



Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 42 No. 7

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

July 2018

The Lost Blinded Jew

By Brian Donovan

In Romans chapter nine, the apostle Paul tells of his immense burden for the salvation of his Jewish brethren in the flesh, to the point of it being a **“great heaviness and continual sorrow”** in his heart (Romans 9:2). It was this burden that got Paul into an Alexandrian ship as a prisoner to Rome in the book of Acts, because he let it override the calling of the Holy Spirit, which came first directly (Acts 20:22-23), then through the brethren (Acts 21:4), and even through a prophet (Acts 21:10-11). This cost him at least two years of house arrest (Acts 24:27), plus a few more years in Rome (Acts 28:30). Thanks to the great mercies and longsuffering of the Lord, Paul continued to be used of the Lord, even if it wasn't the **“perfect, will of God”** (Romans 12:1 -2) since he was the **“apostle of the Gentiles”** (Romans 11:13). Paul never lost that heart's desire to see Jews saved (Romans 10:1), and throughout his missionary travels in the book of Acts, he continually went first to the synagogues to preach to the lost Jews (Acts 13:5, 14;

14:1; 17:1; 18:4,19; 19:8, 20:22).

Paul's problem (namely, the difference between a burden and a calling), is a common problem of any saved child of God today, who wishes to serve the Lord and make his life count for eternity. As soon as the saint gets his mind off self, he begins to find burdens almost everywhere he looks. After traveling to preach and teach the Bible in third world countries, I have seen the great needs that have caused me to pray and ask the Lord to send me. In at least four of those cases (Malawi, Philippines, Thailand, and Mozambique), I watched as the Lord sent someone else soon after. The burden to go should be on every Christian since the Lord is **“not willing that any should perish”** (II Peter 3:9). With over seven billion souls on this earth, and the vast majority of them on their way to hell, how could there not be a burden? With 1.3 billion Muslims, 950 million atheists, 1 billion Roman Catholics, 830 million Hindus, 405 million Buddhists, besides the lost Methodists, Lutherans, Episcopalians, etc., this world is dying now for want of someone, to tell them of the Saviour's matchless love. The burdens can actually be overwhelming when the child of God opens his eyes.

Perhaps one of the saddest sights to see is the condition of the nation of Israel, as the chosen people of God,

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Young People of America

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

“Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them” (Eccl. 12:1).

And then speaking of Josiah when he was sixteen years old:

“For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father: and in the twelfth year [when he was twenty] he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images” (2 Chron. 34:3).

I want to address these remarks mainly to young people in their teens and twenties.

Back in 1983, *The World Almanac Book of Facts* published a list of people that teenagers in America considered to be “great.” This was based on 2,000 eighth graders from twenty middle schools. The list consisted of Burt Reynolds (an actor), Richard Pryor (a dirty comedian), Alan Alda (an actor), Steve Martin (an actor/comedian), Michael Jordan (a basketball player), Robert Redford (an actor), John Belushi (an actor/comedian). In the first thirty names listed, there was not a name of one soldier, one doctor, one scientist, one educator, one minister, one martyr, or one statesman.

There wasn’t a genuine hero on the whole list. Every one of them

was an *entertainer* of some form: a musician, an athlete, an actor, or a dirty comedian. Every one of them lived an *artificial* life for the purpose of getting attention. The reason we don’t have many *real men* these days is because teenage boys don’t have any real heroes to emulate. A lot of those people on that list were dope addicts, whoremongers, fornicators, and sex perverts. *Those* were the country’s “idols.”

If you made a list now, it would probably include Madonna, Michael Jackson, “Magic” Johnson, Princess “Di,” Mother Teresa, Tiger Woods, and people like that. It would be a list of *cheap bums*. The only religious woman on the list would be a Catholic who believed in a cannibalistic Mass and had no idea where she was going when she died. She believed in getting to heaven by her own good works and never led a soul to Christ in her life.

The trouble with this country, and every country, is that we are living in the end times, and there is no glory left. God has written “**Ichabod**” over this nation—“**The glory is departed**” (1 Sam. 4:21). Young person, outside of Jesus Christ and that Book (AV 1611), *you have no future*. Farming is not what it used to be; banking is not what it used to be; being a doctor is not what it used to be; etc. Everything is defiled; it’s without character.

Back in the old days, if you worked hard enough, you could get a degree

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of independency. Not anymore. The government and the banks own the land. The banks own the equipment. The government tells you what you can and what you can't use to kill the bugs. It tells you what you can and can't build on your own land. It tells you what you can and can't grow on your own land.

Being a doctor has changed. Doctors used to make house calls. The "family doctor" was just that. The doctor came around to your family when you needed him. He knew the families and they knew him. Back in the old days, a doctor wouldn't think of overcharging a poor person. All that is gone.

There's no future in being a professor anymore. I can't imagine anything duller or less fulfilling than living on a campus and walking back and forth with a bunch of sex perverts, fornicators, and drug addicts; trying to teach them something in which they aren't interested and which won't do them any good when they learn it.

The glory is gone out of the military. The elite forces may be trained adequately for a real war, but not the average soldier, sailor, airman, or marine. A woman was made head of the Marines a while back, and she was telling them how they needed to be more "gentle." Now the military is a haven for drug addicts, queers, lesbians, and cross-dressers. Those are the ones who are supposed to defend this nation.

The atheistic lawyer Clarence Darrow once said, "When I was coming up, I was told America was such a great country that anyone could be president, and now I believe it." Yeah, anyone sure can: a drug addict, a whoremonger, a fornicating slime bucket, a Communist, a lying Moslem who isn't even a natural-born citizen—*anybody*.

I would consider becoming president a step *down* from my pulpit. I consider my pulpit at least five times higher than the White House. The presidency is only for the *rich*. You haven't had anyone in the White House in the last seventy years who hasn't made at least three to four times what the average American makes. The average campaign costs anywhere from \$500 million to a *billion* dollars. What a business into which to get!

Now what is the problem with young people today? First of all, *they envy sinners*. If there were one verse I could give young people today, it would be Proverbs 23:17.

"Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long" (Prov. 23:17).

You see sinners getting away with sin, don't you? You girls see some photogenic slut get away with fornication and figure you can too. You fellows see some athlete or rock star with all the fame, all the liquor, all the girls he wants; and you figure, if he can do it, you can too. Of

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course, the chickens haven't come home to roost yet, but every once in a while, you see it: like Michael Jackson, Elvis Presley, and John Belushi doping themselves to death before they're fifty.

As a Christian young person, you should not envy any "celebrity" living a loose, wicked life. "Pay day" will come someday, and it usually comes before you think it will. The problem is you see sinners get away with their devilment *temporarily*.

Young people in America see sinners get away with things until those young people become hard and indifferent. There are kids in this country nine, ten, eleven, and twelve years old that are just as hard and indifferent spiritually and emotionally as any thirty-year navy man. I've talked with them; I know. I talked to a kid ten years old who was a preacher's son. That boy had been rebelling against daddy. I told him, "You need to get saved." "I don't care," he told me. "You're going to go to hell," I said. "I don't care," he replied.

Bill Rice was holding a revival once in a small town in Texas. There was a backslidden Christian girl in that congregation who hadn't been coming to church in several months, and had been leading a bunch of other teenagers off in the wrong direction. Rice went to talk to that girl about getting right with the Lord. When he came into the house, he noticed a picture of Jean Harlow up above the fireplace. Jean Harlow

was the whore of the movies in the 1930s; she was the original "Marilyn Monroe." She died at 26 of uremic poisoning.

After Rice had talked to that girl for an hour, she became angry and went over to the mantle and took the picture down. "You see this?" she said. "I want to be exactly like Jean Harlow. I'll not be coming back to church."

So Rice left, but three hours later, he got a phone call from that girl's mother, saying, "Come over right away." He went over to see that girl, and she was in tears. She held up the afternoon newspaper that had just come out, and the headline read, "Jean Harlow Dies." That upset that young girl badly, and she ended up getting right. Well, thank God Jean Harlow "kicked off" when she did; at least it saved one girl's life.

When Susan Atkins (part of the Charles Manson "Family") was tried for the murder of Sharon Tate, one of the prosecuting attorneys asked Atkins if she thought she was right in what she did. Atkins said, "If you *feel good* about it, you know it's right." That's been the philosophy of America since the 60s: "If it feels good, do it." In Atkins' case, what made her feel good was stabbing a woman to death, so she did it.

What's the problem? A heart hardened by sin. That Bible says:

"But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the

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deceitfulness of sin" (Heb. 3:13).

That's getting so hard and tough that you haven't got any conscience left. John Lennon got shot and killed at age 40 after having written a song called "Happiness Is a Warm Gun": he got his "happiness." Lennon said, "I've been on pills since I was seventeen. I've always needed a drug to survive." He said, "I don't believe in Jesus Christ; I believe in me." He lied. He didn't believe in himself; he believed in "blasts," "dex," "flashes," "bindles," "bags," etc. He was "strung out" on "reefers" and "joints." He believed in "acid," "weed," "skag," "snow," "crack," and "goof-balls." That's in what he believed; he didn't have enough faith in himself not to be drugged up all the time. John Lennon was a weak, shiftless, immoral bum; and that is the best about him you could say.

Lennon wrote a book entitled *A Spaniard in the Works*. In that book, he made fun of Jesus Christ and called Him "Jesus El Pifico." He went on to call Jesus, "a garlic-eating, stinking little yellow, greasy fascist bastard Catholic Spaniard." Lennon wrote, "One could see Jesus almost every day . . . whistling a quaint Spanish refrain dreaming of his loved wombs back home in their little white fascist bastard huts." Lennon's "Trinity" was "Father, Sock, and Mickey Most."

That's the "hero" and "role model" the world wants you to follow. He wrote: "Imagine there's no heaven—

It's easy if you try—No hell below us, Above us only sky. Imagine all the people living for today." That's the kind of person God Almighty called a *fool* (Luke 12:20).

"Imagine there's no countries—It isn't hard to do—Nothing to kill or die for, And no religion too. Imagine all the people living life in peace, you." "Oh, if there were no borders and no different religions, we could all live in peace without all this killing and war." Sorry, Johnny, once you get rid of God and judgment (heaven and hell), all you have are animals in the jungle.

"Imagine no possessions—I wonder if you can—No need for greed or hunger, A brotherhood of man. Imagine all the people sharing all the world, you." The lousy hypocrite! When Lennon died, he had an estate worth nearly \$293 million. He didn't "share" anything with anybody; he didn't even leave any money to his eldest son from his first marriage.

"You may say I'm a dreamer, But I'm not the only one. I hope someday you'll join us, And the world will be as one." You mean you want someone to join a dooper like you? Lennon's drug bill was \$40,000.00 a month. Where is Lennon's one-world utopia going to get the money to keep seven billion people hopped up on \$40,000.00 worth of dope a month?

The next thing wrong with today's young people is that *they feel unwanted*. The old joke is that So-

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and-so was so unwanted as a child that he had to have a pork chop tied around his neck to get the dog to play with him.

The big word for young people is *acceptance*: "I want to be *accepted*; I don't feel accepted." A queer's life is consumed with being "accepted." Sex perverts don't want you merely to *tolerate* their sex perversion; they want you to *accept it as normal* and *promote it*. Well, I don't feel "accepted" by all kinds of people. I have been rejected by my momma and daddy, my own kids, some of my close friends, etc. Do you know what I think about all that? I don't think anything of it.

Ephesians 1:6 says that Jesus Christ "**hath made us accepted in the beloved.**" If God has accepted me and Christ has accepted me, who cares who else accepts me. If you don't like me and I don't like you, then bye bye. If you don't like me and I still like you anyway, that just proves I've got more grace than you've got. If I'm accepted by the people by whom I ought to be accepted and rejected by the people who ought to reject me, that's fine with me.

I know some of you are younger and more tender; you haven't developed a "rhinoceros hide" yet. You want to be accepted. Are you worth accepting? "I want to be loved." You do? Are you worth loving? Love isn't just given as a gift; it is earned also.

Here are the words of a young

woman who wanted to be accepted: "I am a young woman, twenty years of age. For two years and a half I've been wandering as a junkie. I want to quit taking dope. I try, but I can't. Jail didn't cure me or hospitalization. The doctor told my family it would have been better, even kinder, if the person who first got me hooked on dope had taken a gun and blown my brains out. I wish to God he had."

I know of a case where a boy came home like that on dope, and his daddy met him in the hallway with a loaded pistol. That boy begged his daddy to kill him. "Shoot me! Go ahead and shoot me! I want you to shoot me! Would you please shoot me?!" So the old man did and put that kid out of his misery.

You don't feel wanted? Well, maybe nobody wants you for a good reason; have you ever thought about that? If you don't even want yourself, why would you expect anyone else to want you?

Kenneth Miner, 20 years old, of Chicago, counseled with a shrink about heroin. He went back to his house, left a suicide note in his room, then picked up the phone and called the police to report a shooting. He hung up and shot himself. He was found dead in the bathroom with a note that said, "Let my example of drug use help somebody. It's something that can be started but rarely stopped. Please, anyone and everyone who is involved in this horrible mess, stop for your own sake."

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What's the problem? Young people long for attention and don't think they're getting enough of it. I believe a lot of that comes from television. On television, everyone is a star and in the spotlight. That makes a young person envious of that attention.

That's what's behind the clothing styles and crazy hairdos and "piercings": people want folks to look at them. That's why people run around half naked. That's why these sex perverts and transvestites brag about what they do: to get people to listen to them. They want attention.

Here is an HRS case from Henry, North Carolina. A teenage boy who grew up in a Christian home slapped his mother in the face over something. When his daddy found out about it, he gave that kid his fist three times and knocked him flat on the floor all three times. That sixteen-year-old boy got up and ran away from home.

Well, the HRS finally got ahold of that kid. The worker phoned that daddy and said, "You take him; we don't want him." That daddy replied back, "You take him; we don't want him." That thing went to court, and when the judge found out why that daddy had hit that boy, he said to the kid, "Well, young man, sometimes we get what we deserve."

Back in 1990, in Los Angeles County, there were 50,000 students undergoing psychiatric treatment because of drug use. All 50,000 of them had one thing in common:

none of them had any spiritual aim in life. Have you got one?

Some of you young people ought to sit down with a piece of paper and write out what you have done this year that was spiritual. Have you done anything since January 1 that reminded anyone of God, the Bible, and Jesus Christ *instead of yourself*? If you have no spiritual aim, you're playing a game with the devil that you will *lose*.

Sometimes a kid wants attention so badly that he will kill himself to get it. A lot of rock albums have suicide songs on them. Sometimes kids kill themselves without intending to: they accidentally overdose on dope.

Let me ask you something, young person: what's the difference between you and a dog? A dog seeks self-preservation. Don't you try to stay alive? A dog seeks self-propagation. Don't you have a sex drive? A dog seeks self-gratification. Don't you try to be reasonably comfortable and do things that make you feel good? What aim do you have in life that a pig doesn't have? What do you intend to do in this life that's spiritual? I'm talking about some spiritual aim to please God and do what He wants you to do.

"I want love; I want attention." If love, for you, is receiving attention, you will fall out of love as soon as you stop getting attention. Can't you figure that out?

The Bible says, "**God is love**" (1 John 4:8). You can't know real

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love without knowing God. An old song goes: "What is this thing called love?" A lot of what is called "love" today is just politicking. You need real love, real concern, and real protection from someone who is not some conceited, brainwashed, slack-jawed sex maniac trying to prove he or she is an adult.

Something else young people want is *contentment*. First Timothy 6:6 says, "**godliness with contentment is great gain.**" The problem is, they want the "**contentment**" without the "**godliness.**" But there is not true contentment without God. You can't find godliness or contentment out in the world.

Lack of godliness and contentment is the cause of sin. Do you know why you sin? Because you are discontent over something. The presence of either godliness or contentment is profitable, but between the two, godliness is the best. If you have godliness, you can get contentment (Phil. 4:11–13).

Everything in the lost world is dark. Do you like rock music? What are its fruits? That Bible says, "**by their fruits ye shall know them**" (Matt. 7:20). Well, what are the fruits of rock music? Do they match "**the fruit of the Spirit**" about which you read in Galatians 5:22–23? No? Then why do you fool with it? That Bible says, "**to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace**" (Rom. 8:6).

The news media and entertainment industry are always making gods and goddesses out of dirty, godless, depraved people for you to emulate and admire. Why don't you choose a hero like J. Frank Norris or Ann Judson or Martin Luther or Mary Slessor? Why pick fornicating, lying, immoral, millionaire, egotistical, exhibitionist spoiled brats who think no more of getting drunk, stoned, or shacking up with someone else's spouse than they would of walking around the block.

I'll close with a story about a girl who came up in my generation: Judy Garland. She made a movie one time called "The Wizard of Oz" and sang, "Somewhere over the rainbow, blue birds fly. Birds fly over the rainbow; Why, then, oh, why can't I?"

She wasn't Judy Garland at all; she was Frances Gumm. But you can't get to the top selling "Gumm," so the studio changed her name to Judy Garland. She had a possessive mother and a pervert for a father. The studio put her on "pep pills" for her weight and sleeping pills every night for bed. In fact, she became permanently addicted during the shooting of "The Wizard of Oz."

She married a man twelve years older than she was (David Rose). He drank, smoked, and cursed. He said she was mid-Victorian because, although she drank and popped pills, she was a Catholic and wouldn't do some of the stuff he wanted her to do.

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She spent two hours a day with two different shrinks. As she got older, she had nervous breakdowns, had hallucinations, and talked to imaginary people. She would show up late at shootings and got rejected by the movie studios. She finally lost her voice and couldn't sing. She would tell her fifth husband (Mickey Deans), "Make me laugh, Mickey. If you make me laugh, I can sing." But Mickey couldn't make her laugh. She died in a hotel room in London after taking an overdose of barbiturates at the age of 47. She was buried in her wedding gown. Of the 20,000 people who came to her funeral, there was not one family member that showed up. She died broke, owing hundreds of thousands

of dollars in back taxes.

The prayer she prayed every day before her death was: "Dear God, treat me tomorrow as I have treated others today." Well, she must have treated her family pretty roughly for none of them to show up at her funeral. Her daughter, Liza Minnelli, refused to play her mother in a film about her life because Liza *hated* her mother.

"Birds fly over the rainbow. Why, then, oh, why can't I?" Because birds, sister, *obey God*, and *you don't!* Liquor, drugs, glamour, sex, beauty, love, attention, money, popularity, and publicity can't get a sinner out of a sewer, let alone off the ground and above the rainbow.

Young person, do *you* do what God wants you to do?

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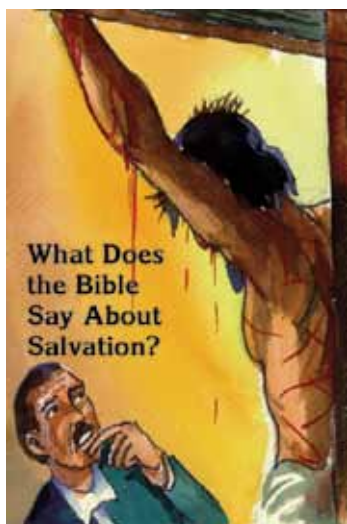
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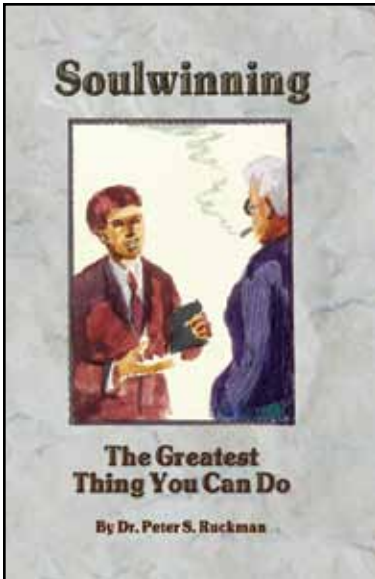
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without hope and without salvation in this present Church Age. About fourteen and one half million Jews are living in the world today, and they have been gifted with immense talents, superior intellects, and inventive minds... but still lost. As a special nation that was called out in Genesis 12 through Abraham, unable to mingle and fit in with the rest of the nations (Numbers 23:9), they constitute a minute portion of the world's population, yet account for an inordinate amount of contributions to science, medicine, technology, finance, and inventions. Their favored position is envied by the goyim (Gentile nations) and caused the historian Max Dimont to comment that Genesis 12 began a dialogue between God and the Jews, and the rest of the world are little more than interested eavesdroppers. During the Dark Ages, Jews made up less than 1% of Europe's population, but 50% of their physicians, despite their brethren being persecuted and slaughtered by the Roman Catholic Inquisitions. Roman Catholic kings and queens retained Jewish physicians in their courts, even as they were expelling the Jews from their realms. In 1898, Mark Twain noted the excessive amount of Jewish contributions to the world as he remarked, "...the Jews ought hardly to be heard, but he is heard...his contributions are way out of proportion to the weakness of his numbers".

After World War I, an anti-Semitic British Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen began spending much time with the Jews in Palestine and found that his "anti-Semitic instinct is invariably modified by personal contact" to where he became "an ardent Zionist". Mein-

ertzhagen predicted the establishment of the Jewish state, mainly by recognizing the racial differences between the Arabs and the Jewish people. In 1930, the Colonel wrote, "Britain can delay the ultimate destiny of Palestine, but they cannot prevent its ultimate fulfillment...Zionism is here to stay... Zionism cannot occur without armed clash with the Arabs...the Arab is often depicted as a fiery fanatic, prepared to die for a cause... the war (WWI) inflated and burst that bubble... the Arab is surrounded by a halo of picturesque romance...his savage nature, his lack of intelligence, his backward state and his connection to the desert will always appeal to the British in preference to the hard-headed, hard thinking, practical Jew...determined to get that which is rightfully his". After his prediction of the Jewish homeland was realized in 1948, Meinertzhagen tried to deal with the Arabs about taking care of their own Palestinian brethren, and he was told by the Arab leaders in 1951 that the Palestinians were "human rubbish, but a political goldmine". That statement remains true almost seventy-five years later as far as the media and the Muslims are concerned. The goat herding, desert-dwelling Arabs that ran away when the war began in 1948, were less cared for by their brothers in Jordan, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia than they were in the land of Israel by the Jews.

The discoveries and inventions by Jews are too many to list in just a few pages. When the Lord promised Abraham and his seed that, "**in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed**" (Genesis 12:3), it was no overstatement. Jewish discoveries

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in the medical field alone include the isolation of the antibacterial agent penicillin, novocaine, interferon, RNA, hepatitis B vaccine, warfarin, nuclear magnetic resonance which became the workings for today's MRI, streptomycin, robotic guidance for spine surgeries, first working laser, the world's smallest video camera that fits into a wire to guide surgeries, as well as the vaccines for bubonic plague and cholera in the 1890's (Haffkine), and the polio vaccine in the 1950's (Jonas Salk). Those last three vaccines have probably saved millions of lives without exaggeration.

Yet the greatest contribution in all of world history is in literature and is also attributed to the Jews. The most widely read book, the most influential piece of literature, the only writing capable of changing lives and giving eternal life, spanning four millennia, is the Bible. The authors are Jewish in both the Old and the New Testaments. Whether the writers were reluctantly put into service as Moses, Amos, Jeremiah, and Jonah, or gifted ready scribes as David, Joshua, Daniel, Paul, and John, the results are unmatched in all of literature. Any reader will try in vain to find a book outside of the Bible that can give correction and comfort at the same time, guidance and direction in life's decisions while telling the future of not only individuals but nations. The pure words of the Lord (Psalm 12) were chosen by Him to be given to the world through his chosen people, the Jews (Romans 3:1-2 **"What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles**

of God").

What a sad sight to see this race of people with their superior I.Q. (proven in testing), intellect, and capability of innovation and discovery, being used to be a blessing to this world, while they are blinded to their own spiritual condition (Romans 11:25 **"... that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in"**). It was for this very reason that the apostle Paul, though always rejoicing (Philippians 4:4), was full of continual sorrow (Romans 9:2). When I read of men like David Ben-Gurion, the visionary founder of the modern state of Israel, with all his bravery and decisiveness in suffering losses rather than become politically minded, only to retire to a desert kibbutz to die without being saved, it is heartbreaking. After recently reading a book about the Jewish poet, Emma Lazarus, the same realization of the tragic loss of a Jewish soul comes to mind. She composed the "The New Colossus" in 1883, while the Statue of Liberty on which her poem would be placed, was still in pieces overseas in a French warehouse. Lazarus' life story is depressing when one considers how close, yet how far from the truth she really was. Her ancestors were exiled from Spain during the Roman Catholic Inquisition, and after running into more persecution in Brazil at the hands of the Roman Catholic Portuguese, they made their way up into New York City, where they became the early leaders in North America's first synagogue, Shearith Israel, founded in 1654. By the time Emma was born in 1849, her rich family used the synagogue more for its community, rather than the

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worship of the one true God. When she was 18 years old, Lazarus met a 65-year-old flunky, a retired Unitarian minister named Ralph Waldo Emerson, who would become her mentor. Since he had rejected the Deity of Jesus Christ, Emerson would make a likeminded companion for a Jew who had already rejected Moses. Thanks to her father's wealth, Emma enjoyed the rich life of travel and vacationing as a secular American Jew. Her soul was in darkness as reflected in an early poem which read, "I waited, but the message did not come, no voice addressed my reason...the lifeless rites no comfort could import, charged with no answer for my discouragement". Emerson was in the same spiritual darkness with his Unitarianism, knowing only religious rites and nothing of salvation. Ignorant of what a Christian was, Emma equated the Roman Catholic Church with biblical salvation and placed the blame of the bloodshed and murders of the Roman whore (Revelation 17), on the name "Christian" in a later poem where she wrote, "When the long roll of Christian guilt, Against his sires and kin is known, The flood of tears, the life-blood spilt, the agony of ages shown, What oceans can the stain remove, From Christian law and Christian love?" With no help from a professing Christian in Emerson, poor Emma remained in darkness to the truth of the gospel that salvation was not found in religion. As early as 1882, five years before Theodore Herzl held his first Zionist Congress in Switzerland, Emma Lazarus became a voice for a Jewish homeland, after making trips to Ward's Island in New York City and seeing the treatment of

Jewish refugees there.

Emma Lazarus understood that the Jews, fleeing the Roman Catholic Spanish Inquisition put in force by Ferdinand and Isabella in 1478, found a home in the very same place whose discovery was financed in 1492 by those same two monarchs. Lazarus' poem was picked out from among many other entries and was placed on the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty in 1903, some sixteen years after her death. Even today, the publicity-seeking American politicians (Obama, Pelosi, Schumer, etc.) still quote her poem, as if they believed it. Without a single mention of the Bible or God, "The New Colossus" in it's most famous part reads, "Give me your tired your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift up my lamp beside the golden door". It is fitting that a statue of a woman is what claims to give liberty to those fleeing to this country. "A mighty woman with a torch" Lazarus wrote, extends to immigrants as the "Mother of Exiles", a "world-wide welcome". Just as that poor, lost Jewish woman rejected the two thousand year old claim from the lips of the only Jewish man who ever truly loved her when He said, "**Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest**" (Matthew 11:28), so the millions of Jewish immigrants to this country look to the lies of Lady Liberty. Using the superior intellect that their Creator gifted them with, the American Jews make a ton of shekels but continue to wander from the truth. Their con-

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The Lost Blinded Jew

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dition is much sadder than their Old Testament prophet, priest, and king Moses, who was denied entry into the promised land (Deuteronomy 3:25-26) and had to die on the other side of the Jordan. His plight was only a temporary one, as Moses will one day return to preach in that same land for three and one-half years during the tribulation period (Revelation 11). He will also be allowed to return for a millennial peace with the rest of saved Israel during the reign of their Messiah and King of Kings, the Lord Jesus Christ. **“And so all Israel shall be saved”** (Romans 11:26), but by that time, **“all”** Israel will have been reduced to a remnant (Romans 9:27). The millions of Jews in this country, living under the shadow of a lady's statue, will soon find out too late that the blood of a Jewish man born in Bethlehem, was actually God's blood (Acts 20:28), and that every last drop that was poured out of his heart and veins on that hill of Calvary, was given as an atonement for their sins.

“For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins” (Hebrews 10:4). Once I asked a Jewish woman on a plane how she took care of her sins without any temple, altar, or sacrifice of blood. Her response was that she “hoped God would understand that we temporarily have none”. The temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 A.D., in part to bring in the prophecy of Hosea 3:4, **“For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice...”** Those **“many days”** have turned into 1948 years during this present church age. The poor,

lost, wandering Jew walks through this dark world, awaiting a holocaust that is around the corner that will be led by the same unclean spirit found in Adolph Hitler, but will result in almost three times as many Jewish deaths as under Hitler during World War II. Ignoring the writings of Moses whom they profess to admire, the Jews miss out on the **“schoolmaster”** that could bring them to Christ (Galatians 3:24), with it right under their “schozz”. While witnessing to a leader in a Jewish synagogue in Montreal years ago, quoting his Jewish prophets to point him to Christ, the only response I received was that I “knew his book better than he did”. What a tragedy to watch him walk down the middle aisle of his synagogue with a scroll of the Torah in his hands, as Jewish men leaned over and kissed the scroll, yet never taking the time to read it. They are blinded, and they continue to count on their birth as the chosen people of the Lord God for their salvation. But “it” cannot save. There is no “thing” that can save; salvation requires the person of Jesus Christ. Back in 1100 B.C., Israel tried to use the ark of the covenant to save them saying that **“it may save us out of the hand of our enemies”** (1 Samuel 4:3). Some four hundred years later, Israel looked to another “it” in the calf of Samaria. **“For from Israel was it also: the workman made it; therefore it is not God...”** (Hosea 8:6).

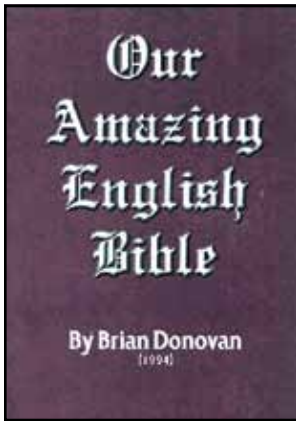
The Lord God sent his Son to save his own people Israel. As Joseph was told by the angel of the Lord when Christ was to be born, **“thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins”**

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The Lost Blinded Jew

Continued from 14
(Matthew 1:21). **“His people”** in that verse are the Jews. **“He came unto his own, and his own received him not”** (John 1:11). Jesus sent his twelve apostles to Israel only (Matthew 10:5-6), and when the Jews would not have him, but rather crucified him, he opened his arms to us Gentiles. As the gentile nations, we were a bunch of wild dead branches without life, but the Lord grafted us into life (Romans 11:16-18), and here we stand. When the Lord sends his Son the second time, the gentile na-

tions will see the great turnaround as Israel will be restored to her King. The diminishing of the Jews resulted in our riches, but the fullness of the Jews will result in much more for this whole world (Romans 11:12). Even so, come Lord Jesus.



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Pastor Paul Sherrouse
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August 24–26

For His Glory Bible Baptist
92 Butler Road
Union, ME 04862
Pastor Mike Kee
(207) 975-5571

September 14-16

Temple Baptist Church
2295 Downer St.
Baldwinsville, NY 13027
Pastor Kevin Griffin
(315) 638-1159

October 5–7

Bible Baptist Church
114 Hall Lane
Rickman, TN 38580
Pastor Tim Wilson
(931) 498-2898

Please Note Correction For September Meeting

Correct dates for Temple Baptist Church, Baldwinsville, KY are September 14–16.

Deadly Diseases in the Body of Christ

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman
(Part Two of Six)

This is the second in a series of articles in which we will give you a list of deadly cases in the 323-plus counterfeit English “Bibles” published between 1880 and 2015. We compare these gross, godless corruptions of the Scriptures (see 2 Cor. 2:17) with deadly communicable diseases like Ebola, bubonic plague, GRID (wrongly called “AIDS” by all news media outlets), and cancer. This is a scriptural picture drawn from Isaiah 1:5–6 where God’s chosen people were in the last stages of spiritual death because they rejected the words of God. We continue this list here.

14) *Colossians 2:17*. If the dirty, putrid, infected version you are using changed the “**are**” of the AV to a “*were*,” it eliminates eight chapters from the Old Testament (Ezek. 40–48). If verse 17 reads “*were*,” then verse 16 is thrown into the *past*; that means that *all* of those had to disappear after Christ’s death.

They don’t disappear permanently according to Ezekiel 40–48. They will be *returning* in the millennium, which is why the Holy Spirit inspired Colossians 2:17 to read, “**Which ARE a shadow of THINGS TO COME**”—a *future* reference. By altering the tense to “*were*,” these depraved apostates rid themselves and their readers of more than 230 verses of holy scripture by forcing them to be spiritualized away instead of being taken literally as the Holy Spirit intended. They have

been spreading this spiritual disease since the days of Augustine and Origen, except now its “carriers” are fundamentalists, conservatives, and evangelicals. They are sicker than a giraffe with a sore throat or a hippopotamus with chapped lips.

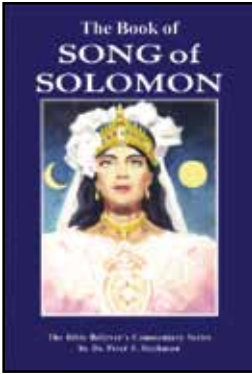
Now do you want to watch a terminably sick fool trying to *justify* his deadly communicable disease? Get your Bible and examine three verses in the book of Romans, chapter 1.

15) *Romans 1:18*. The diseased egomaniacs have excused themselves from guilt by claiming God wouldn’t dare give anyone Ebola or a “retrovirus” or MRSA for holding “**the truth in unrighteousness**,” as they have done their whole careers as Bible revisers and translators. Every single one of them had *held the truth in his hand* every time he made anywhere from 500 (NKJV) to 36,000 (NASV) to 64,000 (NIV) changes in it. So what do these spiritual “typhoid Marys” do? *They dump the blame on someone else*: it is the ones who “repress,” “hinder,” or “resist” the truth. Nice job for a slippery, twisting dodging *prevaricator*.

16) *Romans 1:25*. These plague victims have the same trouble with verse 25 as they had with verse 18. Since the verse involves the same disease, it requires the same way out. The diseased, dying fools blamed their trouble on those who “**EXCHANGED the truth of God for a lie**” while the whole time these de-

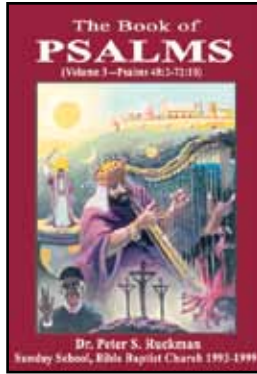
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Deadly Diseases in the Body of Christ

Continued from 16

praved hypocrites were busy changing God's truth into a lie with their corrupt perversions of the scriptures.

Brethren, you are dealing with dishonest, cowardly, apostate reprobates who will lie to you just as quickly as they will breathe. Follow them, and you are just as good as dead.

17) *Romans 1:28*. For the third time the sickly apostate is faced with the source of his deadly disease—*himself*. Here all the Bible revisers go "spastic." One screams, "They didn't want the knowledge of God!" Another poor jackass brays, "They didn't want to acknowledge God!" Some other supercilious "quack" quacks, "They didn't see it fit to acknowledge God!" Thus the whole "kit and kaboodle" of lying reprobates try to wash the blood off their hands onto the hands of someone else.

In the holy scriptures, these diseased invalids were identified by the Holy Ghost as the sinners who didn't want to "**retain God in their knowledge.**" Every one of them was a theist who not only "acknowledged" God but had been thinking about Him in their "minds" before they *ran Him out*. The saved ones among them ran God out LITERALLY in 1 Timothy 3:16.

18) *Hebrews 1:3*. Epidemic territory. Not only do modern Bible revisers like to kick God out of His Book, they can't even tolerate His "image," for His "image" is Jesus

Christ (cf. 2 Cor. 4:4; Col. 1:15). So out goes the "image" of God from Hebrews 1:3, and only His "representation" or "imprint" is left. Double blasphemy (1 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 1:3): Ebola and leprosy at the same time.

19) *Micah 5:2*. Check out the verse in your Bible to see how long Jesus Christ has been around. Has He always been around ("**from everlasting**"), or was He a created being like the Arians and Jehovah's Witnesses and the "up-to-date, clearer" translations state ("*from ancient days*"—AFTER Gen. 1:1)? GRID, Ebola, the Spanish flu—death on wheels.

20) *Isaiah 14:12*. Spiritual plague in its last stages if your "Bible" says "*morning star*" instead of "**son of the morning**" (AV). God's "**morning star**" is *His Son* (Rev. 22:16; 2 Pet. 1:19); *not Satan*.

It is the NIV that identifies Jesus Christ as Lucifer in Isaiah 14:12. Every reviser and translator on the NIV Old Testament committee was a professing Christian. Do you know what that means? Not one cotton-picking thing in the world, man. Profession, since 1901, doesn't mean anything at all. Those men, spiritually speaking, are prime exhibits of raw, bleeding, oozing, infectious tumors from head to foot—no matter what their "profession."

21) *Psalms 138:2*. A good example of the Black Plague, spiritually. Does your Bible exalt God's words (cf. Prov. 30:6) more highly than the "**name which is above every**

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Deadly Diseases in the Body of Christ

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name" (Phil. 2:9), or have the "carriers" infected it by calling the Author a liar to His face. You can always spot the infection in this verse if the "**word**" hasn't been exalted above the "**name**" (e.g., the reading in the ESV). In the Book, the Holy Spirit of God told you that God the Father had magnified His written words (see 2 Pet. 1:19–20) above His own name (cf. Neh. 9:5) and the name of His Son (cf. Phil. 2:9).

The apostates lied again, as usual, because "**Their throat is an open sepulchre . . . the poison of asps is under their lips**" (Rom. 3:13). They are infected to the point of corruption and death.

22) *Psalms 12:6–7*. A deadly case of spiritual Ebola if you ever saw it. Verse 7 in a King James Bible says God would keep His "**words**" (vs. 6) by preserving "**them**" forever. But according to the disease-infested modern versions, *the Holy Spirit lied*. The new "Bibles" erased the reference to verse 6 by changing the second "**them**" to "**us**" so that God only preserved "**poor**" and "**needy**" of verse 5.

Someone was intent on making you believe that God *couldn't* (or *wouldn't*) preserve His "**words**" after He inspired them (2 Tim. 3:16). Oh who could that be, I wonder? Why, it would have to be the emaciated, stinking carcass of a spiritually syphilitic who contracted spiritual AIDS from spiritual fornication (James 4:4). I'll give you odds of 50,000 to one that whoever it was

claimed to be a "good," "godly," "qualified," "dedicated" "defender of the faith."

23) *Exodus 34:7*. Does your Bible read: "**that will by no means CLEAR the guilty**"? It doesn't (see the NIV and NASV)? Then you have lost the key to a verse used by five denominations to prove that water baptism is essential to salvation by cross-referencing the verse to Mark 1:4; Matthew 26:28; Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; and John 3:5.

"**Remission**" (Acts 2:38) is NOT "**redemption**" (Rom. 3:24; Heb. 9:15). No Old Testament saint's sins were taken away (Heb. 10:4), nor were they "cleared" until Calvary (Rom. 3:25). God had been "remitting" sins for 4,000 years before He had a basis for "redeeming" them. That means that the phrase "**for the remission**" in Mark 1:4; Matthew 26:28; and Acts 2:38 would have to refer to the *past* (Rom. 3:25). It also means that the word "**for**" in that phrase means "because of" *every time*, and *never* "in order to get," as taught by the Church of Christ, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Catholic, and Greek Orthodox apostates. Ebola, the plague, SARS—stone-cold dead in the market.

24) *Zechariah 12:10*. Does your Bible read "*look upon him*" or "**look upon me**"? If it reads the former, you have a "Bible" that blatantly, blindly, and stupidly removed one of the greatest verses in either Testament on the deity of Christ (cf. *Psa. 22:16; John 19:34–37; Rev. 1:7*).

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Deadly Diseases in the Body of Christ

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Naturally, it was done in an attempt to “help God out” (see John 19:37), and in doing so, “God’s little helpers” fell into a pit of used Jehovah’s Witnesses’ hypodermic needles and contracted spiritual AIDS. The disease has been passed down since

the days of Origen, who was “patient zero” for this particular infection (the A.D. LXX).

We will continue our examination next month of these smooth, slick apostates who have been poisoning the body of Christ now with their infections for over 125 years.

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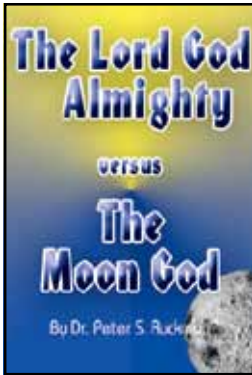
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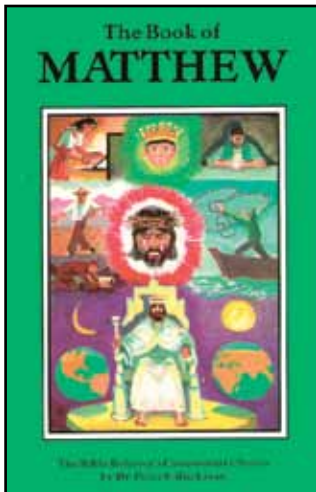
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Shortchanging the Brethren

By Robert Militello

“For I have not shunned to declare unto you ALL THE COUNSEL OF GOD” (Acts 20:27).

Would you wish to return to a restaurant that gave you a skimpy portion on your last visit? Eating hearty and feeling satisfied is one of the great pleasures of life. Baptists especially are known to engage in this enjoyment with gusto. Who can blame them when pleasing God means avoiding much of what this world sets its heart upon? Christians need to be fed meals that will keep them healthy. In too many churches, including Baptist, that will not happen. The sheep will be shortchanged, yet they will return week after week and eat what hardly passes for a McDonald's kiddie meal. Why is this? Well, for the most part, preaching the cross of Christ has little appeal to overstuffed, comfortable Christians. Sin put our Lord to death, and too many of God's people today are loathe to put away the idols of their hearts. The cross is a death instrument—face it!

“And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, if ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, THEN put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you” (1 Sam. 7:3). This is not going to happen today among God's people in America. First of all, in these last days, the Laodicean church does not realize how spiritually sick it is (Rev. 3:14–19). There are millions of Americans walking around with diabetes or diabetes 2 or pre-diabetes and don't know it. You can't know that you have this disease without a specific blood test.

When you listen to a preacher who does not regularly check your blood with sharp preaching, you go on thinking you have clothes on when you are as naked as a jaybird (Rev. 3:17–18). A man ought not to go into the pulpit if he is squeamish, amen?

“Cursed be he that doeth the work of the LORD deceitfully, and cursed be he THAT KEEPETH BACK HIS SWORD FROM BLOOD” (Jer. 48:10).

Pulpits in America are filled with men who use plastic butter knives instead of a sword. No attribute of God has been as neglected today as God's holiness. If all you hear week after week are messages on God's grace, His mercy, His forbearance, or His care and comfort, His hatred of sin will be seen in a softer light. That's dangerous, especially to the prayer life. Powerlessness in prayer is something you won't often hear spoken among God's people. Nevertheless, it is a reality, and a shameful one at that. Why?

“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the LORD WILL NOT HEAR ME” (Psa. 66:18).

At the Judgment Seat of Christ might we not see for ourselves why so many of our prayers never made it past the roof over our heads? Believers who tolerate idols in their hearts with a “God loves me!” defense against Holy Spirit conviction can't pray their way out of a paper bag. That's really sad.

“And Samuel told him every whit, and HID NOTHING FROM HIM” (1 Sam. 3:18). Here, Samuel, as a little boy, is called upon to stab Eli, God's high priest, with **“the**

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Shortchanging the Brethren

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sword of the Spirit" (Eph. 6:17). He proved faithful in overcoming his fear and was used years later to confront King Saul and read him the riot act (1 Sam. 13:13–14). How about the prophet Nathan telling King David what he could expect from the Lord for taking Bathsheba and killing Uriah? Faithful messengers are men who resist the temptation to present hard, cutting truth in a softer light. Years ago, America had a good supply of pastors and evangelists who preached a hot hell, driving thousands to the altar crying for mercy. What happened? Did hell become a retirement home for unrepentant sinners?

Billy Graham, who went home some months ago, found it convenient years ago to water down the terror of hell. Actually, the Rev. Graham had lost God's wind in his sails since he first "fellowshipped" with Pope John Paul II in 1981. When that pope died, Billy Graham appeared on "Larry King Live" on CNN and made this incredible statement: "And he was a suffering pope too. He suffered as much as anybody you could ever imagine. And through it all, he taught us how to suffer. In recent days, he taught us how to die."

Imagine saying this about a man who dedicated his life to Mary and had no clue as to where his soul would go at death. It is really frightening to think what the Lord can do to the mind of a Christian, famous or not, that holds back "**the sword of the Spirit**" in order not to offend men. Christ's vicar should have been asked, "When were you born again?" and "Where will your soul go

at death?"

At the Judgment Seat of Christ, I believe one of the questions the Lord will ask you is: "**and how hast thou plentifully declared the thing as it is?**" (Job 26:3). Could it be any clearer that our Saviour expects plain speaking with nothing held back when dealing with the eternal destiny of an immortal soul?

In the next verse, it says, "**To whom hast thou uttered words? and whose spirit came from thee?**" (Job 26:4).

Probably, no one reading this will have opportunity to speak with a pope, or presidents and heads of state. Rev. Graham was positioned by God to speak truth to power. Paul spoke to kings, governors, and religious bigshots. Do you think he spared using the sword? If he did, then someone else wrote in 2 Corinthians 5:11, "**Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men.**" Paul labeled our Lord a terrorist. How's that for rude speech (2 Cor. 11:6)?

Men called to preach and teach God's holy word ought to be real men, not marshmallows.

"**The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe**" (Prov. 29:25).

In Jeremiah 1:8, the prophet is told, "**Be not afraid of their faces.**" In Isaiah 58:1, the prophet is told to "**Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.**"

Our God doesn't want His messengers to be jellyfish, but that is

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Shortchanging the Brethren

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just what you find in pulpits today. Have you listened lately (hopefully, no) to Christian FM radio? The male speakers sound as though they went to ballet school. It's pathetic. Final-fight Bible Radio on the Internet is an oasis in a desert for believers who can "stomach" real food. It's what Christian radio ought to be.

"Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?" (Acts 2:37).

It is a blessed thing to be cut by preaching. It is the foolishness of preaching that God has chosen as His sanctified weapon by which He exposes the rotten filth of mens' hearts. Surgeons use sterilized, extremely sharp scalpels to cut away all kinds of malignancies. Every modern "Bible" version since 1881 was designed by Satan to blunt the cutting power of your King James Bible. We Bible believers are, among all the peoples of this world, a very peculiar bunch. We are saved by blood, with **"the sword of the Spirit"** piercing our innermost being. Ours is a bloody faith in a bloody cross which is the only path to knowing the true God. **"But without faith it is impossible to please him"** (Heb. 11:6).

I remember as a boy growing up in Brooklyn, the numerous kosher meat markets spread around my neighborhood. The Jewish butchers wore blood-stained aprons and practiced their trade on butcher block tables where everything except pork was carved and trimmed with knives always kept razor sharp. In case you didn't know, the Levites

servng at the brazen altar were accomplished butchers. They had to be, as the eyes of *Hashem* (Hebrew for "the Holy One") were on them continually.

Today, the New Testament preacher wields a butcher knife which the Holy Spirit says is **"quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twodged sword"** (Heb. 4:12). Sharper than steel, this sword is designed to pierce **"even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart"** (Heb. 4:12). Here is a sword fashioned in heaven and put into the hands of sinful men to butcher those trapped in vanity and sin without God and with any hope in the world (Eph. 2:12). When that weapon is put into the hands of a man who trembles at the sight of it, that man is commissioned to slaughter sinners. You won't find any "slaughterhouse" preachers on so-called "Christian" television stations because butchers don't get rich.

As a Catholic attending Mass each week, I knew nothing of what is real Bible preaching. I attended a religious ceremony lasting about fifty minutes or less. What the priest gave to the collection of lost, religious men and women in the pews was a cute little piece of gibberish, called a "homily." What did that do for my soul? Absolutely nothing! After genuflecting a few more times and crossing myself, I hurried out of the pew to dip my hand in the "holy water" container in the vestibule. I then went home to the only food I knew—that which my mom cooked.

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Shortchanging the Brethren

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If there were anything in St. Brendan's church that had any power to cut me, it was the small pocketknife I carried. Nothing in that building of statues and flickering candles could wash a sinner clean. It was a bloodless place where fermented wine was passed off as Christ's literal blood. Vampires drink blood. Some years later, when it pleased the Lord to save me, He sent a preacher my way with a sword in his hand. Salvation is a bloody miracle, amen?

In these last days before the Lord takes us home, there seems to be a diminishing of the need to present to sinners a picture of a bloody Christ. When I hear a preacher say, "Come to Christ," I believe the preacher or evangelist needs to tell the lost souls where to find Him. Come to CALVARY and see what your filthiness and wickedness has done to the Lamb of God. Calvary was the butcher-block table for the high priests, and the Sanhedrin determined to destroy an innocent man without blemish and unspotted by sin (1 Pet. 1:19). God's people need to keep in their minds' eye a picture of a bloody, wooden cross where they deserved to be cut up rather than the gentle Jew from Galilee.

As a Catholic, I never saw Calvary in a personal way. I was taught that Jesus Christ died for sinners and knew that I was a sinner, but blood as a payment for sins was never mentioned. Catholicism is a brilliant, satanic invention designed to hide the efficacy of the Lord's complete atonement. First John 1:7 is the Spirit's sword that cuts the very heart out of Rome's crooked religion: **"and**

the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

If you believe that, you can apply Calvary personally. Religion cleanses nothing away. Catholics, during Lent especially, practice what they call the "Stations of the Cross." I remember stopping, praying, and meditating at all fourteen stations, marked by plaques on the side walls of St. Brendan's in Brooklyn. Without a revelation from God showing me the real meaning of the cross, I was destined to live and die spiritually blind and to drop into a sinner's hell. Calvary is where the blind see and chains drop to the ground. It's a bloody place, a horror scene, and men turn from it and go on in their sins. Isn't it ironic that millions of American males who enjoy seeing blood while watching cage fighters, boxers, hockey, and football can't stand to look at Calvary? Motorists slow to a crawl to view an accident scene, stretching their necks to see if the carnage resulted in blood being shed.

"I said in mine heart concerning the estate of the sons of men, that God might manifest them, and THAT THEY MIGHT SEE THAT THEY THEMSELVES ARE BEASTS" (Eccl. 3:18).

America is being served a crossless Christianity in most churches on Sundays, and few seem to notice. Why?

"And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled" (Acts 24:25). Imagine a powerful man like Felix, a Roman governor, being hurt by words coming from

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Shortchanging the Brethren

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a Jewish prisoner. This same Jew warns believers to **“work out your own salvation with fear and trembling”** (Phil. 2:12). The preached word can cut and can heal, but to think that you will mature as a Christian without hearing a preacher who is not afraid to use a knife is naive. Shaphan the scribe read the words of God, the Torah, to King Josiah in 2 Kings 22:10, and what was the king's reaction?

“And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the book of the law, that he rent his clothes” (2 Kings 22:11). The law condemns. It shows men the holiness of God and magnifies the awareness of what is rotten and evil within us. Josiah's heart was tender, and his will was inclined to obey God. Can you say that about the vast numbers that attend church in America on Sunday morning?

Laodicean preaching distorts the God of the Bible: **“For if he that cometh preacheth ANOTHER JESUS, whom we have not preached”** (2 Cor. 11:4). What comes forth from most pulpits today is watered down mush. Once I ate a roast beef sandwich at Arby's and knew immediately that I was not eating the real thing. You can't grow up in Brooklyn and not become fully acquainted with real roast beef, or pastrami, for that matter. I consider Boar's Head the “KJV” of cold cuts. At Arby's, you get shredded, low-quality beef and some by-products pressed together and made to look like the genuine article. That is how I see Laodicean preaching. It appears to be biblical, but it does nothing for your taste

buds. Men who are squeamish and have trouble dealing with unpleasantness (like calling sin, “sin”!) may make acceptable nurses, but do not quality as surgeons.

“Is not my word like a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?” (Jer. 23:29).

This prophet, called as a boy to deal with stiff-necked, hard-headed Jews in rebellion, enraged his listeners. He was the scourge of Jerusalem. Ezekiel, who dealt with the Jews already in captivity was made from the same cloth. About him, the Lord said, **“Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads”** (Ezek. 3:8). In Laodicea, the Lord is really giving to most of His flock the kind of food they prefer—that which makes the sheep feel good about themselves. How sad!

Once, while visiting in Tennessee, I went to a church where the preacher seemed to apologize for coming across as too dogmatic. He was afraid he might have been too harsh. This made me want to puke. How do you follow a man that appears to be afraid of his own congregation?

“As an ADAMANT HARDER THAN FLINT HAVE I MADE THY FOREHEAD; fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house” (Ezek. 3:9).

Those were the marching orders given to Ezekiel. Has the Lord gone soft in the New Testament in His hatred of sin and rebellion? Can you look upon a bloody, butchered lamb

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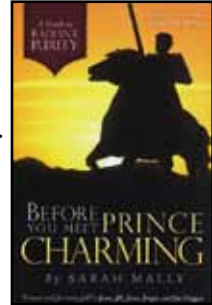
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by Sarah Mally



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.

Shortchanging the Brethren

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dying in your place without understanding how abhorrent even our “small” sins are to a holy God? We’re gradually losing our sense of sin’s ugliness in these last days. The fear of God that I grew up with as a Catholic is vanishing everywhere. That fear which first crept into my heart came from hearing about a place called hell, where souls burned forever. The law convicted me of sin, as did my conscience, and brought me to Calvary (Gal. 3:24).

Getting older has some benefits, though not many. One that I’ve become more aware of is the need to become more bold. Time is short, so beating around the bush with wasted words bothers me more than ever. I remember my dad’s boldness in his later years. He would go to the VA

clinic and address those waiting to see the doctor with this line: “Is anyone here not a friend of Jesus? If so, I don’t want to sit near you.” One response my dad got was: “I don’t believe in anything but me.” So my dad said, “Too bad; you are going to burn.”

When you are in your late eighties (he lived to 94) and you see clearly what really matters in life, you should be significantly less reticent to speak up for what you know is true. One day, it is going to be too late to say anything. At the Judgment Seat of Christ, you’ll regret, in the most profound way, the fear of man that kept your mouth shut all too often.

“The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but THE RIGHTEOUS ARE BOLD AS A LION” (Prov. 28:1).

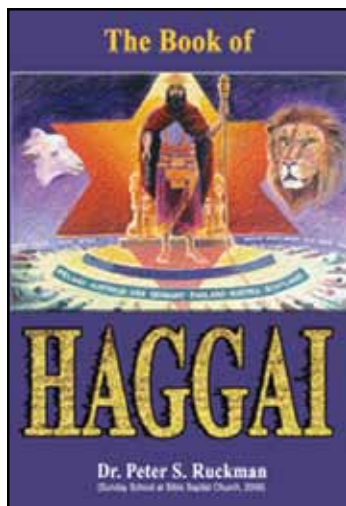
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