



# Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 41 No. 10 "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17) October 2017

## Five Hundred Years Ago— October 1517

By Brian Donovan

In one of the most momentous events in all of true church history, five hundred years ago, on the eve of "All Saints Day", October 31, 1517, a German monk nailed his "Ninety-Five Theses" to the door of the church in Wittenberg, Germany, marking the beginning of a battle that would cause the Roman Catholic Church to declare war on Martin Luther.

Born in 1483 in Eisleben, Luther was educated in Erfurt, earning his degree in 1505 with the intention of continuing on to a law degree, unaware that the Lord had other plans, intervening with a vicious thunderstorm breaking all around the head of the twenty-one-year-old, who was out on a long hike in the country. Shaking and seeking shelter under a tree after a

close lightning strike, Martin prayed to St. Anne, promising that if she would deliver, he would abandon his plans to become a lawyer and instead, become a monk. He immediately entered the pagan, black monastery of the Augustinians in Erfurt, despite his father's pleas. Later, Luther would describe this time as one of "deep spiritual despair", where he made Jesus Christ "the jailor and hangman of my poor soul", as he studied the philosophies of Aristotle and William of Ockham. As many Roman Catholics find out in time, their pagan religion leads to atheism, rather than salvation.

In 1512, while studying to give lectures for his new position in the chair of biblical theology at the university in Wittenberg, the Holy Spirit began to open the lost monk's soul to the scriptures regarding salvation, especially using Romans 1:17 ("**the just shall live by faith**"). The following year marked the ascension of the first of the wicked Medici family to the papal throne in Rome, as Giovanni di Lorenzo de Medici took on the alias Pope Leo X. His excesses of art and

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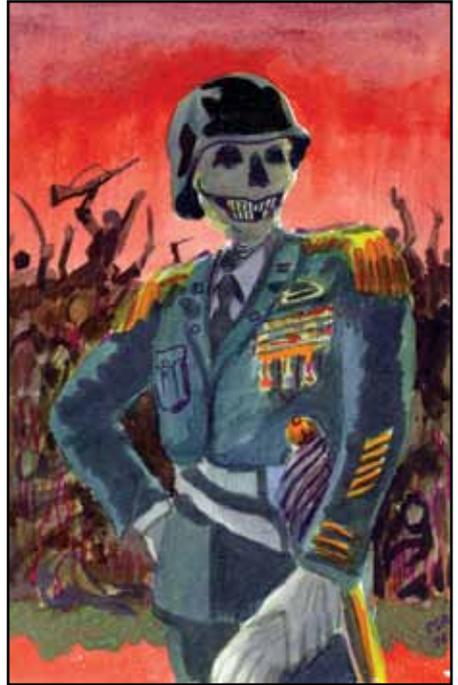
# “No Discharge In That War”

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

“There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: **AND THERE IS NO DISCHARGE IN THAT WAR;** neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it” (Eccl. 8:8).

I have often thought about the verse, but for a long time, I did not know what to do with it. It is obvious from the first part of the verse that Solomon is saying that when death finally comes for sure, there is nothing you can do to stay alive. The great exception to that was, of course, the Lord Jesus Christ. He said, **“No man taketh it [referring to His life in John 10:17] from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again”** (John 10:18). He was the only man who ever lived who had the power to dismiss His spirit when *He was ready* (Luke 23:46).

But as far as you are concerned, you don't have that power. You say, “I'll kill myself and prove you wrong.” Maybe you will and maybe you won't. There have been all kinds of botched suicides. One fellow shot himself in the head, and the bullet traveled around the inside of the skull to the other side and went out. He lived. People have tried taking sleeping pills and didn't take enough to kill them. They've tried hanging themselves and had the rope (or the bedsheets, etc.)



break. You can't guarantee a successful suicide if the Lord intends to keep you here, and you can't stay alive if He's set on taking you out.

In our text, the struggle against death is described as a **“war.”** You are in a battle against death from the moment you are born.

In World War II, a soldier earned so many “points” for overseas combat, and when he got however many points, he got to go home. But in Korea, the Pentagon started extending the points to keep men in longer, and in Vietnam, they were sent back over into combat after

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being sent home. In this mess with the Moslems, you have fellows who have served three, four, and five combat hitches in a row. I knew a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy who, when his time of service was up, was told he wasn't going to be discharged. When he tried to resign his commission, things had been fixed so he wasn't allowed to resign. There was a big stink over the whole mess; it was all over the news.

If you are in the military and want to get out, you look forward to the day of your discharge. I have talked to men who had it timed down to the second. Some of these women who enter the service find out it's not all it's cracked up to be, so they use their “feminine wiles” to get out. They seduce some man with whom they serve and accuse him of rape or “sexual harassment,” or they get pregnant. Some fellows get out on what's called a “Section Eight”—insanity. Some are genuinely ready for the “funny farm,” and some are just play-acting.

But there is one war from which you won't get a discharge—the war with death. **“There is no discharge in that war.”**

Now there are all kinds of ways, in and out of the Bible, to be discharged from combat. Back in Deuteronomy 20:8, the Lord allowed those Jews to get out of combat if they were **“fearful and fainthearted . . . lest his brethren's heart faint as well as his heart.”** Patton said, “Cowardice is a disease, and it must be checked before it becomes epidemic.” Well, God got the cowards out of His army before

they ever entered combat so their cowardice didn't spread.

But you won't get out of the war against death just because you're scared. You say, “Dr. Ruckman, I don't want to die.” That may be so, but being scared of death won't get you out of it. You will still have to die.

I'll tell you something else, for which you won't get out: *good conduct*. I think some people believe they're immune from death just because they've been living right. Paul was a good man, and he died. Stephen was a good man, and he died. Jesus Christ never sinned a day in His life, and even He died. What makes you think you'll be exempt?

What's more, you can't get out on *bad conduct*. In the modern set-up, you can be so bad, from a legal standpoint, that the military won't even take you. You are labeled: “Unfit for military service.” But in the conflict with death, you can behave yourself badly or well, and you'll still have to fight the fight.

I don't recommend too many secular works about military service, but every Christian man ought to read a book called *No Time for Sergeants* by a fellow named Mac Hyman. It's a clean book for a book about the Army, and it's funny. It's about some country fellow who gets drafted into the Army during World War II. He's not stupid, but his behavior is so erratic, the Army would have given anything to get him out, but they couldn't.

The main character in that book, a guy named Stockdale, was typical of a misfit “hillbilly” from North

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Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia, etc. When I was in the Army, I knew fellows like that. Here is a typical scene.

An officer goes by the hillbilly and is expecting a salute. The hillbilly says, “Howdy! Mornin’ there!” That officer calls the hillbilly over and reams him out one side and down the other for not saluting. When that officer gets through, he asks that country bumpkin, “Now what do you have to say about that?!” The hillbilly says, “Shucks man, if I had known you were going to carry on like that, I wouldn’t even have said hello to you.”

Nowadays, men like that are labeled “undesirable, not fit for military duty.” But conduct like that won’t get you out of the fight with death. **“There is no discharge in that war.”**

Not only that, but there is no discharge on account of *rank*. It doesn’t matter how high up the social ladder you are, death recognizes no rank. Death has no respect of persons. Death has no more respect for a five-star general than a buck private. It won’t defer to a prince over a pauper. It will visit the dwelling of a president and skid-row bum alike.

Rommel was a great soldier, but he died. He was such a good general, even Winston Churchill had to grudgingly acknowledge the bravery and cunning of his enemy. Rommel fought clean across North Africa until he was out of water, out of petrol, in a running retreat. But in that decimated condition, he managed to whip the fire out of an American division at Kasserine

Pass (even though the Germans ended up losing the battle).

When Rommel finally got through in North Africa and realized Hitler wasn’t going to help his men and was willing to sacrifice his men (which happened when the Axis surrendered at Tunisia, and 275,000 of them went into POW camps), he got into a plot to assassinate Hitler. A bomb was placed under Hitler’s table at the Wolf’s Lair, but it only injured him.

Rommel was implicated in the plot, and two generals visited him at his home. He was taken out to a big, black Mercedes Benz and put in the back seat. There he was given a choice: suicide with honor and a pension for his wife and kids the rest of their lives, or court martial before the People’s Court in disgrace with his family taken to a concentration camp. That brave, bold man popped the cyanide capsule and found out: **“There is no discharge in that war.”**

Did you ever think about dying? If you want to do something “for kicks,” go out in the backyard on a dark night when there is no moon and lie down in the dirt. That will give you a new “perspective” and “outlook on life.”

Next, you won’t get out due to *awards*. You won’t get out of **“that war”** with a Congressional Medal of Honor. You may have so many medals, awards, and commendations that you look like a Christmas tree, but you will *still die*.

It always amuses me to see some hippy or biker wear an “iron cross.” It was the German version of the Medal of Honor, and it was

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awarded for distinguished military service or bravery in the line of duty. I bet you no hippy or biker would want to do what it took even to deserve a lower-class iron cross. Before World War II, it had only been awarded nineteen times in a hundred years.

But no matter how brave or distinguished you may be, it won't get you out of death. I think some men (and women) feel that since they belong to a certain club or are president or chairman of some well-known organization that those things will exempt them from dying. *You will still be put to sleep with a shovel.*

You won't get out of death by *your time in service overseas*. Men have a funny idea that trouble, heartache, pain, suffering, and tragedy in this life means they are exempt from “**the second death**” in “**the lake of fire**” (Rev. 20:14–15). A favorite saying among combat veterans is to tell “St. Peter” at the gate of heaven, “You have to let me in, because I've already served my time in hell (or purgatory).” The idea is: “I've already been through hell on earth fighting in a war, so now I can go straight to heaven.”

But someone who thinks like that is just kidding himself. That's not the way things work. The sad fact is, you may go through hell on earth and still wind up in hell for eternity because you rejected the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for your sins. A sinner doesn't go to hell (or get out of it) because of some cosmic “karma.” He goes to hell because he has no payment for his sins and he must pay for them himself. The

way I lived, I should have gone to hell by the time I was 27 years old, but at that time, a preacher showed me how to get out, and I took “**the way**” (John 14:6).

Listen, no one reading this page has ever spent any time in hell, no matter how bad things got for him or her. When Audie Murphy got back from overseas and made that movie “To Hell and Back,” he was just kidding himself and everyone who saw it. If you ever make it to hell, there won't be any coming back. You will only get out long enough for the White Throne Judgment, and then it's into the lake of fire. Hell isn't spelled P-U-R-G-A-T-O-R-Y like the Moslems teach. You will burn as long as the God whose holiness you offended lives. “**It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment**” (Heb. 9:27). “**There is no discharge in that war.**”

In Dante's *Inferno*, he has a sign over the entrance to hell that reads: “Abandon all hope all ye who enter here.” If you think you are just going to burn for a while in hell and get out, you had better abandon that vain hope right now, because there will be no hope in hell.

Furthermore, you won't get out on a “*Section Eight*”: that's being “squirrelly” (crazy). During World War I, there were a lot of men who came back from Flanders Fields “shell shocked,” and they weren't “putting on” just to get out of the service, either. They stumbled back into the bivouac area, eyes glazed, no expression on their face. When questioned, they had no idea who they were, what their outfit was,

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or where they were going. Their mind was completely gone. But not even crazy people are exempt from death: they die in insane asylums all the time. **“There is no discharge in that war.”**

Finally, **“there is no discharge in that war”** due to *“hash marks.”* A “hash mark” denotes how long someone has been in the service. They were called “hash marks” because originally they denoted a man who kept reenlisting for the hash served in the chow line.

When I was a boy, I used to like breakfast, but after I served my time in the Army, I lost my taste for breakfast. I cut breakfast down to once a week at a restaurant with my boys.

From what I hear, the chow has improved considerably since I served; but when I was in, if you got real eggs, they were never done, the bacon was never cooked all the way (you could wrap it around your finger), and the toast was as hard as a rock. One time, I kid you not, I got *powdered eggs* with *egg shells* in them. How does a cook get bits of eggs shells in powdered eggs without putting them in there on purpose? Why would anyone do that? But someone did, and I ate them.

As a class of people, I love old infantrymen, but I have never met one, if he didn't find Christ, who didn't end up a sot drunk. To me, that is one of the greatest tragedies in the world.

I used to talk to one in town here who had every medal one could earn in the Army outside of the Congressional Medal of Honor, but

he drank himself to death. He would sit and tell me about the action he had seen, and I would think, “My God! How can a fellow go through all that and not get right?” As far as I know, he drank himself right into hell. What a tragedy!

Eddie Rickenbacker was a flying ace for our side in World War I and World War II before he started Eastern Air Lines. During World War II, he ended up in a raft at sea with nine other men for 24 days. I have heard his testimony of the ordeal, and he talked about one of the men praying and God performing miracles to send them rain and food. But I noticed that nowhere in that testimony did I ever hear any evidence that Eddie trusted Christ personally and was born again. What a pity; what a shame.

I wish there was some way to keep from dying. What if a big meeting of all the scientists, all the philosophers, all the professors, all the preachers, and all the doctors were held to get rid of death? Everyone would give his idea about what to do about death. And I have imagined what I would say when they finally got around to me: “Dr. Ruckman, what contribution do you have to make?”

I would say, “Well, gentlemen, it would seem to me after many years of investigating this problem, that the best possible and most highly-scientific solution would be for us all to be like *Enoch*.” Don't you know that would go over like a lead balloon. Why, who there would know who Enoch was?

Enoch was the only man in the Bible who never died and *never will*

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*die.* Elijah didn't die (2 Kings 2), but he will (Rev. 11). Enoch had a privilege even God's only begotten Son didn't have. If a fellow could just find out how to be like Enoch, he could beat death. So if I want a "discharge in that war," I have to be like Enoch.

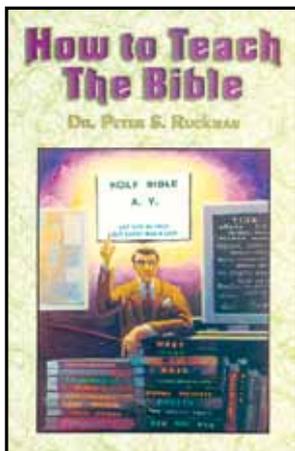
The scripture says, "**By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God**" (Heb. 11:5).

So if I want to get out of death, I have to please God. Well, there is only one man of whom that is said in the New Testament: "**This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased**" (Matt. 3:17). Do you want to please God? Trust His Son. "**This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; HEAR YE HIM**" (Matt. 17:5).

If you trust Jesus Christ, He will

get you through the final battle. I am not saying you won't fight that final battle; after all, He did. But if you trust Him, you will have Someone living in you who said: "**I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die**" (John 11:25-26).

The Christian has the "**blessed hope**" that, one of these days or one of these nights, his Saviour will come and get him out of dying (Tit. 2:13). And should he have died before that happens, his Lord will awake him out of the icy sleep of death to be with Him forever (1 Thess. 4:15-17). He will do that because He Himself whipped death when He came out of the grave (1 Cor. 15:54-57). When He returns, every man, woman, and child who have trusted Him as Saviour get an "honorable discharge" from "**that war.**"



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# Five Hundred Years Ago— October 1517

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literature would require enormous sums of money to be brought into the papal coffers. Commissioning Raphael's paintings, including a large one of Leo in all his gluttony, Leo began selling Cardinal hats and Archbishop positions that resulted in about \$50 million in today's dollars. After all, it was not cheap to keep a pet white elephant, and one hundred poets and writers around to write flowery rhymes about him and constantly puff up his ego, not to mention the profligate life he led. Estimates to build the great cathedral of St. Peter's were about seven million dollars per year. Leo once called the life of Jesus Christ a "profitable superstition", and this did not come from a misguided pedophile priest, but from the self-proclaimed "Vicar of Christ" himself, that the Catholic faithful must believe is the "Holy Father". Leo increased to the selling of indulgences (the belief that a soul can be bought out of purgatory for money) to such epic proportions that this practice was equated with the saying: "As soon as the gold in the casket rings, the rescued soul to heaven springs". It was in this atmosphere that Luther's spiritual eyes were opened and he penned his Ninety-Five Theses.

By 1519, the Vatican began to see that they were not going to be able to control this rebel monk and in June of 1520, the papal bull went out to condemn forty-one of Luther's "heresies" and to call for the burning of his books. Given sixty days to recant, Martin's response was to publicly burn the bull, causing his excommu-

nication from the Roman anti church. In 1521, Luther was summoned to the Diet of Worms under Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, and despite all the fear and terror he held inside, Luther refused to recant and left that meeting thinking that his life was now "over and through". However, the Lord was far from through and receiving help from Frederick the Wise, Luther was protected in the castle of Wartburg, disguised as a knight with a different name. It was during this stay from May 1521 through March 1522, that Luther translated the New Testament into German. His stand against the Roman Catholic hierarchy caused many priests to abandon their vows and marry, though not encouraged personally by Luther. An interesting side note of church history is that within only a few years, the Lutheran Church became established as the state church of Germany and began persecuting the Bible believers in the realm. A little more than a decade after Martin was in the Wartburg castle, in 1533, the brother of the now deceased Frederick the Wise, arrested Fritz Erbe, an Anabaptist believer who refused to have his baby baptized. Erbe remained a prisoner in Wartburg until his death fifteen years later in 1548.

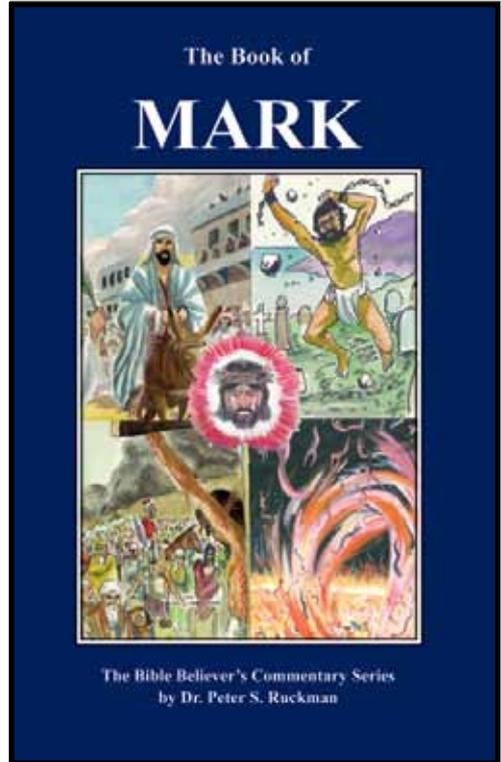
In the meantime, some thirty-five hundred miles away in the British Isles, King Henry VIII was unable to produce a male heir with his Roman Catholic wife, Catherine of Aragon. After some years of marriage their only child was Mary and by 1530,

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# MARK COMMENTARY

The Bookstore is pleased to offer the volume completing Dr. Ruckman's comments on the entire New Testament. Based on Dr. Ruckman's Sunday school teaching, the work covers the textual distinctives of the Gospel of Mark, with the attacks of the textual and higher critics discussed and refuted. The doctrinal progress of the gospel message from the ministry of Christ to its proclamation in the Acts of the Apostles is traced. Roman Catholic teachings on the Passion Week and the Crucifixion are shown to be legends and myths. As in all the commentaries in this series, Dr. Ruckman, in his own signature way, makes practical application to the life of the believer as well as an evangelistic emphasis for the lost.

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Henry was eager to put Catherine away. Petitioning the Pope to allow a divorce, Henry was denied once Catherine was kin to the same Holy Roman Emperor (Charles V) who grilled Luther at Worms. The Pope cared nothing about the Bible, he was only concerned with not disappointing a very powerful ally in Charles. By 1533, Henry already had one of his wife's handmaidens pregnant, Anne Boleyn, so he simply kicked the Pope and his Catholic Church out of England and married Anne. The daughter of this union was Elizabeth I who would reign for forty-five years from 1558 to 1603, but not before her older sister, Bloody Mary, would rule for five years from 1553-1558, martyring over two hundred Christians in the name of her pagan Catholic Church. Under Elizabeth's long reign, the Lord was working a number of things, most of which we know nothing about, but during her reign, England became the world power of the day, expanding the British Empire and its language to the four corners of the globe. In the Lord's timing, Elizabeth held on for years in bad health, allowing her successor, James I of Scotland to mature both physically and spiritually. Elizabeth died in 1603 and one of James' first moves as the new king, was to commission the translation of the Bible into English. Beginning in 1604, fifty-four men divided into three committees, finished the job in 1611, as the Lord kept his promise found in Psalm 12:6-7 to preserve

his words. The King James Bible was certainly not the first English translation of the scriptures, being preceded by six others with Wycliffe (1382), Tyndale (1525), Coverdale (1535), Great Bible (1539), Geneva (1560), and the Bishop's (1568), allowing for the words of the Lord to be "purified seven times" (Psalm 12:6-7), with the KJV of 1611 being the seventh.

In what can only be described as the hand of God, the King James Bible became the preeminent English translation, surpassing the popular Geneva and the others, as well as the myriad of modern attempts to replace it since 1881. After a few hundred attempts and still trying, modern Christian scholarship is unable to usurp the power, authority, and preeminence of the KJV. The Calvinist Puritans carried their Geneva Bible across the Atlantic and founded the Massachusetts Bay Colony, but it was the King James Bible that was preached across this country and saved thousands of souls. Alistair McGrath wrote, "we simply do not know with any certainty the true reasons for the waning in popularity of the Geneva Bible at a time when it might have been expected enjoy a surge in popularity", yet Bible believers know exactly the reason. The preeminent place of the King James Bible is explained by Colossians 1:18 where we are told that "**in all things he (Jesus Christ) might have the preeminence.**" That would be a good starting point if someone wanted to find out where the scriptures are found today. The Lord Jesus Christ is given

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the preeminence in Luke 2:33 where the Holy Spirit will not refer to Joseph as his “father”, as it is in the NIV, ASV, RSV, etc. The same preeminence is given to Christ in Luke 23:42 where the dying thief calls Jesus “**Lord**”, but the word “**Lord**” is dropped by the corrupt versions. This same phenomenon is found in Acts 4:27, where Christ is called God’s “**child**” (which no Muslim believes) but called God’s “servant” in the corrupt translations. The words put into Nebuchadnezzar’s mouth in the KJV in Daniel 3:25, saying “**the fourth is like the Son of God**”, are taken out in the corruptions, instead claiming he is like “a son of the gods”.

The Lord’s fulfillment to preserve his words has been constantly attacked not only by Satan through the Roman Catholic Church, but through “godly Christian scholars” in the Laodicean era. Luther’s work five hundred years ago was another step the Lord used in putting us where we are today. When John Wycliffe tried to translate the scriptures in 1384, so that the common man could read them, he was so vilified that the pope had his body exhumed forty-four years after it was buried, burning it at a stake, and having the ashes thrown into the River Swift.

Wycliffe’s crimes were to train me to go out into the streets, lanes, markets, and fields, to preach the gospel without license and without accreditation. Without “acceptable” training, “acceptable” manners, or “acceptable” pulpits, these men were mockingly called Lollards (“mumblers”), who were not up to

par with the clergy of their day. Wycliffe said that the clergy were “wicked kindred who would that the gospel slept”, as they did their best to hinder the street preaching outcasts. In 2017, six hundred years after Wycliffe, and five hundred years after Luther, professing Bible believers despise the present day Lollard PBI street preachers who “do not understand how it should be done today”. Ignoring the detractors, they are still taught to bear the reproach and preach on the streets of America. On a recent Saturday afternoon here in Pensacola, I counted 106 men (not counting women and children holding scripture signs and Bibles) going out onto our streets to preach. One amazing thing to me about this scene was that among that group were thirty plus men who were over fifty years of age. They were not PBI students and they were not required to go out on the streets to preach, but they were there, faithful soldiers of Jesus Christ. The modern acceptable way of “having an outreach” (whatever that is) is to hide behind a computer screen and “boldly” debate and gossip on social media. Of course, they are “Christian” sites and “Ruckmanite” sites (nothing but the best for our Lord), as these modern contenders for the faith would never take part in worldly ways. Five hundred years after Luther faced off with the devil of Rome, today’s Laodicean Christians fancy themselves great soldiers of the cross as they “Facebook” it, and “YouTube” it, in their technological ways of getting around what they were commanded to do in the “**old paths**” (Jeremiah 6:16).

# Biblical Manhood

By Zack Colvin

Manhood, in our present day and age, is almost completely a lost idea. Just about everywhere we look there are creatures who are *males*, but to call them *men* would be a grave mistake. Christian men not only should be real men but should have certain characteristics about them that make them real, Christian men. A man who reads the Bible does not lack for examples when it comes to understanding how real men should behave, how they should talk, how they should treat their wives and children, how they should love, how and what they should hate, how to treat their friends as well as their enemies, what they should think about their country, what they should stand for and what they should stand against, and the list could go on and on. There are literally hundreds of examples in the Bible. But one of the surest ways to know that Christians aren't reading their Bibles is the fact that there aren't many good, biblical, godly men around.

Every saved man I know that is following the Lord Jesus Christ is a real man. I haven't met one that I can remember that is sold out for the Lord that isn't a real man. The Bible has a way of making a man. If men were reading the Bible and trying their best to apply it to their lives, there wouldn't be so many queers running around, or at least men who look, act, and talk like queers. "Birds of a feather flock together!" But somewhere down the line, the Christian men put the Bible down and picked up a dirty magazine instead, and now they leave the Bible sitting on the coffee table so they can spend time on the computer. As a result, the males of today's day and age

aren't committed to much of anything. They don't know how to work, except for working their fingers to the bone on the keyboard; they're more interested in how *they* look than how their *heart* looks before God; they whine about their rights instead of putting their heads down and taking some ridicule or punishment (yes, that's what a man should do sometimes, just like your Saviour did). The following is very concise list of some of the biblical characteristics that God's men should have.

Biblical men are balanced men. Some men get the idea that a real man is a man who is always roughing it. He's rude and crude; he's a tough guy that nobody wants to mess with; he bosses everybody around and tells them what to do; and they bow at his feet because they're afraid of him. There is certainly nothing wrong with some of those things being applied at the right time, but the idea that a real man has to be that way all of the time is a joke. A real man can be tough when the situation requires him to be, but can be gentle when the situation requires gentleness.

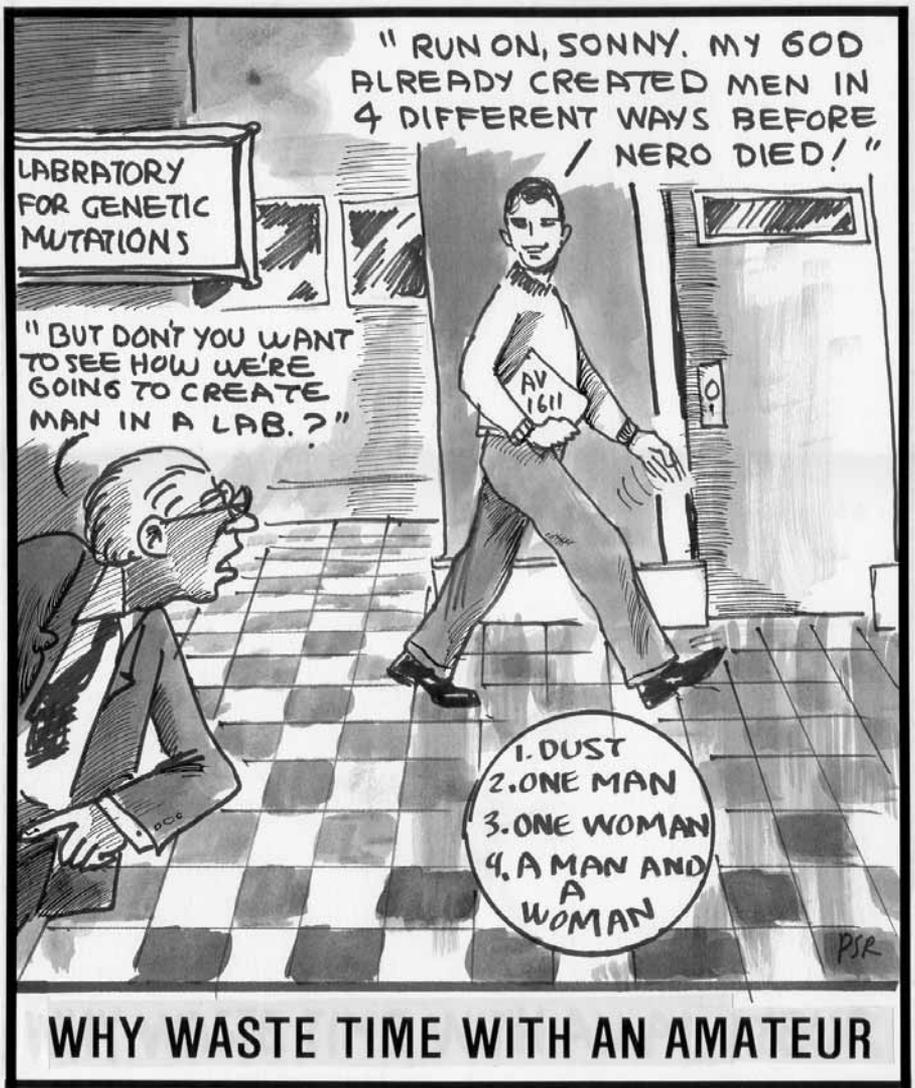
Take Joshua, for example; he was as tough as any general of any army and certainly one of the toughest in the Bible. He knew how to kill people in battle and was no stranger to the blood and guts on a battlefield. He could sleep outdoors, eat whatever was necessary to stay alive on the battlefield, and certainly he had the authority to tell men what to do, and they would jump to it. But one thing I know about Joshua is that he led his family right (Josh. 24:15). Now I know Joshua didn't handle his home life like he did his military life. I know he didn't

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# Biblical Manhood

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come home screaming out orders to his family and threatening to cut off some heads if they didn't do what they were told. Raising a family that will love and respect the head of the house requires toughness, but it also

requires gentleness at times. A father is commanded to bring his children up **"in the nurture"** (requires gentleness and patience) **"AND admonition"** (requires toughness and consistency) **"of the Lord"** (Eph. 6:4). When a  
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# Biblical Manhood

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father is unbalanced in his discipline toward his children, he provokes them to wrath, as the same verse warns against. So real biblical men will be balanced men who balance their lives according to how God wants them to, being instructed from the Bible. Joshua knew how to fight and take territory from another army and had no problem doing it, but when it came time to divide the land to the tribes of Israel for their inheritances, Joshua exercised gentleness and gave everybody else their land first and took his inheritance last (Josh. 19:49).

True balance in a man's life is very rare nowadays. Men often take one thing that they like and push that one thing to an extreme. Sometimes this is temporarily necessary in order to set something straight, but a biblical man will have a balance in his spiritual and practical life that will please God.

Proverbs 11:1 says, **"A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight."**

Biblical men are able to be confident without being proud. They are able to be full of compassion without being effeminate. Biblical men are able to enjoy the Christian life without their enjoyment becoming sin.

Biblical men submit to God's authority. No real man ever became a real man by exalting himself above everybody else, even God Himself. Somewhere down the line, if he's a real man, he learned to submit to somebody, and for the Christian man, that somebody needs to be the Lord Jesus Christ first. No man likes the idea of having to submit to anybody. He wants to be his own man with his own way. The problem with that idea

is that when a man does his own thing out of rebellion, he usually finds out really soon that he's not as tough as he thought. Man's innate way of doing things is wrong, and sooner or later, the result of doing things wrong catches up and has a way of putting a man in his place.

Joshua was a man who submitted himself to the Lord Jesus Christ and His authority in Joshua 5. Joshua, as a real man, was ready to stand and fight, but when he came face to face with the Lord, he knew right away that the manly thing to do would be to submit to God's authority and go fight against Jericho the way God wanted him to. When a man in his rebellion will not submit to God's authority, he thinks he's being tough; but in reality, he is showing great pride, selfishness, and ultimately weakness. Any man can be a selfish little brat and want his own way all of the time. Those men are all around you. But it takes strength and toughness to tell yourself no and do something that's good and right for the sake of your authority. Any old weakling can join a group of protesters and whine about his rights, but it takes real manly courage for a man to submit to God's authority, stand up alone on a street corner, and preach the message *God told him to preach*. See what I mean?

You say, "So you judge manhood based on whether a man preaches on the street or not?" No, I don't. That may have been your conscience pricking you, and you would do well to take courage and obey it if you want to be a biblical man. The devil loves to deceive a man into thinking he is his own man, doing things his way, because

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# Biblical Manhood

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then he can keep him bound up in his own pride and self-sufficiency long enough to bring him to destruction. If a man won't submit to the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, he'll submit to his own destruction and death.

Proverbs 8:36 says, **"But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death."**

Biblical men have courage. I think of Phinehas in Numbers 25 when I think of courage. The people of Israel were committing adultery and idolatry after being exposed to the error, the way, and the doctrine of Balaam. This man Phinehas was a priest; he was not a soldier. But when it came to overcoming his fear and showing the people of Israel whose side he was on, he didn't mind picking up a spear and running it through two wicked sinners at once. I would be willing to bet that Phinehas wasn't even a very big man with veins popping out of his muscle shirt. That's not what it takes to have courage. Courage isn't seen in a mirror at the gym. Courage isn't gained by picking up a 75-pound dumbbell and curling four sets of 10 reps. Courage is something entirely different that most of the image-conscious males of today know nothing about.

I think of Samuel when I think of courage. Samuel had the courage to do right as a young boy growing up in the temple, with not one good example in the temple with him, as far as we can tell. That means, as a teenager, there was an inner strength in him that drove him to please God when the ones around him were fulfilling their lusts. Later in Samuel's life, he gave Saul, a "tough man," the order to utterly kill the Amalekites—"man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass" (1 Sam. 15:3). It was to be a thorough riddance of the Amalekites. But the tough guy, Saul, head and shoulders above every man, couldn't handle the order. He was too concerned with doing what made him look best, and as a result, he was too weak to carry out the order. He and the people spared the "best" of the cattle and also spared the king of the Amalekites, Agag, which was also against orders. So Samuel, another priest, said, **"Bring ye hither to me Agag the king of the Amalekites"** (1 Sam. 15:32). And the Bible says that **"Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal"** (1 Sam. 15:33). I seriously doubt Samuel had a weightlifting set in the temple where he methodically

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# Biblical Manhood

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worked out in order to be prepared to hew a man in pieces one day. I might be wrong, but I don't think you would find him doing push ups every night before he went to bed.

There is no problem with working out in a gym or exercising or doing whatever it takes to keep your body in subjection and make sure you are a good testimony for the Lord. What does become a problem is when men put physical strength and physical appearance above inner strength and spiritual courage. Just because a man's bicep is bulging out of his shirt sleeve doesn't mean he is a man of great courage. He might have just bought a shirt that was too small for him. You can go to the gym and improve your physical strength and maybe even improve the way you look, but true courage is not displayed on the outside. It's rooted in a man's character, and is often not revealed until a time of testing. It's cultivated by right living, by spending time around other courageous men, and by spending time with the Lord. Biblical men need to have their bodies in shape, but "**bodily exercise**" which "**profiteth little**" (1 Tim. 4:8) should not be emphasized above courage in a man's heart and character.

Biblical men have a healthy hatred. Yes, you read it right. A man who doesn't have a healthy hatred for some things is not a biblical man. Now before you get upset and say that I'm just full of hatred and bigotry, think for a minute. Don't just emotionally react like the news media does when they hear a statement like that. Think for a minute before you react. If a married man truly loves his wife, does he not

hate something that would come between that love? If a father truly loves his children, does he not hate someone or something that would harm his child? I think so. If not, that man is not much of a husband or a father. If a wife can't see that her husband hates something that would come between his love for her, she won't be very confident about his love. If a child can't see that his father hates something that could harm him, he won't be very confident about his father's love for him. Any gardener knows that if you love to grow fruit in a garden, you've got to hate weeds. And anybody who has been saved for any length of time knows that if he is going to love the Lord like he should and serve Him, he is going to have to hate sin and anything else that comes between him trying to draw close to the Lord.

Paul understood this principle when he said in Romans 7:15, "**For that which I do, I allow not; for what I would, that do I not; but what I HATE, that do I.**" Paul says in so many words that even though he does wrong sometimes by yielding "**to the law of sin**" in his members (Rom 7:28), he wants it to be clear that he *hates sin*.

The Lord Jesus Christ applied this principle in His own life on this earth according to Hebrews 1:9—"**Thou hast loved righteousness, and HATED iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.**"

I think David was a real man, and he said, "**Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? And am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with per-**

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# Biblical Manhood

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**fect hatred: I count them mine enemies**" (Psa. 139:21–22) I don't find anywhere in the scripture where the Lord rebuked David for saying that.

David says again, **"I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked"** (Psa. 26:5). Again, **"Ye that love the LORD, hate evil . . ."** (Psa. 97:10). **"I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me"** (Psa. 101:3).

The list could go on and on. Four times in Psalm 119 alone, David says he hates some things. I think it's very clear why the Lord could call David a man after His own heart. David was after the Lord's own heart because there was a long list of things he hated, and they were the right things to hate. A biblical man will hate the right things in order to love the right things. They have to go together in order to be right just like a positive and a negative terminal on a battery. If you love the Lord, you are going to hate idolatry (in the sense of putting anything ahead of the Lord). If you love purity, you are going to hate defilement. If you love the truth, you are going to hate lies and **"every false way"** as David says in Psalm 119:104, 128.

Solomon says, **"A righteous man hateth lying..."** (Prov. 13:5); **"... he that hateth covetousness shall prolong his days"** (Prov. 28:16). The Lord commends the church at Ephesus in Revelation 2:6 for hating **"the deeds of the Nicolaitans,"** which He also hates. So we're not talking about a few isolated verses in the Bible that are being capitalized on. We've only mentioned a small fraction of the

verses that deal with hatred in the Bible, but it should be as clear as the sun at high noon that a biblical man will possess and exercise hatred for some things in order to be the biblical man God wants him to be. It should be said here that a biblical man does not let the news media adjust the way he thinks. (By news media I mean any social outlet of communication or news.) The news media would have you think that a man that talks like I have and like the Bible does is a hateful, bigoted, racist, discriminating, mean man who should be treated as a criminal against humanity for not tolerating the world's wickedness. Those same people who whine about our lack of toleration can't tolerate the Bible and the truth for one second. The issue is not toleration. The issue is sin, and the wicked sinner wants to sin freely without somebody exposing any light on his sin.

**"For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved"** (John 3:20).

He wants to push toleration for sin so that his own sin will be tolerated. I had a woman just a few weeks ago go by my street corner where I preach, and in a high-pitched, piercing scream yelled and said that I needed to love more and stop hating. The comical thing about it was that I was right in the middle of quoting one of the most positive verses in all of the Bible—John 3:16. There isn't a negative or hateful thing in the whole verse. That just shows you that somebody is letting the news media tell her how to think. I mean, any man that would stand on a street corner holding up

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# Biblical Manhood

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a Bible, yelling and shoving religion down everybody's throat, is a hateful, mean, intolerant, dangerous man! That's what the news media would have you think. Biblical men will not learn what to hate and what to love from the TV or Internet, but will learn from the scripture the proper things to hate so he can love the proper things.

Biblical men don't shirk from their duty when the duty gets tough. They know how to put their head down and **"endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ"** (2 Tim. 2:3). We live in a generation of males who give up on something just because it becomes hard. They quit a job because somebody there is giving them a hard time, like the whole reason they have a job is so that somebody can make them happy. They quit going to school because it becomes hard to endure. They quit preaching on the street because the dog days of summer get the best of them, but they still go to the beach when it's hot. It's okay to perform these duties as long as they're convenient, but as soon as they become a dirty four-lettered word like *work*, it's time to move on to something more enjoyable. After all, life is all about how much you enjoy it.

When I was young and still in school, all of my teachers told me to find something I would "like" to do as a career and follow that dream. That sounds cute, but one thing I learned very quickly among a lot of other things was that you don't know whether you like something or not until you do it for a little while. I soon found out that nobody "likes" work. So it's foolish to keep hopping around until you find

something enjoyable. Sometimes you have to put your head down and endure it whether you like it or not. The Lord has a way of blessing that type of attitude above that of trying something new every time the current situation becomes unenjoyable.

Giving up on duty when it becomes tough is the result of many things, but it can often be linked to a preeminent spirit or attitude. Making yourself more important than you really are will lead to the thought that you deserve better, which will eventually cause you to give up on what's hard and go to the greener grass on the other side of the fence. Noah didn't quit building the ark when it got hot outside and the people began to mock him. Moses didn't quit leading God's people through the wilderness, though he wanted to at times, when the people complained about his leadership, mocked God's purpose of deliverance, and sinned so much that God destroyed most of them. Samuel didn't give up when Israel forsook the Lord and Samuel's leadership, and asked for a king; and then had to watch the fruit of their bad decision and still teach them **"the good and the right way"** and pray for them (1 Sam. 12:23). The disciples in the book of Acts didn't go back to fishing and tax collecting and whatever else they used to do, which would have been much more convenient, when they started getting persecuted for preaching Jesus Christ. A biblical man is more concerned about performing his duty than what's more convenient.

The list of characteristics of biblical godly men could make up the contents of an entire book of

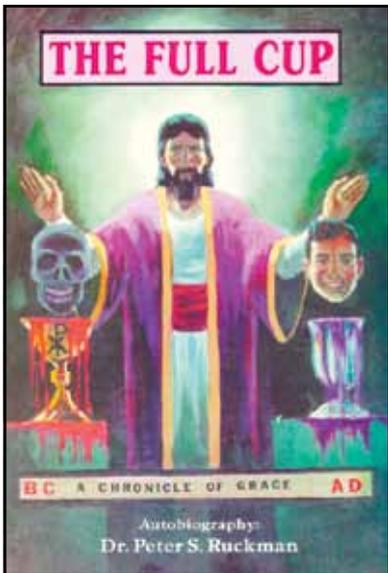
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# Biblical Manhood

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a few hundred pages, and some books have already been written. But God calls to men of this age, especially men who call themselves “Christians,” in the words of king David to his son, Solomon: “...**be thou strong therefore and shew thyself a man**” (1 Kings 2:2). It doesn’t come as a real shock, since we have a Bible and God warned us about it, but the males of “**this present evil world**” (Gal. 1:4) are drastically becoming effeminate by the thousands; not just because of the way they look, talk, and dress, although these are good indicators of their condition, but mainly because of their lack of the characteristics we’ve discussed in this article. It’s

no surprise that lost men are losing their manhood, because they have never met “**the man Christ Jesus**” (1 Tim. 2:5), but to watch saved men become effeminate in their character is not acceptable. They know Jesus Christ: the greatest, truest, most genuine man that ever lived. They have hundreds of examples in the scripture and in church history, and for those men not to be real, biblical men is inexcusable. It’s only because they have allowed the world, as the strange woman of Proverbs, to lure them into her chambers by flattery, and to cast them down and slay them while they go along with her in order to get what they want—temporal, dissatisfying, destructive, sinful pleasure (Prov. 7:21–27).



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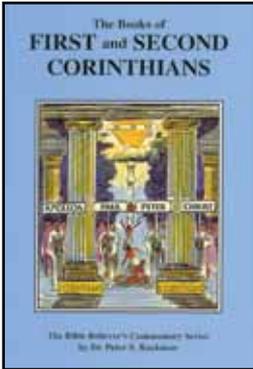
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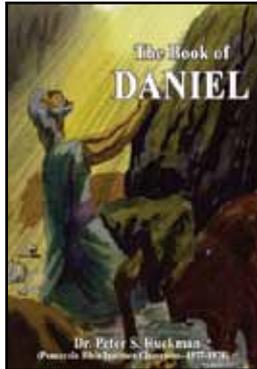


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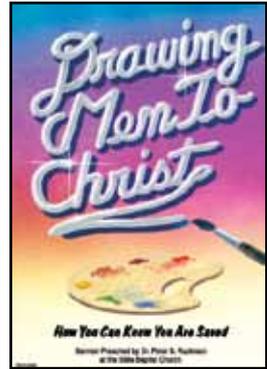
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# “Revival in Our Time”

(Editor's note: The material in this article is taken from the research of PBI graduate Art Barton for his master's degree, and from the Appendices of the *Ruckman Reference Bible*: as well as an unpublished study on heresies by Dr. Ruckman.)

Back in 1996, one of our graduates (Art Barton), as part of his requirements for a master's degree in theology, sent out 44 letters to Christian schools, across a wide theological base, inquiring as to the possibility of a revival or renewal of Christianity before the rapture of the church. He got back 23 answers, most of which would not take a stance one way or another, but which left the possibility open according to the “sovereignty of God” (i.e., if God *wants* to do it, He'll do it).

But two responses stood out among the few that believed revival will happen or is happening. Those two were the Mormon Brigham Young University and the Catholic Pope John XXIII National Seminary. Bro. Barton described the latter as a “real knee-slapper,” but it was the Mormon response that was “the real icing on the cake.”

At first glance, one wouldn't think the two have much in common; after all, the Mormons will put out the anti-Catholic material of the Reformers and the Baptists (as do the cults of the Jehovah's Witnesses and the Seventh-day Adventists). But the Mormon Church and the Roman Catholic Church are “two peas in a pod” for those of us who know our Bibles. We can spot the telltale signs of both which clearly identify them.

The name the Mormons give their church shows the Roman Catholic

nature of it. Mormons don't like to be called “Mormons,” although that's exactly what they are. They follow *The Book of Mormon*; the offer of a free King James Bible is just the gaff to hook the sucker. They like to call themselves “THE Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.”

Notice that definite article. If it's THE Church of Jesus Christ, it would have to be the church of Matthew 16:18—“**upon this rock I will build MY CHURCH.**” When it comes to being the one, true church Christ founded, the difference between the Roman Catholics and the Mormons is *nothing*; they are exactly the same on that point.

Another way the Roman Catholics and the Mormons are alike is that both profess to believe in extrabiblical literature that is on the same par with the Bible when it comes to *authority*. No matter the differences between the two religions, both will overrule the authority of scripture with some other book. As any reader of the *Bulletin* realizes, the key issue of all creation, at any point in time, is *authority*. Mormons claim to be the final authority for a believer because they claim to be “THE Church” and they claim their own book (The Book of Mormon) to be as authoritative as the word of God (the Holy Bible). That is the profession of the Roman Catholic Church. The Council of Trent, many years before Joe Smith and Brigham Young were born (1545–1563), said the Apocrypha was inspired literature and was to be counted on equal authority with the word of God (Session 4).

The Mormon professes The Book  
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# “Revival in Our Time”

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of Mormon to be inspired and of equal authority with the word of God. If you ever run into one that doesn't believe that, he is either ignorant or *lying*. Article 8 of the Mormon Articles of Faith states: “We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly (which is exactly what the typical Fundamentalist or Conservative believes about your Bible; they reserve for *themselves* the right to decide where it is and is not “translated correctly,” just like the Mormon Church); we also believe *the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.*” The summary by the LDS Church itself says, “That the Bible and Book of Mormon are *both divinely revealed scripture.*”

The Mormon Church is just another form of the Roman Catholic Church. One of the outstanding marks of the Roman Catholic Church is *baptismal regeneration*. A Catholic is taught he receives the new birth by being sprinkled by a Roman Catholic priest. Here is the Mormon “plan of salvation” as given in Article 4: “We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the *Gospel* are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, *Baptism* by immersion for the remission of sins . . . .” While a Catholic may sprinkle and a Mormon may immerse, *both* use Acts 2:38 as a proof text for salvation. No “latter-day saint” believes a man can be saved without Acts 2:38. *This is the position of the Roman Catholic Church.*

We are not surprised to find out in the Mormon Articles of Faith that salvation is by *faith and works*, just like any good Roman Catholic is taught

to believe. Article 3: “We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, *by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.*” That is, salvation is by faith (see Article 4) PLUS, and then follows a string of things you have to *do* to be saved. That is the Roman Catholic position exactly. The string of things may be different, but *works* are still necessary for salvation.

The Mormon Church is the Roman Catholic Church in another form: first in its profession of *faith*, second in its profession of *authority*, and third in its profession of *salvation*. Anyone who knows the definition of the gospel in 1 Corinthians 15:1–4, as given by the apostle you are commanded to follow (1 Cor. 11:1), knows that water baptism—BY ANY MODE—is not a part of the gospel. And of course, any student of the word of God knows that Acts 2:38 is part of an address given to the *Jewish* nation before “**the gospel of the grace of God**” (Acts 20:24) was revealed (Gal. 1:11–12).

No Mormon or Roman Catholic knows those things. There is no Mormon elder or Roman Catholic priest who is a basic third-grade student of the word of God when it comes to “**rightly dividing the word of truth**” (2 Tim. 2:15). They are both Bible blockheads. Little wonder then that both groups would provide the kind of responses they did to Bro. Barton's question. We will start with the “real knee-slapper” (the Roman Catholic response). This is from “Father” McBride of Pope John XXIII National Seminary.

“Thank you for your letter about the revival of Christianity (or its sur-  
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# “Revival in Our Time”

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vival). Jesus promised us and sent the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to be with the Church . . . .”

Well, not exactly. He was sent to dwell in the body of each individual believer (1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19), not just the church corporately. The Holy Spirit put each individual believer in whom He dwells into the spiritual Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13), which is the real church (Eph. 1:22–23; Col. 1:18, 24); not some ecclesiastical monstrosity headed up by a wino over in Rome. But let's continue.

“. . . to be with the Church until the end of time, to encourage, console, teach and raise up saints to carry the Church through difficult times . . . .”

Now what, exactly, would those difficult times be through which the Holy Spirit was sent to carry the “Church”? Is the “Father” referring to the body of all believers here on earth? No, he's not, as we will see shortly. “The Church,” in this letter, is not a reference to any saved Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Episcopalian, Pentecostal, Holiness, or Charismatic. It is a reference to a religious whore headed up by an idolatrous blasphemer who usurps the titles and offices of all three members of the Godhead (Rev. 17). Here are the difficult times:

“. . . such as the 3 centuries of Roman persecution . . . .” What?! Is “Father” McBride trying to tell us that every Christian who was persecuted and died in the imperial persecutions of the first, second, and third centuries were all members of one church—*his* church, the *Roman Catholic Church*?

Paul died in the first imperial per-

secution by Nero; did Paul believe in the supremacy of Simon Peter and that he was infallible when speaking on matters of “faith and morals”? Are you trying to be funny? Paul **“withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed”** (Gal. 2:11). Was Paul a good “Roman Catholic”?

If we are to believe Roman Catholic “tradition” (see Mark 7:9–13), Peter died under Nero's persecution of the church. Did Peter believe he was the **“rock”** on which Christ built His church (Matt. 16:18)? Not on your life, brother (see 1 Pet. 2:4–6). And if you actually looked up that last passage and read it, you noticed Peter believed *every* believer was a priest (see also 1 Pet. 2:9), and *none* of them offered up any *literal* sacrifice, as Roman Catholic priests profess to do in the Mass. How is that for the “first pope”: he contradicts three cardinal doctrines of his church.

John was exiled during the imperial persecution of Domitian. He was given charge of “the Mother of God” at the cross (John 19:26–27). Did he believe you have to come to Jesus Christ through His mother? What do you think?

**“Jesus saith unto him, I AM THE WAY, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, BUT BY ME”** (John 14:6).

**“But these are written, that ye might believe that JESUS is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life THROUGH HIS NAME”** (John 20:31).

**“These things have I written unto you that believe on the NAME OF THE SON OF GOD; that ye may**

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# “Revival in Our Time”

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**know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the NAME OF THE SON OF GOD”** (1 John 5:13).

Mary doesn't win, place, or show with the man assigned to care for her. Evidently, John wasn't a very good Catholic in this regard.

Now already you see the “great divide” between what the “Father” says and what the *Holy Bible* says. The vast majority of the Christians persecuted by the Roman emperors wouldn't pass a Roman Catholic confirmation class.

And for the “Father” to complain about the imperial persecutions of Rome is like the pot calling the kettle black. The highest estimate for the imperial persecutions is 100,000 “Christians” killed by Rome. The Roman Catholics had *ten* centuries to kill evangelical Christians in the Dark Ages (A.D. 500–1500), and their body count was over *fifty million*. Was that the Holy Spirit carrying the Catholic Church through “difficult times”?

“. . . the Black Plague of the 14th century, the Reformation . . .” Old Martin kicked the “most Hellish Father” (his term for the pope) in the seat of the britches so hard that it still stings when he sits down. “. . . the Great Schism from the Eastern Orthodox, the French Revolution [the “Holy Spirit” got them through that one by having them make a concordat with a military dictator who tried to take over Europe—Napoleon], the Nazis . . .”

“The Nazis”?! Why, *every leader in the Nazi government was a baptized, confirmed Roman Catholic, including Adolf Hitler*. The Catholic

Church had a concordat with Hitler from 1933–1945. In *Mit Brennender Sorge* (1937), Pope Pius XI was absolutely silent about the Holocaust, even though a 688-page Vatican document from 1943 stated that the popes all knew about the Holocaust and were urged to speak out against it. If the “Holy Spirit” got the Catholic Church through the difficult times of the Nazis, it was through *moral cowardice* and *geopolitical manipulation*.

“. . . the Communists. We have survived them all [so has *Satan*] and are now at nearly one billion members . . .” Then the “Holy Spirit” is not taking care of your church as well as He is the Moslems. There are 1.6 billion (and growing!) Moslems in the world and 1.2 billion (and *declining!*) Catholics. That is why “Mary” is trying to “hook up” with “Mohammed.” That way she can claim the “Holy Spirit” helped her bust down “the gates of hell” (see below). The old whore is plying her “trade.”

“Jesus told Peter the gates of hell will never prevail against the Church. [They must be trying to break in. Don't worry; they'll make it—Rev. 18:2–9.] Matthew 16:16. We have today one of the greatest popes in all church history . . .”

(This was written in 1996.) The pope at that time was John Paul II. Here is “one of the greatest popes in all church history”:

1993—“We seek common ground with *Voodooism*.”

1985—“As Christians and *Moslems* we meet one another in faith in *one God*.” Which God? Not the God and Father of Jesus Christ. “Allah” has no son.

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# “Revival in Our Time”

Continued from 26

1982, speaking of *Shintoists* and *Buddhists*—“Their religions inspire them to see a *divine presence in each human being.*”

1985—“Particularly noteworthy was the prayer meeting at the sanctuary of Our Lady of Mercy at Lake Togo where, for the first time, I also prayed with a group of *Animists* [they were *snake worshipers*].”

That’s the great papa who brought the great “revival” in the Catholic Church. He helped cover up the molestation of thousands of his own church members by their priests and bishops. He was made a “saint.”

“. . . New Orders are flourishing such as Opus Dei and the Legionnaires of Christ [just two more groups within the Catholic Church trying to get to heaven by their own good works]. Young people are taking another look at the Church . . .” Not any more, no. According to the Knights of Columbus, 21% of Catholics 25 years old and younger *leave* the church. The “revival” must be over. “Saint” John Paul II must not be able to keep his own members.

“. . . The pope says that we need saints—like Mother Teresa—not reformers . . .” A woman who had *no assurance of salvation* despite helping the poor of India. In fact, despite the millions of dollars given for her “ministry,” she and her “order” did not do for the sick and poor of India what one Baptist missionary (Tommy Tillman) has done for lepers in Thailand and the sick in Mongolia on less than a tenth of that amount.

“. . . Only Christ and the Spirit revive the Church, and just when we think all is lost. As we say in every

*Mass: Lift Up Your Hearts . . . and praise Father, Son and Spirit—and always stay close to our Blessed Mother who brings us closer to Jesus.*”

Ah, blow it out your nose, fellow. After all the pious blather about revival coming from “Christ and the Spirit,” he leaves you with ritualistic cannibalism and vampirism (“the Mass”) and Ashtoreth worship from 1400 B.C. (Judg. 2:13). As any knee-slapper,” it would be funny if it weren’t so tragic.

Now here is “the icing on the cake”: Brigham Young University, the Mormons. This is from Stephen E. Robinson, Chair of the Department of “Ancient Scripture” (whatever that is). Toeing the line Joseph Smith got from two “angels of light” (2 Cor. 11:14)—that all churches were corrupt, their doctrines incorrect, and their creeds an abomination to God—Robinson spends a page and a half “blowing smoke” that the church would apostatize after the death of the apostles. All the scriptures Robinson quotes are not to lead you to the truths found in the Bible, but to a “gospel,” that if preached before the rapture of the church, would leave anyone who believed it *cursed by God* (Rev. 14:6 cf. Gal. 1:8).

But good news! “The ‘revival’ of pure Christianity” has already taken place. It wasn’t Martin Luther discovering “**The just shall live by faith**” (Rom. 1:17) and breaking away from the bondage of Rome. It wasn’t John Wesley coming to faith in Christ alone for salvation after hearing Luther’s Preface to the Epistle to the Romans read at a Moravian meeting at Aldersgate and then riding 20,000 miles a

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# “Revival in Our Time”

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year to preach the gospel throughout England in the streets, the fields, and the mining camps. It wasn't George Whitefield traveling from Georgia to New England preaching to the slaves and to thousands of colonists the free offer of the gospel to the sinner. It wasn't the Baptists insisting that baptizing infants did nothing to remove “original sin,” or the sending of missionaries to foreign fields to translate the Bible, win converts to Jesus Christ, and establish Bible-believing churches. No, it was through a young man who could get no assurance of salvation, practiced divination, and wanted a harem of women like Mohammed.

“God has restored the ancient Church [you don't know how “ancient, buddy—Judg. 17] to the earth by the ministering of angels [Gal. 1:8] and through PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH in these latter days, and *I have now borne witness of these things to you.*” (He's trying to pretend he's relieved himself of the bloodguilt of Bro. Barton—Ezek. 3:18, 20, 33:8 cf. Acts 20:26. He preached *nothing* Paul preached—Acts 20:21; he preached a faith-works system in *his own church.*)

“ . . . That Restoration has taken place exactly as Revelation foretold . . . .” Would anyone care to show where “pure Christianity” was “restored” in Revelation 14? Would anyone care to show where there are any “Christians” in Revelation 14?

You say, “**The everlasting gospel**’ is preached.” So? There is a “**gospel**” preached in Galatians 3:8, and there wasn't a Christian within 24,901 miles (the circumference

of the earth) before or after it was preached. There was a “**gospel**” preached in Hebrews 4:2, and there was no Christian within 1500 years of it being preached. “**The everlasting gospel**” has nothing to do with the gospel Paul preached—read Revelation 14:7 and see if anything that is preached matches Paul's gospel (Rom. 2:16, 16:25; 2 Tim. 2:8) as he defined it in 1 Corinthians 15:1–4. If all you believe is Revelation 14:6–7 to save you (and no Mormon believes that to be saved—read the Articles of Faith given at the beginning of this article), you are *damned* (Gal. 1:8).

“ . . . I hope that I have not misunderstood your question, and I further hope that this information will prove to be of some value . . . .” Yeah, fellow, it showed everyone that you and your elders haven't a clue about what the gospel is (now or in Rev. 14), what salvation is, what the scriptures are, or what real revival is. You don't know any more about any of those things than you know what's happening on the back side of Pluto right now.

“Father” McBride and Stephen Robinson have been “**blinded**” by “**the god of this world**” (2 Cor. 4:4). You can't say they are part of the great apostasy of 2 Thessalonians 2:3 because they were never in a standing position to begin with from which to fall away. But one thing is for certain, they are both an active part of “**the mystery of iniquity**” that was already at work in Paul's day (2 Thess. 2:7); they are just waiting for their leader (pope, elder) to show up to wrap the whole thing up. The only “revival” they will be a part of is a revival of death and hell on this earth (Isa. 28:15; Rev. 6:8).

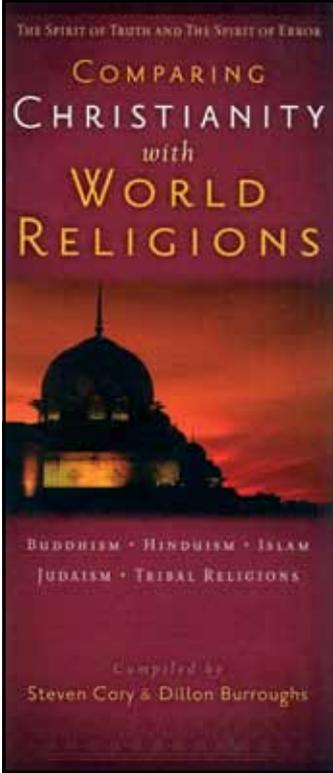
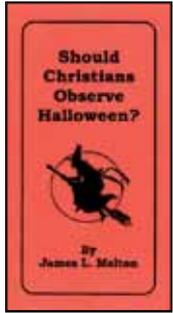
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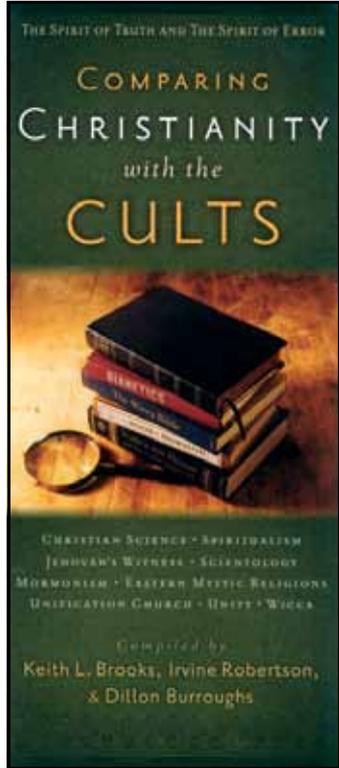


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# The Middleman Scam

By Robert Militello

**“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, AN HOLY PRIESTHOOD, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ”** (1 Pet. 2:5).

On All Saints Eve, better known today as Halloween, in the year of our Lord 1517, a sixteenth-century “David” went out to confront the “Goliath” of Europe—the Church of Rome. Martin Luther, a German Augustinian friar, had been reading Paul’s epistle to the Romans. God’s word began to penetrate the darkness of his Catholic mind. He was given grace to see that, like the hymn says, “Jesus paid it all.” His chains fell off, and he emerged out of a personal prison of guilt and fear—the principal fruits of any religion that denies the power of Jesus’ blood to cleanse from all sin. This single-minded, determined monk was chosen by God to launch an upheaval in Europe not seen since the fall of the Roman Empire. To challenge the Goliath of Rome, Dr. Luther needed a supernatural boldness (“chutzpah,” the Jews call it). Would to God, all the saints would access just a portion of the nerve that fired Luther’s soul.

My mom started kindergarten in Oppeheim, Germany in 1934, a year after Hitler took power. Schools were being programmed to present *Der Führer* as the greatest German of them all. Thank God, my mom’s parents took her to an evangelical Lutheran church on Sundays. There she learned about Martin Luther, and today, at 88, she says Luther was the greatest son ever to spring from the Fatherland.

Germans and Jews have a lot in common. Both can be very hard to

deal with. Obstinacy is in their DNA. My mom had received Jesus Christ as her Saviour a short while after I was saved, but she had a hard time with believer’s baptism. Finally, after about ten years of spiritual battle, she dropped the belief that infant baptism was sufficient. I told her that Luther was brilliant, but wrong in some areas. Germans don’t like to be told they are in error. On a warm summer’s day at Brooklyn’s Coney Island Beach, I had the privilege of baptizing my mom and about six or seven others the Lord gave me. No Catholic priest or Lutheran minister would have rejoiced knowing the religious custom they teach was considered dung by these souls just immersed in the Atlantic. Infant baptism dispenses about as much grace as a buttered bagel.

**“But ye are a chosen generation, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, an holy nation, a peculiar people”** (1 Pet. 2:9). Access to power, that is what it is all about in politics. Very few have it, though many desire it. As a Catholic, I needed a priest, someone who would lobby for me in the halls of power. This priest stands in for Jesus Christ, and has authority to forgive sins and put the very body and blood of the Lord on my tongue. Who needs to read the Bible when a man with a round collar is empowered to service all your spiritual needs? How convenient! I had a reliable broker handling my spiritual account, and he represented a firm that had been around for at least fifteen centuries. No cause for alarm even with old age and death approaching. The man with the black dress called a cassock can send me off into eternity with the last rites of

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# The Middleman Scam

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the church, called "extreme unction." It's one of the seven sacraments, and as a lay person, I couldn't administer it myself. So from birth to death, I believed I needed a Roman chaperone.

Luther wanted every German to have a Bible in his own tongue. This monk was destined to give Rome a severe case of heartburn for almost thirty years. He did what no one could before him. He delegitimized the Roman clergy.

**"For there is one God, and ONE mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus"** (1 Tim. 2:5).

Catholics who take their church seriously, have a fixation with saints. Incidentally, this manifestation of superstition is practiced by many orthodox Jews. They pray at the graves of dead rabbis who were considered super-spiritual in their lifetimes. Talking to dead people is an occultic practice called "necromancy"—look it up. It's demonic.

We pray to a dead Jewish Rabbi who was made alive again by the power of God. There's a reason you find Christ on the cross in Catholic churches. Subconsciously, Catholics are hindered in their attempt to grasp the power of a living, resurrected High Priest (Heb. 3:1) able to save them without any assistance from saints or priests or sacraments. Christ on the cross does not project power to the carnal mind. Catholics often put crosses around their necks, but it is seen more as a luck charm than anything else. Often, I'll ask a Catholic if he or she would wear a little electric chair around their neck if Jesus had died in one. Provoking people to think is getting more and more difficult,

thanks to Facebook and social media. Such is progress today.

Now 1 Timothy 2:5 was often my knife of choice when I would witness to a Catholic priest. Paul wrote there is one mediator, and one is not subject to interpretation, at least by any normal person. So when I asked a priest in Brooklyn about why the church allows its congregants to think that praying to a dead person is OK, his countenance changed abruptly. He said that tradition was often just as valid as scripture. So I asked if in an apparent contradiction between tradition and God's word, wouldn't it be wise to believe the Bible? Then this educated, religious jackass told me that a lot of the Bible is open to interpretation. Looking him straight in the eye, I said that one, a number, needs no interpretation. We have only one mediator or more than one, which is it? At this point, I was given the well-rehearsed, pious-sounding reply taught in all Catholic seminaries. Here's the classic, timeless escape response I've heard so many times: "This is a great mystery, my son." Isn't that pathetic? Since when has the number *one* become so mysterious?

**"But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I ALSO HATE"** (Rev. 2:6).

This is what you get from reading scripture with an honest heart—a holy hatred of what God hates.

**"Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I HATE EVERY FALSE WAY"** (Psa. 119:104).

Early churches were under ferocious attack by the devil, especially in doctrine.

**"So hast thou also them that**

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# The Middleman Scam

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**hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, WHICH THING I HATE"** (Rev. 2:15).

The churches at Ephesus and Pergamos had members who promoted the idea of a priestly class. Here was the beginning of the "middleman" scam. There were Jews in these early assemblies, and they were no strangers to the idea of a separate class, a priestly group called "Levites." Dividing believers into two groups—one clergy and the other laity—was to be a cornerstone in the building of the monstrosity called "Roman Catholicism." Centuries later, the idea of a celibate clergy, one that would be considered spiritual because men would forego marriage, would make Catholic priests even more powerful in the eyes of Europe's biblically-ignorant population.

Martin Luther's bold attack upon the church he was serving led to his excommunication and the formation of the Jesuits. Only God's grace kept Dr. Luther from being murdered.

**"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind"** (2 Tim. 1:7).

We also have power from God, so why should any Christian fear to be bold on behalf of his Saviour?

**"And I find more bitter than death the woman, whose heart is snares and nets, and her hands as bands: whoso pleaseth God shall escape from her"** (Eccl. 7:26). Faith pleases God (Heb. 11:6). Luther put his faith in the word of God, not his church. This enabled him to escape **"the great whore"** (Rev. 17:1). God's truth alone makes you free and allows you to escape the customs, traditions, and superstitions that keep a soul in

darkness (John 8:32).

Luther's struggle with the devil and his servants, the pope and cardinals and bishops, left him with an understanding of spiritual battle that is missing in the churches today. There are hundreds of hymns in my hymnal, yet only Luther's "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" calls out the devil and his mission so clearly. So-called Christian songs today are like lullabies you sing to children. What's missing is the sense of battle, the ongoing warfare which is the daily lot of every believer seeking to please God.

When Martin Luther worked on his translation of the Bible into German, it is reported that he battled the devil. Did the devil appear to him? Only God knows for sure. Yet there was, for many years, an ink stain on the wall of his room in the Wartburg Castle where Luther threw an ink pot. The stain is just about faded completely now, but the fact that Dr. Luther had numerous spiritual encounters is undeniable.

When the devil appeared to Eve, he attacked the word of God. Luther's monumental effort to put the Bible into the language of his people marked him as prey for all kinds of devils, mostly religious and wearing costumes. It seems that too many of God's people pay no mind to the devices used by the enemy to undermine a real fellowship with our Lord. Those who see that they are in a real spiritual battle with unseen entities ought to run to God's word. One of the great successes of the devil in these last days is the way in which he has hooked so many saints on social media sites. A believer drinks a kind of spiritual LSD when he or she wants to know about

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# The Middleman Scam

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what others are talking. It's all vanity, and it will lead to one big bonfire at the Judgment Seat of Christ when your service is evaluated. Take heed!

**“But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed”** (Gal. 1:8).

God's word had broken through the darkness of Luther's heart. The Augustinian friar saw that **“The just shall live by faith”** (Rom. 1:17) and that religious effort was useless. Knowing the Roman priesthood was cursed because it taught salvation by works, he renounced “Holy Orders.” What started out as a desire to reform the church, led to an exit door leading to a marriage, children, and a fierce dedication to rescue his nation from the prison house of the pope. Luther's name was on the lips of almost everyone in Europe who took religion seriously. Never had a pope been so publicly challenged and defamed. Gutenberg's printing press, invented in 1440 by another son of the Fatherland, gave Luther's writings the widespread dissemination necessary to unshackle millions of German peasants from Romish superstitions and doctrines of devils.

Where are the Lutheran preachers today with the courage of their hero? Lutheranism is a joke. It doesn't attack Rome because it has gone back on Luther's dictum, *“Sola Scriptura”* (“Scripture Only”), and preaches salvation by grace mixed with works. Minnesota is the heart of Lutheranism in America today, and if you know of a Lutheran minister there who can rightly divide God's word, he is in hid-

ing, afraid of losing his job. A recent study by the Pew Research Center found that 63% of Lutherans surveyed believed the Bible was not infallible and was written by men.

I remember hearing in Jesuit school that Luther was most likely mentally unstable and that he took it upon himself to interpret the Bible privately. By promoting this fiction, the Catholic Church presents its theologians and teachers as the only ones capable of leading you to a correct understanding of scripture. How convenient! A middleman doesn't want his customers buying direct from the factory. An insurance broker once told me that dealing with insurance companies could prove confusing and that I needed a broker to facilitate a claim if one should be necessary. Fear sells, so you tell your client that the trouble into which you get by avoiding a broker is not worth the money you may save. This is how the tax preparers' industry became so lucrative. No one wants to get into trouble with the IRS, so people pay a tax preparer to give them peace of mind. Catholic priests offer the same service. Folks like it that way, and Rome grew rich preying on the religious fears and ignorance of the masses. A Bible reader is a threat to Rome's business. Lutherans were once a threat to Rome, but the Jesuits found a way to turn them into useful idiots. What a pity.

**“And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven, and poured out drink offerings unto her, did we make cakes to worship her”** (Jer. 44:19). Luther was nurtured in a system that gave obeisance to Mary, the so-called “Queen of Heaven.” She

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# The Middleman Scam

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 hadn't yet been entitled "Mediatix" or "Coredemprix" with Jesus that came in our day, but she was the go-between for Europe's religious masses seeking for prayer to be answered. Catholics, ignorant of God's word, believe Mary is just below Jesus in power, but exalted higher than any other child of Adam. As a Catholic, I sang, "*Regina Coeli*" (*Queen of Heaven*), a popular hymn at most Masses.

When challenged by Protestants, Catholics insist that Mary does not receive the glory and honor due to the Lord Jesus Christ. This belief is clearly refuted by ample evidence supporting the glorification of Mary. For instance, there are over 100 Catholic churches in Brooklyn; about half of them are named "Our Lady of . . ." The rest are named after saints, or have names like "Holy Trinity," "Most Precious Blood," "Holy Spirit," "Holy Family," etc. Mary is top dog in practice, if not in theory. Satan's bride, the Roman Catholic Church, wants to keep its adherents from finding Jesus, but as in Luther's case, millions find grace to escape the devil's snare. Thankfully, I'm a happy escapee since 1978.

Although denied by Catholic apologists, Jesus was considered to be difficult to approach. The friend of sinners was somehow not as amenable to our petitions as was Mary, our "Mother." This demonic, feminine spirit had Europeans bound in superstition for centuries before the Reformation. Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris was under construction by 1163 and finally finished in 1345. All over the continent, Mary was receiving devotion. Columbus had chosen the "Santa Maria" to travel to the New World. Imagine that,

the man who supposedly "discovered" America came by way of St. Mary.

If the "Prince of Darkness" can keep the Bible from being read, he can administer the poison of superstition and idolatry unhindered. That's why Jesus told his apostles to go out and preach the gospel. Every Christian is duty bound to protest like Luther against the false teachings of Romanism and every other cult. Where are the real Protestants? You won't find them in any Lutheran church of which I know.

Some years ago, I wrote Dr. Jack Van Impe, "Mr. Bible." I had watched his TV show for a number of years and knew that he was loathe to take on Rome. He preferred to stick with prophecy, although carefully avoiding the clear implication that the Roman Church was "**the great whore**" of Revelation 17. I gave Dr. Van Impe my testimony as a Jesuit school graduate and a former Catholic school teacher. My letter was not harsh in tone. Referring to Galatians 1:8, I asked him if the gospel Rome preaches is "**the gospel of the grace of God**" that Paul preached (Acts 20:24). Knowing he had multiple thousands of Catholic viewers and needed constantly to raise money to stay on the air, I was curious as to how he would reply.

Well, about a month later, I had mail from JVI ministries. In my heart, I expected "Mr. Bible" to blow me off with pious doublespeak and carefully-worded prevarication. Jack could have been a good defense lawyer if it were not for "Christian TV." So what happened? The letter was a masterpiece of religious confusion and spiritual cowardice. He went on to say how necessary it was for Catholics and

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# The Middleman Scam

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Protestants to practice love and put away the divisive spirit that so grieved the Holy Spirit. His conclusion, though not plainly stated, was that the Reformation needed to be rolled back because in these last days, God's people needed to come together. Since when is a Catholic a child of God?

This letter could have been written by a Jesuit. Jesuits are undisputed experts in equivocation and sophistry. The widespread unwillingness of evangelicals and most Baptists to expose and preach against the superstitions of Romanism is a testimony to the success of the Jesuits and their promotion of ecumenicalism through the "**God is love**" mantra. Cowardice is epidemic these days, and men like Peter S. Ruckman and Jack T. Chick are rare. Thank God, the ministry at Bible Baptist in Pensacola gives no quarter to Romanism.

**"For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified"** (Heb. 10:14).

One offering, one mediator, one priest able to save, one baptism (that which puts you into the body of Christ), one authority (my KJV 1611): one, one, one; the only time the Catholic Church embraced the number *one* was when it referred to itself as the "One True Church." Other than that, Rome prefers *many*, like many mediators, countless daily sacrifices called Masses, many layers of clergy—priests, bishops, archbishops, and cardinals—many sacraments (seven), many aids to worship—rosaries, holy water, statues, candles, etc. The expression "The more, the merrier," which first appeared in a Catholic poem in 1530

entitled "The Pearl," gives you an idea of the strength of the fortress of superstition that Martin Luther was called to assault. Only "**the Spirit of truth**" (John 16:13) could cause a Catholic monk to so hate the religious errors he was taught from his childhood.

That holy hatred of false doctrines that damns souls is mostly gone today. "America's Pastor," Dr. Billy Graham, showed little, if any of it, after his first few years as an evangelist. Dr. Jack Van Impe decided that preaching love and speculating on Bible prophecy was more profitable. So-called "Christian TV" knew the FCC would move against anything considered "hate speech," which meant the outright denigration of anyone's church. Fear, that great enemy of boldness, is the "Goliath" that quickly freezes any prospective David or Luther or Savonarola or John Huss from coming forward today. Fear of giving up the pleasures of sin keeps untold millions from coming to Christ. Fear keeps millions of Catholics from opening a Bible and comparing what it teaches to Rome's doctrines of devils. Even knowing that their clergy is filled with homosexuals and child abusers, Catholics fear being kept from the eucharist, a Catholic marriage ceremony, and a Catholic burial. It really is quite sad.

**"And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly"** (Eph. 6:19). Paul asked the Ephesians to pray that God would give him boldness. **"For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I MAY SPEAK BOLDLY, AS I OUGHT TO SPEAK"** (Eph. 6:20).

Continued on 38

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Bookstore staff has gone back into its archives and now is happy to announce the availability of recordings of Bad Attitude Baptist Blowouts all the way back to 1985. Please note these recordings are available as *digital downloads only*. Just go to our website, [www.kjv1611.org](http://www.kjv1611.org), click on the Digital Downloads button on the left of the screen, and then click on Blowout Sermons and Music from the drop-down selection.

## 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.

# The Middleman Scam

Continued from 36

Paul got locked up for preaching the gospel of grace to the Gentiles. Notice: **“that I may open my mouth boldly.”** Paul was concerned about not being bold enough, although apparently, boldness put him in prison. When Paul wrote **“work out your own salvation with fear and trembling”** (Phil. 2:12), was the fear of lacking boldness part of that fear we need to address?

What do you think? I'll appear at the Judgment Seat of Christ, and so will you if you are in Christ. Might the Lord ask each one of us, “Do you think you were bold enough in declaring my truth? And if you were not, did you pray to be so?”

On Halloween night this year, think about the boldness of Martin Luther. How many goblins and devils did the

Prince of Darkness send his way to dissuade the monk from criticizing the church that was becoming more and more the Bride of Satan. Christians are in a great line of men that understood what a holy fear of God was all about. That fear is dissipating all around us. May it please the Lord to come quickly and rescue us **“from this present evil world”** (Gal. 1:4). Are you looking for that “Blessed Hope” daily (Tit. 2:13)? You'll get a crown at the Lord's judgment seat if you are (2 Tim. 4:8).

**“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that YE SHOULD EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH which was once delivered unto the saints”** (Jude 3).

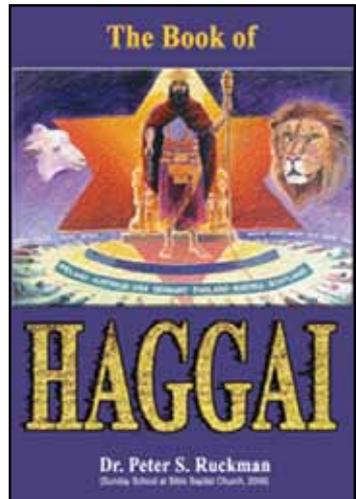
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