Noah’s day must have multiplied with each warning of disaster coming out of Noah’s mouth. They must have comforted themselves with the assurance of science that water pouring down from the sky was nothing more than fantasy. Today’s mockers, even among those professing to be saved, look upon “doomsday” preachers as overzealous alarmists. After all, warnings of impending doom have been a staple on the menu of topics for sermons for centuries. Fear is good for business; just ask those who sell insurance—all kinds. Many who sit in the pews on a Sunday have grown tired of hearing, “Jesus is coming; Jesus is coming!” Some make a joke of it and express the desire that He wait until the afternoon buffet has been digested.

“LORD, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph?” (Psa. 94:3).

How many more gay-pride parades does the Lord have to look at? Even in Jerusalem, the sodomites no longer feel constrained to hide their filth. Tel Aviv’s mayor proudly boasts that his city is the most gay-friendly city in the Western world. Orthodox Jews shake their heads in bewilderment, asking, “Where is the fear of the Holy One of Israel?” So-called preachers throughout America have made it less shameful for sodomites to revel in their perversion by incessantly repeating the soothing mantra, “God is love.” The chief spokesman for Jesus on earth, at least for those who have surrendered their minds to television, says, “Who am I to judge?” when asked by an Italian reporter about homosexuals gaining heaven. Pope Francis continues to do more to undermine God’s holiness than any other human being walking this earth. He is the “Holy Father” only to them who put their feelings before what God’s word says. Jesuits (the pope is one) spend their time reading the *Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius Loyola*, not God’s word. I know, because I sat under them for four years.

“For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered

“Vessels of Wrath”

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into the ark” (Matt. 24:38).

Life in 2017 will be pretty much as it was in 2016. Americans will be fed a steady diet of sex, violence, gossip, and lies from the mass media and Hollywood. All will seem quite normal, and this will comfort those who reject the gospel. Disaster is never so near as when the soul delights itself in the things of this world.

“And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry” (Luke 12:19).

“For man also knoweth not his time: as fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as birds that are caught in the snare” (Eccl. 9:12). Man knows a lot these days. He knows how to remove salt from ocean water and propel himself into the second heaven. He knows how to put the books of all the world’s libraries on a machine you can carry about and plug in while enjoying a latte at Starbucks. Man is putting cars on the road that drive themselves, and drones will make outdoor deliveries of all kinds of things. Whenever I see Proverbs 31:6—**“Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish”**—besides the literal meaning, I think of technology and inventions that make life ever so comfortable as the strong drink offered by God to a world system about to be destroyed. Indeed, man knows more, much more, than he ever has before, yet his inability to see what the Lord is about to do will soon damn billions.

“And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be” (Matt. 24:39).

A vessel is useful only if something can fill it. Mankind’s contempt for God’s word and the bloody offering Jesus willingly made of Himself for sinners is now fitting all but a remnant to be **“vessels of wrath”** (Rom. 9:22). Every Christ-rejecting soul will be a cup filled to the top with a most bitter, bitter wine called the wrath of God. These damned souls will stagger like drunks, and others snared by drugs will walk about like zombies. A destruction is coming upon this planet, the likes of which no scientist can imagine and for which no government can prepare.

“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be” (Matt. 24:21).

My Saviour was a “doomsday preacher.” Don’t expect this Jesus to be preached in America’s pulpits. Folks want to believe in a better future. Those who have suffered because of hurricanes, droughts, floods, tornadoes, and other acts of God, are not likely to embrace a message on the coming judgment of God. For those who are truly saved and have been cleansed from the love of this world, an escape from the wrath that is about to fall is a most welcomed doctrine. Paul, in his day, looked for this escape, called the **“blessed hope”** in Titus 2:13. If this holy desire to be with Jesus and leave **“this present evil world”** (Gal. 1:4) does not increase with each passing month, you and the Lord have a communication problem. Look to it before that day comes upon you unawares. You were told to **“watch and pray”** (Mark 13:33)

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“Vessels of Wrath”

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and wait patiently for His return (1 Thess. 1:10). Your shame at His coming is something you really don't want to experience. It will be intense. Why risk it?

Because Egypt is a type of the world in God's word, I look at the plagues through which the Egyptians had to live because Pharaoh despised the God of Moses and Aaron. Antichrist will surpass Pharaoh in his contempt for the Lord's right to rule over men and all **“the kingdoms of this world”** (Rev. 11:15). All of the rebellion of unsaved man, going back to Cain, will be embodied in this one man the Bible calls **“the Beast.”** This will be a man who believes he has a right to be worshiped. He will demand it, and saved Jews in the Tribulation will see in him the spirit of Nebuchadnezzar—history repeating itself. If only there were a Jewish prophet today warning the Jews of what is to come. The Book is closed to them. My Jewish friends don't realize that their nation is like a calf now being fattened before the slaughter.

“For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out, and drink them” (Psa. 75:8).

Paul tells us, in Romans 1:18–32, why the cup of wrath has been prepared for mankind in these last days. I believe the filling of this cup was greatly accelerated when so-called science rejected God as Creator and embraced the fantasy of evolution. Darwin's theory, along with the proliferation of false “Bibles” and the emergence of the UN and the State of Israel, all point to a cup that is just about full. There is a fixed time for the Lord to come for His bride. With this new year upon us, consider that this may be the year the Lord has set for the fulfillment of His promise made in John 14:3. What I know for certain is that what Paul wrote in Romans 13:11 needs no explanation: **“for NOW is our salvation nearer than when we believed.”**

Our God is still calling men to repentance, although in America His voice is getting harder and harder to hear. Life here is so filled with distractions that the signals being broadcast by soulwinners and Christians, who see how near we are to judgment, are drowned out by noise. That noise has been greatly augmented in these last days by social media and the millions who use Facebook, Twitter, etc., to showcase their vanity and convince themselves they have something important to say. When the shout from heaven is heard (1 Thess. 4:16), will it come as a shock and surprise to millions of American Christians? What's your guess?

Our God knows how to get folks' attention in a moment. Last summer, an Islamic terrorist, Omar Mateen, sent 49 people into eternity from an Orlando, Florida nightclub, where drinking, dancing, and partying came to a very abrupt end. Sometimes I think death takes a peculiar delight in snatching souls away in the early morning hours of a Sunday. Most in Orlando were asleep, not hearing about the bloodbath until hours later. Pastors who went into their pulpits that morning in Orlando may have had to switch from their prepared messages. David said there was **“but a step between [him] and death”** (1

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Sam. 20:3). How many among the Lord's sheep will take that step without warning in 2017?

Job had a real problem understanding God's dealings with the wicked. Chapter 21 of Job is a classic case of the clay pot talking back to the potter.

“Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power?” (Job 21:7).

What do we know of the Lord's longsuffering, really? Nothing is hid from His holy eyes. He sees what goes on in the dark, and the filthiness of sin is no less filthy because it is committed by a born-again child of God. Mankind has been granted a long season to offend its Creator. More than 6,000 years will have passed before the Lord gives full expression to His wrath and allows a holy desire for vengeance to put an end to His longsuffering. Then will the saints know: **“That the wicked is reserved to the day of destruction? they shall be brought forth to the day of wrath”** (Job. 21:30).

Can we understand and agree that a God who is love has every right to explode in anger and burn His enemies? When once dealing with a woman who could not conceive that a loving God created a burning hell, I asked her if justice is full rendered here on earth. How many millions upon millions have lived and died on this sin-polluted planet, having escaped justice for deeds known only to God? I asked this woman if government had the right to build jails and prisons and lock up evildoers. Then I asked if God had that same right. She had to think (imagine that) before she said, “I guess so.” Dr. Ruckman made this observation many times during his ministry: he said that Americans were as dumb as a box of rocks. If you have had many, many personal dealings with folks about eternal things, you'll discover that Dr. Ruckman's statement is not hyperbole.

Is it right for a Christian to look forward to the destruction of the wicked? Right now, during the Church Age, we labor to see souls saved because we know the Lord is **“not willing that any should perish”** (2 Pet. 3:9).

There's **“no pleasure in the death of the wicked”** (Ezek. 33:11). **“Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?”** (Ezek. 18:23).

If God were anxious to punish the wicked, we would be in heaven right now. Jesus Christ, as the Lamb of God, bought this world a stay of execution. In many states, before a convicted murderer is executed (in states that still have capital punishment), he or she may receive multiple stays of execution. Countless inmates have spent years on death row. They've been given lots of time to prepare to meet their Maker. For the family and friends of murdered loved ones, the want for justice to be rendered is often intolerable. Can you blame them? Notwithstanding the lengthy appeal process and consequent delays, justice must eventually be served. A divine explosion of anger and wrath has been held back for so long now; should we not now move with fear like Noah did (Heb. 11:7)?

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“Vessels of Wrath”

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“In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Thess. 1:8).

A small display of the wrath of God fell upon His own people in A.D. 70. The gospel was rejected by the Jews as a nation. After His death in A.D. 34 (if our calendar is correct), the Holy One of Israel allowed the Temple to stand and sacrifice to continue for another 36 years. Here was a stay of execution given the Jewish leadership to hear that the Messiah had come. Justice for the murder of the Lord Jesus has not yet been fully exacted. What happened to Jerusalem and to the Temple was only a down payment on what would come. There is yet a terrible price to be paid in blood by all but a remnant of the sons and daughters of Jacob now living in Israel. Titus' massacre of the Jews in A.D. 70 is but a dress rehearsal for what's soon to come. Over seventy years ago, the Jews of Europe paid an enormous price in blood at the hands of the German dictator whose name is synonymous with evil.

Sin keeps on paying its wages, and it doesn't have to wait until Friday. Because of sin in our own vile bodies, divine justice brings the tent in which our soul lives down to the grave. Justice will be served, yet for those of us alive when the Lord comes for His bride, a great pardon will be given. We will escape the death penalty and fly away to meet those who have risen already from their graves and are with **“the Lord in the air”** (1 Thess. 4:17). Talk about a jailbreak, the **“blessed hope”** of Titus 2:13 will make Houdini's famous death-defying escapes appear boring and not worth the price of admission.

Do you think **“the vessels of wrath”** that God has reserved for these last days might be somewhat unnerved by our sudden disappearance? When the door of Noah's ark closed, and just before the torrents of water came, were the wicked still certain that the doomsday preacher wasn't worth listening to?

“Thou putteth away all the wicked of the earth like dross” (Psa. 119:119). Dross builds up over time, depending upon what is being heated. It is scum that forms on molten metal, and the great tribulation soon coming will be a refining pot for nations, the likes of which cannot be comprehended. Devils and the powers of evil are exerting more and more influence throughout the world. Two-thousand-seventeen will be worse than the past year. We who have been redeemed and seated **“in heavenly places”** (Eph. 2:6), shall be spared the horror that's coming.

“Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped” (Psa. 124:7).

If you were able to choose a time to be born, would there be a more favorable age than that when the gospel of God's grace in Jesus Christ gave you eternal life for free? A net is about to be dropped upon the nations. Since 1945, God has been bundling the governments of the world to prepare them for slaughter; see Zephaniah 3:8. That verse should be on the so-called Isaiah Wall in front of the UN because it prophesies the organization's miserable

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“Vessels of Wrath”

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failure to bring in peace without the Prince of Peace.

While the Church is in heaven and the dross of the earth is being consumed in God's wrath, a newsflash from an angel will fill our hearts with joy: **“The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever”** (Rev. 11:15). Notice the kingdoms were taken from the devil's christ. Mystery Babylon, the UN, the harlot, the one-world church, all the structures built by the devil in these last days, fall and burn. All the nations that joined together under the reign of Antichrist will be snared in the Lord's net.

In the Church Age, no nation was ruled by the Holy Spirit. Souls were saved
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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.

“Vessels of Wrath”

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out of every nation, but not any government, even Israel. In the Tribulation, **“The kingdoms of this world,”** offered to Jesus Christ in Luke 4:5–7, will be taken in battle with a decisive victory for the Lord of hosts at Armageddon. Look carefully at John 21:1–11, and I believe a picture is given of the capture of the nations belonging to Antichrist. Notice verse 11, where the Holy Spirit gives you the exact amount **“of great fishes”** caught in the disciples' net. **“Great fishes”** are not men; they must be representative of nations. What other book can you read that previews all that is coming, while telling you to **“flee . . . the wrath to come”** (Matt. 3:7; Luke 3:7)? Every Christian is called to do what Noah did. We were told to occupy until Christ comes, not sleep. Besides warning the wicked to escape what the book of Revelation shows will soon be, we are to “build an ark.” I see that as working to improve and perfect our relationship with Jesus Christ, who alone is our Ark of Safety. Your first duty, as a believer, is to fellowship and walk with your Lord. **“Seek ye first the kingdom of God”** (Matt. 6:33) and work at that every day the Lord allows you to say on this earth.

Thank God, there will be a faithful remnant of blood-bought saints preaching **“the gospel of the grace of God”** (Acts 20:24) from a pure English Bible right up to the last minute of the Church Age. Only the Lord knows when that last soul to be saved by grace alone will be baptized into Christ's Body. When that Body is complete, it is taken up to be with its Head, our Saviour. Sin has its consequences, for sure, but judgment is not always immediate. Knowing just how terrible will be the wrath of God when it is finally poured out, the Lord may extend the time of grace. Who knows for certain? See in Ezekiel chapter 10 how the cloud of the glory of the Divine Presence lifted itself above the Temple and lingered before it finally left in verse 18. From the Holy of Holies to the inner court and to the outer court (vs. 5), then to the threshold (vs. 18) and **“the east gate”** (vs. 19), it was a sad goodbye that the prophet saw in vision. Over 600 years later, Jesus, Israel's King, would weep over Jerusalem just prior to His murder.

There will be so many left behind when the Lord calls us out. Millions and millions in this nation alone have been witnessed to and have received tracts and have been prayed for by saved loved ones and friends. It is painful to think of what they will face under the rule of the devil's anointed “messiah.” Millions of professing Christians will discover that professing Christ and possessing Him were two vastly different things. Noah was **“a preacher of righteousness”** (2 Pet. 2:5). We preach the righteousness of Jesus Christ by faith, but to those who choose to trust in their own righteousness, a bitter cup must shortly be put to their mouths.

Aren't you glad you are saved? God, give us a heart to earnestly yearn for Your coming like the one my brothers in prison have.

“For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and lie not: though it tarry, WAIT FOR IT; BECAUSE IT WILL SURELY COME, IT WILL NOT TARRY” (Hab. 2:3).

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Pensacola WEBY 1330 AM	8:00 A.M. Sun.	
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KANSAS		
Kansas City KCNW 1380 AM	6:30 P.M. Sat.	
LOUISIANA		
Alexandria-Lafayette-Lake Charles KWDF 840 AM	9:00 A.M. Sat.	
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Lupton WMSD 90.9 FM	8:15 P.M. Wed.	
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