



# Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 42 No. 10 "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17) October 2018

## PAGAN RELIC WORSHIP RESTORED

**By Brian Donovan**

Near the end of his life while he was serving out his time on the isle of Patmos, the beloved apostle John was carried away in the spirit into the wilderness (Revelation 17:3), in order to see the end time kingdoms of this world as they are seduced by the harlot of Rome. All nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication (Revelation 18:3) until the hour of her judgment finally comes during the tribulation period. When John was given the vision of the woman as she rode the beast (Revelation 17:3-6), he marveled at the very possibility that the whore responsible for the blood of the saints and martyrs of Jesus, was performing her feats even as she was using her religious trappings of holy relics and purple and scarlet robes, along with a golden cup (called a "chalice" by the Roman Catholic faithful). The

pagan Roman Caesars put forth the "Pax Romana"; which called for every citizen to acknowledge Augustus as Lord, paving the way for the pagan, papal leaders to later receive worship as gods.

Before her judgment comes, the Bible warns souls to **"come out of her"** and **"be not partakers of her sins"** (Revelation 18:4). But the warning goes mainly unheeded as hundreds of millions of souls are seduced by her spiritual fornications. The Roman Catholic Church has always understood the strength of biding time and playing the part of the chameleon, whenever necessary, so as not to be seen for what she really is; **"THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH"** (Revelation 17:5). This satanic philosophy has its roots in the Jesuit order with the well-known proverb, "the end justifies the means." Pope Francis is the perfect example, being himself a Jesuit, and will stay in the background while he does his dirty work. With 18,000 loyal members, the Jesuits know how to follow the god of this world. As one aptly stated, "if there is a barricade in the street, there will be a Jesuit on both sides of it." Pretending to be the **"Holy Father"**

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# THE DANCE OF DEATH

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

**“A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance” (Eccl. 3:4).**

**“Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs” (Psa. 150:4).**

Now I am going to discuss dancing, and I am aware that it may not apply to a lot of our readers. Most of you who read this article will be saved, separated Christians, but it is still good for you to know these things, even if it is only for your children's sake.

From time to time I have to write out an excuse for a parent whose child is in public school. It says, “Please excuse So-and-so from ‘rhythm class’ (basically the African watusi),” or “Please allow So-and-so to wear slacks instead of shorts for such-and-such a class.” I know the world doesn't understand that. The world wants to strip down naked and raise hell; it never could understand why a Christian wants to cover up and behave himself.

The truth of the matter, though, is that when someone else takes the bars off his kids, it makes it harder for me to raise my kids. If I try to make my kids behave, it makes it easier on you and your kids to behave. It's reciprocal. If you try to do the best you can, you've done me a service, and vice versa.

Now in regards to the dance, Ecclesiastes 3:4 tells you there is **“a time to dance,”** and Psalm 150:4 tells you when that time is. You are to praise the Lord **“with the . . . dance.”** Have you been to any dance where folks praised the Lord?



Do you want an illustration of the **“time to dance”**? Look at Luke 15:22–25. There the prodigal son comes home, and the Father throws a party in celebration, with **“musick and dancing”** (Luke 15:25). It is perfectly proper to rejoice when a sinner gets saved.

I know how stiff and formal folks are when it comes to church. Wouldn't the world and some Christians think we have radical, fanatical nuts if we were to run around, jumping up and shouting and clicking our heels together whenever a sinner walked the aisle and got saved? Yet they carry on down at the bars and the concerts and the ball games worse than that, and they think it's perfectly proper to do that.

You say, “I don't think it's proper, Ruckman.” Then why do you let the stuff into your living room? You watch the stuff on your TV.

Now the dance has a long history. If I were to tell you there is something wrong with the waltz, you would think I'm nuts, but when the waltz first came out, a lot of Christians thought it was of the devil. What could possibly be wrong with a dance like the waltz?

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# THE DANCE OF DEATH

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Well, before I was saved, I was a dance-band drummer. We used to have a saying: "The fast ones for the boys; the slow ones for the girls." The girls like a slow dance like a waltz. You mean to tell me, ladies, that under those bright, sparkling chandeliers, with that low-cut gown, and that handsome young man in his formal attire, you're thinking of a prayer meeting? Don't kid me; I don't believe it.

A Christian young woman went to a dance one time. She was feeling guilty about it and decided to "atone for her sin" by witnessing to the young man with whom she was dancing. "Are you a Christian?" she asked. Shocked, he said, "H--- no! Are you?!" "Yes," she said. "Well, what are you doing in here?" he asked.

You won't often find a man that honest, but there isn't a red-blooded male reading this page who doesn't know what a dance is for. A fellow doesn't go to a dance for the music; he goes there for the hugging, for the intimate contact.

The dance has a long history. I will grant you that the dance around 1900 was not like the dance today; things have "stepped up" since then considerably. The first dances were mazurkas and hornpipes and polkas—folk dances. They were supposedly innocent, and today a folk dance like the square dance is used as an excuse to justify all the other mess. But there is as much intimate physical contact between men and women in a square dance as there is in a waltz.

Now there is a *risk* in dancing, and I want to discuss what the dancer *risks*. I will speak primarily to the

women because dancing is peculiarly a woman's "thing"; not too many men care about dancing. Dancing is one of those "socially acceptable" sins in which a woman can get in postures and positions with a man where if it happened without the music, it would be considered *fornication*.

If some boy, daddy, or some man, husband, were to touch your daughter or wife, with no music playing, like men touch women in a dance, what would you think? Would you consider that acceptable behavior? Then why does music make it acceptable?

I have known folks who were just as addicted to dancing as a junkie is to dope. That is especially true of women. I have known teenage girls and young women who would rather *go to hell* than give up dancing. They have to have that bodily contact—sex.

That's what brings risk to the dance. Sex is the life of the dance. Take sex out of the dance, and you won't have any dance. This bunch of hypocrites talking about a "spring frolic" or a "high school prom" or a "cotillion." You mean a belly-rubbing contest, a necking session, or a hip-shaking exhibition? What if we had all the boys dance in one building and all the girls dance in another building. You reckon anyone would come? (Of course, nowadays, with the Frisco faggots and the lesbians, dykes, and butches, you might.)

Young people don't go to a dance to learn rhythm and get exercise; they go to get close to someone of the opposite sex. If you want to learn "rhythm," go rake the yard; dig a ditch. You'll get all the rhythm you can stand with a rake or shovel.

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# THE DANCE OF DEATH

Continued from 3

First, the dancer risks *evil company*. You say, "I don't have to worry about that; the dances I attend are chaperoned." Yeah, I used to play for dances like that, and the chaperones were more drunk than the kids.

I know all these singers and musicians who compose the stuff for the dances. There's not a saved person in the bunch. People like Artie Shaw and Benny Goodman and Tommy Dorsey and Doris Day and Frank Sinatra and the Pied Pipers, et al., they all died and went to hell; they didn't even profess Christ.

If you attend a dance, you are around a whole crowd of people who aren't saved and care nothing for Jesus Christ. And don't kid me, you aren't going to influence them for Christ. You're not there to pass out tracts and witness. And if you don't influence them, *they will influence you*.

Here is a quote from a girl who went to the dance and got into trouble: "My mother used to warn me, but we think of our mothers as old fashioned. I smoked to be sociable, and the reason I drank, I cannot say. I started to dance at sixteen and used to dance almost all Saturday night. I am the only one in the family who has gone astray, and it's going to be hard to face it all now. I'm glad now my mother is old fashioned."

Here is another girl: "I think the biggest reason we're fallen men and women is the dance. Most of them go wrong at the dance. I've been called a 'stick in the mud' many times for not smoking and drinking, but I dance, and that had much to do with my downfall."

Another girl: "I met the father of my illegitimate child at a dance-and-drinking party, I am ashamed to say. I used to say that a nice dance, well chaperoned, was all right, but I've changed my mind."

Another girl's testimony: "I resent any familiarity on the part of a stranger, but when I dance with someone else, the feelings come. The modern wild dance is more likely to do so more than the old-fashioned ones, except the waltz. Jazz just stirs me up so I am ready for almost anything, but the soft, dreamy, gliding waltz affects me the most."

That's how it begins: the fast dance to get you hyped up and then the slow, seductive dance to lower the inhibitions. You can't tell me that young people acting like that, with body rubbing against body, have their minds on spiritual things—not even in a soft, dreamy, gliding waltz. It's carnal; it's always been carnal.

I used to say the day would come when you would see dancing as part of the Sunday morning worship service. I don't say that anymore because that day has come. You have the "choreography" and the "interpretive dance" and the ballet and the skin-tight clothing and the "bumps and the grinds" right up on the platform. Over in the "Brownsville Revival," there was some woman doing a belly dance in the aisle to "draw men to the altar."

That's how the animists do it in Africa to this day. The Baal worshippers did it in Phoenicia. The Druids did it in Britain. The Hindus did it in India. There isn't a godless, depraved

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# THE DANCE OF DEATH

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heathen on the face of this earth that doesn't "dance" for his god.

Do you know where they get that? They're copying Miriam and the women of Israel dancing to celebrate God drowning Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea (Exod. 15:20–21). That's the first dance recorded in scripture. Of course, in that dance, the women aren't dancing with men or to seduce men, and they're fully clothed. You have to take *that* into account.

That isn't all: at a dance, you risk *evil thinking*. You can't tell me that the music played in the modern dance has a good affect on your mind. What goes in your eyes and in your ears affects your character. You are a product of what you see and what you hear.

The music of the modern dance is evil and sensuous; it comes from African witch doctors. It is African music, and it produces African morals. That's your "Southern gospel" and your "worship band." There are churches that used to be fundamental, Bible-believing works, now with the rock band right up on stage and in the youth group.

Someone once said, "If music is the language of the soul, jazz must be the curse words." There's a lot of truth in that. Of course, now, you have rock music and rap music with the filthy words and the cussing all the way through it. If I called your wife or daughter what some of those Hamites call women in those songs, you'd knock my teeth in.

There are some Christians stupid enough to think that if the music is slow, it is clean. Some of the dirtiest music you have ever heard in your life

is slow music.

And it's not just the music that brings evil thinking; it's the unsaved crowd at the dance. You can't hang around people like that without thinking evil thoughts.

From *Medical Review of Reviews*, 1930: "There can be scarcely any doubt that dancing came about as an adjunct to sexual stimulation. As such it exists, undisguised among primitive peoples of antiquity. It still retains its original purpose among us today, but it is not avowed as such openly."

The heathen back in the darkest parts of Africa are honest: they know what dancing is for. "Civilized" folks are so educated, they pretend dancing's for something else—they're *hypocrites*.

Professor Maurice Bigelow said, "It seems to be an accepted opinion among physiologists that dancing of any of the types that involve more or less closeness of contact between men and women in pairs is likely to lead to sexual stimulation that at times may be consciously recognized by normal men, but probably is not identified other than as general excitement by most women."

One of the first dances where the bodies of the dancers came together was the tango; the word *tango* means "to touch." The tango was an *African* dance that came up through South America, where everyone belonged to the same church. The same church and the same race produced another contact dance in Cuba known as the "rumba." In those two dances, there is no pretense at all about the sensuality; it is overt.

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# THE DANCE OF DEATH

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From those two dances, the Americans developed a bunch of their own. What is amazing about a lot of them is their *animal* names. There is the bunny hug, the grizzly bear, the turkey trot, and the fox trot. Young ladies, what would you be doing fooling with animal activities (Lev. 18:23)?

Next, you risk *evil living*. These days, the liberals and the educators take for granted that teenagers have no self-control whatsoever, so we should just expect them to live like dogs in heat. Listen, teenager, your age doesn't grant you a different dispensation from everyone else. You are either male or female like the rest of us (no matter what the public schools tell you); you are either saved or lost like the rest of us. What makes you think being a teenager relieves you of the responsibility of living right. That Bible says, "**keep thyself pure**" (1 Tim. 5:22). That's a *command*, not a suggestion.

One time, a young lady, who was a Baptist, asked R. A. Torrey what was wrong with dancing. Torrey told her, "I've been preaching for twenty years, and I've never met a dancing Baptist who was worth shooting." If there's nothing wrong with dancing, I wonder why Billy Graham, M. R. DeHaan, Charles Fuller, Hyman Appleman, E. J. Daniels, Lee Roberson, and R. G. Lee didn't dance after they got saved.

A lady came to a Christian doctor complaining she had blistered her feet after dancing all night. That doctor said, "Young lady, have you ever blistered your feet for God?" Sister, did you ever get blisters on your feet going door to door, walking on the hot

cement, to invite folks to church or pass out tracts?

I talked to an evangelist one time who told me he could tell whether a girl danced or not just by looking at her face. I asked him how, and he told me that when a young woman spends a lot of time in close physical contact with someone of the opposite sex, like one does in dancing, on a regular basis, she is always trying to recapture the peak of arousal she experienced in the dance. He said that manifests itself in the face by a *nervous hardness*. He could see that in girls as young as thirteen.

The dance is deadly. That Bible says, "**But she that liveth in pleasure is DEAD while she liveth**" (1 Tim. 5:6).

"Outwardly splendid as of old;

Inwardly sparkless, void and cold;  
Her force and fire all spent and gone;

Like the dead moon, she still shines on."

When you see some young woman headed off to a dance, "painted up like a possum hunter at pokeberry time," just remember that it's nothing but the spasmodic twitching of a headless chicken. *She's dead!*

Last of all, the dancer risks *moral ruin*. If the truth were written about some young women, their tombstone would read: "Here lies the body of an unwed mother; she met her ruin at a dance."

Back when I was a boy, you had to go to some cathouse or joint on the "other side of the tracks" to hear Afri-

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# THE DANCE OF DEATH

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can sex music. Not anymore. Now you have it blaring out of the bedrooms of the most high-class communities in town. Young people today put my generation to shame when it comes to sin, and that is really saying something if you came up like I did.

What you have today in the modern dance is what men had to go to a burlesque show to see in my day. It's nothing but a strip tease. We used to call it "the bumps and the grinds." No wonder dancing is associated with sex, fornication, and getting knocked up.

Sister, the dance will ruin you if you don't repent. I have known women to turn down Christ for the dance. I believe the only sin that will send you to hell is not trusting Jesus Christ (John 16:9), but if you turn down Jesus Christ for a cigarette, a liquor bottle, a drug needle, or a dance hall, *that* sin will damn you; you had better give it up (or at least be willing to) and trust Christ. Even then, you might struggle with it the rest of your life.

I call this sermon "The Dance of Death" because the Bible says, "**the wages of sin is death**" (Rom. 6:23). You don't fool with sin and get away with it.

Before I was saved, I was a drummer in a dance band, and we played in all kinds of dumps around town. I know what those places are like. Some of those places are so full of smoke and dust that it puts some of those musicians in TB clinics before they're thirty. There was a place off New Warrington Road here in town where someone got killed every week. I have lain down on the stage many a

night, kicking at whoever came by, as the beer bottles went through the bass drum and the guns and knives came out. I learned a broken beer bottle was a good weapon in a pinch. There isn't one singer in the top right now who didn't come up through hellholes just like that.

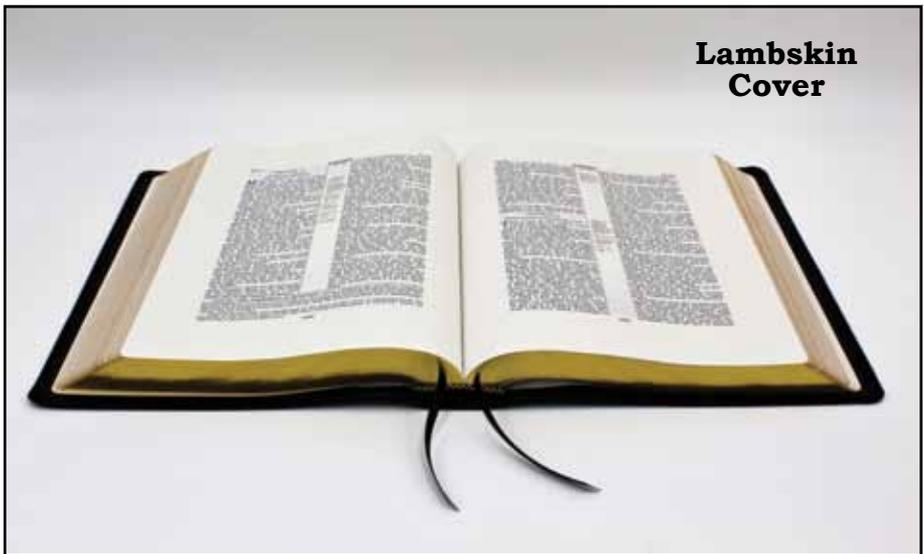
One of the biggest names in his day was Hank Williams. He was one of the most sickly, neurotic failures and flops there was. But the world considers him a great musician. Like Elvis Presley, he was a *walking pharmacy*. His pockets were always full of "goofballs" and "chasers" and "red devils" and "yellow jackets."

Like all the popular singers of his day, he was forced to sing hymns to fool a bunch of stupid Christians. He wrote one called "I Saw the Light." On the night he died (at thirty years of age), he had hired a college student to drive him from Charleston, West Virginia up to Canton, Ohio to perform in a concert. As they drove along, the student looked at Hank through the rear-view mirror; he was sitting in that back seat, staring sullenly out into the night. The kid tried to cheer him up by singing, "I Saw the Light," but all Hank Williams did was clench his teeth and say, "There is no light; there is no light." Hank Williams died in spiritual darkness.

Ladies and gentlemen, the modern dance is a dance of death. If you're lost, it will kill your desire to receive Christ and will wind you up in hell. If you are saved, it will kill you morally and cause you to be useless and unfruitful for your Saviour. If it has got you, get loose just as quickly as you can.

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# PAGAN RELIC WORSHIP RESTORED

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(John 17:11), Jorge Mario Bergoglio (alias Francis), is presently snaking around in the shadows as the woman positions herself to ride the soon to be revealed beast. In the meantime, those who are saved seem to be lulled to sleep and ignorant of the danger, even as they revel in their newfound saviour, the "Trumpster."

The biblical prophecies are very plain and tell the believers that the nations of this world are headed for a showdown in which EVERY one of them will take the position with the antichrist against Israel. The Lord is setting the table for all of this and even encourages the assembly of nations to come against His land. The prophet Joel gives the word of the Lord on this, as he writes, **"I will also gather ALL nations and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land"** (Joel 3:2). The various US presidents have all tried to handle this **"cup of trembling"** and this **"burdensome stone"** (Zechariah 12:2-3), from Truman to Trump, with each one being used as a pawn to fulfill the scriptures. The political leaders must all succumb to the scripture and will take up their final position against Israel. "But I think America is great"...scripture? "But I think America is an exception"...scripture? "But I think America will save Israel"...scripture? "But didn't Trump move the Embassy?"...scripture? Let's read a few scriptures and consider

**"thus saith the Lord"** for a change.

The tribulation time will be used as a sieve, in which the Lord will **"sift the house of Israel among ALL nations"** (Amos 9:9), for His **"determination is to gather the nations"** (Zephaniah 3:8), and when He will **"gather ALL nations against Jerusalem to battle"** (Zechariah 14:2), Israel will look for pity that **"should be shewed from his friend"** (Job 6:14), but that friend will **"forsake the fear of the Almighty"**, and go with the god of this world. As the Jews are slaughtered by the son of perdition, they will find that their **"eyes as yet failed for our vain help: in our watching we have watched for a nation that could not save us"** (Lamentations 4:17). In Jeremiah's day, they looked to Egypt to save them from Babylon, but to no avail. Since men never learn from history, in the coming years, Israel will look to the USA to save them, but to no avail. The false prophet of Rome will help gather the nations into the idol shepherd's flock (Zechariah 11:17) as they are being prepared right this moment with messages of **"Peace, peace; when there is no peace"** (Jeremiah 6:14). Christians are being sidetracked into "making this world a better place", and "saving my country by voting for right-wing, conservatives", as they also never learn from history. They ignore the fact that throughout church history it has never been through political acceptance and favor, but it has always been through preaching in the face of ridicule and persecution; in the **"midst of a crooked and perverse nation"**

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# PAGAN RELIC WORSHIP RESTORED

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(Philippians 2:15), that anything is done  
for the Lord.

The coming antichrist will use pagan relic worship to bring about worldwide worship of his powers. The prophet Daniel wrote of the setting up (Daniel 12:11), and placing (Daniel 11:31) of the **“abomination of desolation”** in the holy place, indicating that it is an image that must be moved as a statue. This idea is confirmed in Revelation 13:15 where life is given to the image of the beast to cause it to speak. That is why the Lord Jesus warns the Jews that when they see the abomination of desolation **“stand”** in the holy place (Matthew 24:15), they had better run for their lives. The relic being worshipped in the tribulation will come to life and prove his power over the pagan world. As the Roman Catholic pagan church came to power, she never destroyed the pagan relics, but rather preserved them. The Roman and Greek gods of Achilles, Orpheus, Hercules, Janus, etc., are all found within the walls of the Vatican museums and churches. If you ever get the chance to visit Rome,

take notice of the many carvings and sculptures around the city that have no heads. The worship of relics has never been “Christian”, and despite what the Roman Catholic teaching says, the earliest Roman Christians took hammers and knocked the heads off the statues in disgust. Ask around the streets of Rome and see if you can find a guide who will tell you the true reason for the headless relics. The worship of statues and relics by far predates the rise of the Roman whore in Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, and Philistia, and it has nothing to do with those saved in the book of Acts. The pagan relic of the Philistine god, Dagon, fell down at the presence of the true God back in 1100 B.C. (1 Samuel 5:1-4), till there was nothing left of him but a stump. Notice in that passage how the Philistines had to pick up their relic and **“set him in his place again”**. In a temple in Sri Lanka, the Buddhists worship a 2500-year-old tooth of Buddha, claiming it has healing powers. Recognizing the money-making capabilities of pagan relics, the Roman Catholic Church can never

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## Bro. Donovan's Meeting Schedule

### October 5-7

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

### November 9-11

Bible Believers Baptist Church  
128 Goodman St.  
Munfordville, KY 42765  
Pastor Sean Riggs  
(270) 524-5678

### December 7-9

Bible Baptist Church  
16503 State Rt. 3.  
Catlettsburg, KY 41129  
Pastor Dennis Miles  
(606) 923-4037

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be outdone when it comes to making ridiculous claims of verifying ancient objects of worship.

In the Basilica of San Domenico in Italy, the faithful are treated to the mummified head of St. Catherine of Siena staring out at them, being brought there from Rome in the late 1300's. After being martyred, some friends tried to remove her body back home to Siena, but they quickly realized that they would never get past the Roman guards, so they beheaded her corpse, bagged it, and started home. Much to their dismay, they were stopped by guards who insisted on looking into what they were carrying in the bag. But miracle of miracles, when the soldiers looked inside, they only saw rose petals and let them pass. Soon after they were in the clear, the rose petals turned back into Katy's skull and can now be worshipped in the pagan church. She is a "saint" because after she entered the convent to become a nun, she received a wedding ring from Jesus that according to her, was not made of gold, but of his foreskin. Of course, no one else but her could actually see this abomination. What spirit do you suppose is behind anyone actually thinking something so disgusting could be true, let alone holy? The tongue of St. Anthony of Padua (the patron saint of lost things) is preserved from 1231 A.D., when after thirty years of being buried, his tomb was opened to find everything turned to dust except his perfectly preserved tongue, which was then kissed by St. Bonny (Bonaventure), who was ecstatic at

the find. Tony's tongue even went on tour through New York City just a few years ago. Remember that whenever you lose something, you can pray "Tony, Tony, look around, something's lost and can't be found". The tongue of St. Christina is also preserved after being cut out while she was singing, but that did not stop her as she kept on singing without it, until she was shot with arrows and killed. The dried blood of St. Gennaro still becomes liquefied every September on his birthday, keeping the city of Naples safe for another year. Mark's mummified body was stolen from Alexandria and is now held in Venice, while Thomas' finger and three pieces of the Cross, one nail, and two thorns of Christ's crown are in the Basilica of the Holy Cross. The head of John the Baptist resides in a cathedral in Amiens, France, after being brought there from Constantinople in 1206. But another head of John resides in Rome at the cathedral of San Silvestro and the faithful were recently assured by none other than the infallible "Joe the Rat" Ratzinger (alias Pope Benedict XVI) in 2012, that this was the true one. The poor French pagans will have to come up with another story for what they have on display, or they can just continue in the hopes that religious pagans aren't usually interested in the truth and can still experience some spooky feelings in the presence of the skull. The Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris houses another piece of the Cross, another nail, as well as the crown of thorns placed on Christ's head, minus the thorns. These are just the tip of the iceberg when it

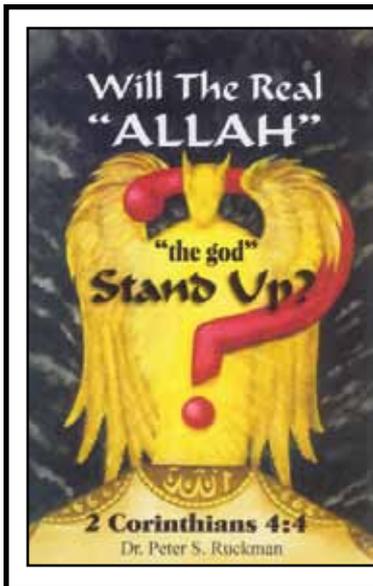
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# PAGAN RELIC WORSHIP RESTORED

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comes to the pagan idolatry of relics that the whore of Rome uses to collect vast sums of money, besides keeping the faithful in a religion that is anything but scriptural.

The child of God today walks by faith and not by sight (II Corinthians 5:7), believing the pure words of God without any concern for what can be seen, while the world is being prepared for an image that will come to life and will be worshipped. Our proof of what is true is **“what saith the scripture”**, and not what we can see and touch and taste with our physical senses. Can you imagine anyone being in love with the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, and then worshipping the nails that were hammered into his feet and hands, the crown of thorns that was jammed onto his holy head, the spear

that was thrust into his side, or the Cross that caused his pain and death? Would a parent enshrine and kneel before an automobile that ran over their child? Only a lost pagan could think highly of such things, and the only answer is that it is driven by the spirit of that wicked one who is about to appear as the false messiah in the flesh, to receive worship when the relic of his image comes to life. The saved are to be **“looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ”** (Titus 2:13), **“be watchful and strengthen the things which remain”** (Revelation 3:2), **look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh** (Luke 21:28), **“come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins”** (Revelation 18:4).



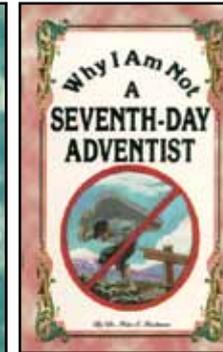
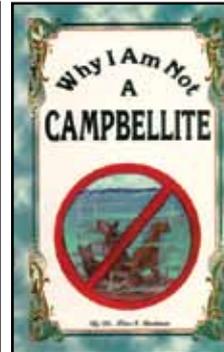
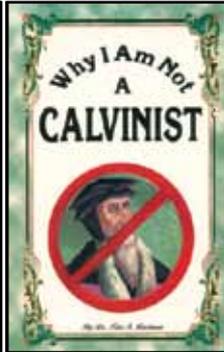
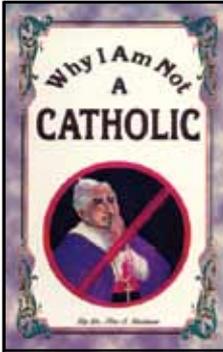
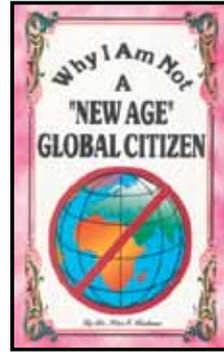
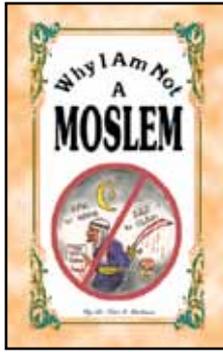
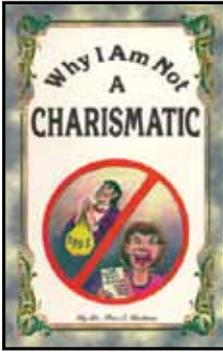
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# The Confident Christian

By Zack Colvin

As Christians, we truly have the very best that God has to offer man. A lost man has no idea what he's missing out on by not receiving the Lord Jesus Christ and becoming a son of God. Not only do we have forgiveness of our sins and eternal life, but we have a perfect written account of history - past, present, and future - that has been purchased by other men's blood and handed to us freely. This account has God's breath upon it and God's promises for man contained in it, whether man is saved or lost. But in this written word, the King James Authorized Version of 1611, we have the mind of the Creator of the universe, and we have everything God wants us to be aware of and to know for our journey here on earth. It's amazing to think that we hold a book that was written by God for us to have and to believe and to apply in our lives so we can bring pleasure to the God who created the universe. The thought just can't be put into words.

But I often think of what God has given us; in this perfect book, and I think of the many times the Lord refers to something that we "know" as Christians; not guessed at, not hoped for, but known with confidence. As a matter of fact, the entire First Epistle of John was written to tell the Christian how he can "**know**" that he is saved; not how to be saved, but how to have the assurance that he is a son of God. The word *know* or any English stem from the word shows up 936 times in the scripture, showing the Christian the confidence that is found in God's words; 377 of those times are in the

New Testament. "**Science falsely so called**" can't speak of what it "knows"; only what is "probable" or "likely." Of course, this is speaking of "**science falsely so called**" (1 Tim 6:20). The true science that lines up with the scripture can be known with confidence.

I can't help but think of how many saved people there are who never reach the point of being confident of some of the truths that God has laid out for us in the scripture, but surely there are many nowadays who have been saved yet live their lives without assurance of God's promises. As a result, they don't have the joy in the Christian life they should have, and they don't ever experience the fulfilling of some of the promises God has given us for this present time. There are some promises that can't be fulfilled until the "fulness of time," but there are some that can be fulfilled now if the Christian will spend time familiarizing himself with God's words and actively apply them to his own life. The Bible has become distant, if not separated entirely, from the Christian so that there are very few confident Christians who have "**tried**" "**the word of the LORD**" (Psa. 18:30) and found it faithful.

The Waldensian people of the Piedmont valley in Italy used to be given the derogatory title "a people of the Book." They were able to get their hands on copies of the scriptures in their language. Since there were so few copies, they would pass a copy around, and different people would commit certain passages to memory. In that way, they could still have as much of the Bible as possible written

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in one another's hearts in the event the Bibles were taken away, which they eventually were. They were given this title by the Roman Catholic inquisitors who were interrogating them about their possession of their Bibles.

One Roman inquisitor said of the Waldenses, "They can say a great part of the Old and New Testaments by heart. They despise the decretals and the sayings and expositions of holy men, and cleave only to the text of Scripture....They contend that the doctrine of Christ and His apostles is sufficient to salvation without any church statutes and ordinances. They receive only what is written in the Old and New Testaments, and whatever is preached that is not substantiated by the text of the Bible they esteem fables."

How's that for confidence in a book! For these statements, the Waldenses were ridiculed by Pope Pius II because Roman Catholics have always thought they were the true orthodox Christians and claimed they have the one true religion and it doesn't depend solely upon a book. We know better than they do, because of the plain truth of the scripture, that much of what they base their religion upon can't be found within fifty miles of the Bible. Pope Pius II ridiculed the Waldenses for putting all of their faith in the Bible while he wrote his own filthy, erotic poetry and ripped the scriptures right out of the hands of the true Christians. He was a dirty hypocrite! The Catholic religion has always produced more than one authority so it can choose which one it wants to

claim as its authority, depending on the situation. The Catholic Church is so opportunistic and chameleon-like that it holds the Bible, the writings of the church fathers, and the traditions of the church as equal authorities; but once a situation arises where the "authorities" contradict (and they do), one has to be chosen over the other. Well, well, well, which one do you think the church chooses? Whichever one suits its ambition at the time, that's which one. So then, the three aren't "equal" authorities. The issue has always been final authority, and the Waldenses knew what their final authority was. It wasn't some sinful pope or priest; it was God's Book. The Waldenses had so much confidence in the Book that it was the very words of God that were spoken on their lips as they were drowned, burned at the stake, suffocated in the caves they were hiding out in, and many other awful methods of torture that the hellish Catholic Church could imagine.

A Christian without the words of God, practically speaking (many Christians own a copy of the scriptures, but they might as well not because they don't ever read it), doesn't have the same confidence as those that do possess them and spend time in them. I often talk to people who are members of modern churches, some of them Baptist, and they don't have the same confidence as the Bible-believing men that I spend time around. In churches where the Bible isn't preached, the congregation is often given a velvet-tongued oratory that leaves them feeling great when they walk out of the

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Continued from 15 church building, but as soon as the feelings change (and they certainly do, often within a few minutes), they are left without any more confidence than they entered the church building with. Where a preacher does attempt to use the Bible in his preaching, unless he's preaching from a KJV 1611 and believes it to be the perfect scriptures, there isn't the same amount of confidence produced in the hearer.

For instance, in John 4 (KJV 1611), when Christ is speaking with the Samaritan woman, He says in verses 21-22, **“Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.”** If a preacher stands in a pulpit with a so-called Living Bible, he will read, *“The time is coming, ma’am, when we will no longer be concerned about whether to worship the Father here or in Jerusalem. For it’s not where we worship that counts, but how we worship—is our worship spiritual and real?”* Christ was so polite, wasn't He, calling her *“ma’am”*?! Must have been a southern plantation owner on the Living Bible committee translating that part of the New Testament! Anyway, back to reality, notice the word **“know”** is completely removed from the passage. Jesus Christ was explaining to the woman that He knew some things and that He was confident in what He worshiped. At the same time, he was trying to prove to her that she didn't have the same confidence and she *didn't* know what

she was even worshiping. The Living Bible translators took the words right out of the text and replaced them with some mealy-mouthed, politically-correct speech that the Lord would have never even thought of saying! Do you see that? Somebody wants to take away your confidence in God's words, and it goes deeper than just the egotistic translators who think they are smarter than God; it's the devil who's leading them. So if a preacher is using anything but the authoritative King James Version of 1611 in his pulpit, he's not filling his congregation with confidence. He's filling them with a compromising spirit that gives them nothing on which to stand firmly.

Here's another example from the same book, the Gospel of John. In 7:17 - the King James Version says, **“If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.”** If a preacher stands in his pulpit with the New International Version (NIV), he reads, *“Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.”* Once again, the idea of knowing the truth with confidence is completely taken away. “Finding out about a teaching” is not the same as “knowing the doctrine.” One is the speech of a confident man; the other is of a compromising, effeminate “speaker.” The list goes on and on, but there isn't enough space to give every account. Rather, here are a few things that the Christian confidently knows in this life as he serves the Lord Jesus Christ. Of course, they

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are found in one Book.

First of all, the Christian *knows* the truth. John 8:32 says, **“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”**

In a world literally filled with half-truths, half-lies, and just outright lies, the Christian can confidently stand upon the truth. It would be bad enough if the world was the only source of these lies, but as the scriptures predicted in 1 Timothy 4:1-2, the pulpits are often the source of half-truths and outright lies. It is no light matter to have the truth and to know it. Sometimes in the Herrnhut-style lives that Christians can often live, they get to a place where they take for granted the simple truths of the scripture that many have never heard. At Herrnhut, the Moravians Christian David and Count Nicolaus von Zinzendorf wanted to establish a protective atmosphere for the Bible believers of the day. Herrnhut means “The Lord’s Watch.” The Christians living at Herrnhut were mostly Bohemian Brethren who joined together after John Huss was burned at the stake in 1415. They were fleeing persecution by the Catholic Church and found refuge at Zinzendorf’s Berthelsdorf estates. So what follows is not intended to come down hard on the Moravian Christians who were looking for protection for their families, but is intended to point out how some Christians can become so isolated in their own lives, they begin to take some basic truths for granted.

No doubt the Moravians were holy people that were kept from much of the sin and temptation of

the world outside of the walls of their Christian fortress, and as many know, they eventually sent out some foreign missionaries to remote parts of the world to preach the gospel. So they obviously had a burden for foreign missions. But since they had very little contact with the outside world, they soon forgot that there were many right outside the walls of Herrnhut that possibly had never been given the truth of the scriptures. John Wesley visited Herrnhut once and observed this very fact—that though the Moravians were certainly a holy people that were corporately concerned for foreign missions, they were not individually living according to the great commission of Mark 16:15—**“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”** They had forgotten that they had a responsibility to be giving the truth to those right outside their walls. After being rejected several pulpits in England, Wesley soon after said, “The world is my parish,” and began preaching outdoors with George Whitfield.

The point is, we very often take for granted the truth that we know. How many people wandering around on the earth today don’t know for sure what will happen to them when they die?! How many are literally driving themselves mad over some very basic truths that you and I know with confidence? Even when a Christian is presented with a situation or circumstance where the truth is not clearly known, he can still get light from the words of God and can have discernment about the situation.

Psalm 119:130 says, **“The**

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**entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.**" God's light on an unclear situation is as much understanding as any man could ask for, and you have that light as a Christian if you're spending time in God's words. The Bible-believing Christian knows the truth with confidence.

Secondly, **"...we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose"** (Rom. 8:28). The Christian knows that the circumstances of his life are those carefully wrought in his life by a faithful Father who knows what he has need of before he even asks Him. Some may say, "I'm in a pretty bad situation right now, and there is no possible way that this could be turned into something good." There are some things that can happen in this life that temporarily leave us feeling that way, but it's only a temporary thought for the Christian who is putting his faith in what God says. The Christian who is spending time in God's words daily will be shown God's purpose through circumstances and trials that he may not understand and which may seem so awful that they couldn't possibly be wrought for good.

You see, it's when you spend time with the Bible that you gain God's mind about things. Quite simply, the reason why we temporarily get our thinking off sometimes is because we don't know the mind of the Lord. If we could just see into the future a little ways, we might say with more confidence that we know **"all things work together for good."**

Spending time in the scripture is what will give you the mind of the Lord and build your confidence.

Isaiah 55:9 says, **"For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."** We need our thoughts to be higher than they naturally would be so we can understand His higher ways as much as humanly possible.

But the Christian doesn't have to wander around in life wondering what the purpose of his life and the circumstances in it are all about. Many a lost man has misunderstood the hard circumstances of his life and has resorted to alcohol, drugs, or some other means of "deliverance" and soon found himself in a more hopeless situation than before. This is mainly because he is not saved and doesn't have the confidence in knowing that his circumstances are authored by a faithful Father who intends them to be wrought together for good. You and I have this confidence, and we often take it for granted.

Third, we know that if the Lord Jesus carries His coming and our frail bodies of dust are placed in the grave, our souls will be with the Lord in heaven. Even our bodies will not stay in the grave but will be resurrected one day as a glorified body.

Second Corinthians 5:1 says, **"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."**

Second Corinthians 4:14 says,

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**“Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you.”**

In these two verses is contained the doctrines of the resurrection and of the glorified body. These are two of the greatest doctrines in all of the Bible for the Christian individually. The thought that one day these sinful, weak, aching bodies will be changed into glorious bodies (Phil. 3:20–21) is one of the greatest individual promises in all of the Bible.

Often when I visit the nursing home, I visit with some people who have been bedridden for up to fifteen years now. Literally stuck in a bed for fifteen years. Many can't even get out of bed long enough to use the bathroom or get into a wheelchair and head outside for a little while to get some fresh air. They have to lay in bed, often in the same position, for 24 hours a day, every day, because their bodies have become so weak and frail. They can't do much more than just shift a leg or an arm in the bed to try and get more comfortable. When I visit with these elderly people, there aren't a whole lot of encouraging things I can tell them about their current condition, if I'm going to be honest. I would be lying if I told them to keep their heads up because one day the Lord will bring them healing in this life. I would be a fool to tell them to just “think positive thoughts” and “have faith” and one day God will heal them. Not only are these things not scriptural, they simply aren't true, no matter how good they temporarily make someone feel. The truth is,

in this life, their bodies are going to continue to deteriorate and weaken until one day the body finally gives up the ghost.

But I don't just leave them without encouragement. There are some things that I can promise them with confidence if they are saved. So I open up my authority, given to me by God's own hand; and I read them Philippians 3:20–21, which says, **“For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.”**

I tell them confidently, based on the authority of the scripture, that when they lay eyes upon the Lord Jesus Christ, their frail old body will be changed into a glorious body. I have seen men and women in their 80s and 90s light up like a sunbeam when I read verses like these from the scripture.

God's Book gives confidence to the Christian. In an age where the lost world is becoming more and more confident in their sin and deception, the Christians ought to be gaining more and more confidence in our Saviour and in His words. Paul was confident (Acts 28:31; Phil. 1:6), David was confident (Psa. 27:3), and so was every other man that put his confidence in the Lord and His words, and not man. Are you?

**“Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward”** (Heb. 10:35).

# Who Was the Real Illiterate?

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman  
(Part 1 of 2)

One of the greatest arguments put forth by Mohammedans for the inspiration of their so-called “Holy” Koran is the fact that its author could neither read nor write: *Mohammed was illiterate*. Some of the modern imams don’t agree with that because they’ve been trapped so many times for talking like fools that they figured something had to be done about it, but for centuries, Mohammed’s illiteracy was a major “proof” that the Koran was inspired. After all, how could a fellow produce a book when he couldn’t read or write.

The one thing upon which all the imams agree is that *Mohammed never wrote one word of the Koran*. Everything in the Koran was written by *somebody else* whose name (or names) is *never given*. The Koran was written by *Arab scribes* who picked up pieces of what Mohammed said from here and there, from hither and yon, through a period of months and years; *Mohammed never wrote one line of it*. Everyone knows he didn’t do it.

As far as where Mohammed got his material, the imams have always taught that he got everything in the Koran from a *600-winged angel*—“Gabriel” (“Holy” Hadith, Bukhari, Vol. IV, Book 54, No. 455). Allah never said one word to Mohammed. *That* is what the most knowledgeable imams teach about the author of the Koran.

Of course, at the last minute, the myth was slipped in that although not one word of the Koran originated with Mohammed, either in speaking or writing, that the 600-winged angel had gotten the word of the Koran from some book somewhere which

Allah supposedly wrote. Of course, *that book never showed up the entire time Mohammed was supposed to be quoting it*. No one ever saw it before or after the Koran was written. No “Koran” ever existed while Mohammed was “quoting” it.

When that fellow over in Europe drew those cartoons of Mohammed, he was just trying to see if anyone was *sane*. How could anyone take Mohammed seriously? After all, no “prophet” could be as stupid as Mohammed when it comes to God, human nature, world history, and mankind in general. Anybody who reads the Bible can see right away that when it comes to *prophecy*, Mohammed is a silly caricature and a bad joke.

Somehow, both Allah and Mohammed missed more than *100 prophecies* that were fulfilled in history. Every one of them was written anywhere from *fifty to 1,900 years* before they were fulfilled. And just for good measure, the Bible’s prophets threw in another *400 prophecies* which were to be fulfilled 1,500–2,400 years after the Koran was written.

Altogether, there are *1,817 detailed, historical prophecies* found in Genesis–Revelation. There are *737 subjects* addressed in those prophecies. They take up 8,352 of the Bible’s 31,102 verses; that is, at least 27% of the Bible is dedicated to *prophecy*. The *Koran* only makes *four* attempts at historical prophecy, and *none* of them demonstrate the supernatural character of Bible prophecy. One was about a battle in which Mohammed fought. Not only could he affect the outcome of his prophecy, but there

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# Who Was the Real Illiterate?

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was only a fifty-fifty chance of it being fulfilled. Another "prophecy" about the battle was written after the event, meaning it wasn't a prophecy at all. A third "prophecy" never took place, so that made Mohammed a *false* prophet. And the fourth was a poor attempt on Mohammed's part at copying Daniel's prophecy on the Roman Empire (Sura 30:1-4 cf. Dan. 2:40-43).

Compare all of that to Jesus Christ fulfilling 48 prophecies at His first coming against odds of *one out of ten to the 157th power*. No professional gambler would touch odds like that. Mohammed didn't even attempt it. Mohammed as a "prophet" is a *tragic* joke.

A satirical political cartoon would be a tempered, even-handed way of handling an egomaniac like Mohammed, who said that to obey *him* was to obey *Allah* (Sura 4:80). The delu-

ed megalomaniac said the earth was made for *him* and Allah ("Holy" Hadith, Bukhari, Vol. IV, no. 392). Why wouldn't you make a caricature of someone as stuck on himself as that?

The thing that startles the Bible believer about the Koran is not merely how *dull, inappropriate, pagan, and uncivilized* it is, but how *stupid* the writer (or speaker) is when it comes to history, human nature, biblical prophecy, and even something mundane as business occupations and weapons of war. I have often wondered who was the true illiterate when it came to Allah and Mohammed; I rather think it was *both*.

I have checked Allah and his "prophet" out really carefully. I don't profess to be an imam, but I do profess to have checked out the Koran in *five different editions*. I have been through the Koran *seventeen* times,

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# Who Was the Real Illiterate?

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and I have it as marked up with notes as I have my Bible. Having read a book a day for well over fifty years, if there were ever a dumber writer who ever lived on this earth than Mohammed when it came to spiritual things, I don't know who it would be.

You say, "Why do you talk like that, Ruckman?" *Because I can read.* I learned how to read back in third grade. I can give you several examples of why anybody who can read the Koran or the Hadith would caricature Mohammed.

First of all, take Jesus Christ's "track record." All Mohammedans accept Jesus as one of Allah's "prophets"; they just believe He is *inferior* to Mohammed. If that's the case, what is Jesus Christ doing showing up with eyewitnesses (Luke 1:2) to *21 miracles of healing*? The Lord Jesus Christ healed a leper, healed a centurion's servant, healed Peter's mother-in-law, delivered two demoniacs, restored a withered hand, healed a demoniac who was blind and mute, delivered the Canaanite woman's daughter, delivered the lunatic boy, healed two blind men, healed a woman with hemorrhages—and that's just the ones from one book, Matthew. Those healing miracles go all the way through Mark, Luke, and John: He healed a deaf man with a speech impediment, He healed a palsied man, He healed an infirmed man at Bethesda, He healed a man who had been blind from birth, He healed a woman bent double, He healed a man with dropsy, He healed a nobleman's son, He healed a servant's ear. Where do you read anything like that in the Koran?

Mohammed is supposed to be Allah's "apostle." Well, if he were Allah's apostle, why couldn't he do what Jesus Christ could do? Jesus Christ is called "**the Apostle and High Priest of our profession**" (Heb. 3:1). If Mohammed is superior to Jesus Christ, then certainly he ought to be able to do *more* than an inferior Apostle could do. Where are the accounts in the Koran? *There aren't any.* Mohammed couldn't cure anybody of a headache or sore throat.

Why, Mohammed couldn't even measure up to *Moses*, much less Jesus Christ. Here's Mohammed claiming to be Allah's "prophet" and saying *he* is the prophet like unto Moses instead of Jesus Christ (Deut. 18:18 cf. Acts 3:22–25). Do you know what Moses did when he started his ministry? He performed *miracles* (Exod. 4:1–9, 28:30, 7:9–12, 19–20, 8:5–6, 16–19, etc.). Jesus Christ could perform miracles. He calmed the storm, walked on water, caused Peter, James, and John to catch a great draught of fish, fed the multitudes on two occasions with a small handful of fish and bread, turned water into wine, etc. What's the matter with Mohammed? Why couldn't he perform any miracle as Allah's "prophet" and "apostle"? Mohammed was a perfect blank.

This monumental lack of evidence on the part of Mohammed and the Koran doesn't stop with the inability to *do* anything that Moses or Jesus did; it goes far beyond that. Mohammed had a lack of *real life experience*. When Jesus Christ taught, He was able to illustrate His points from real life. He spoke of houses built on

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a proper foundation; He spoke of new cloth being sewed onto old cloth, and of new wine in old wine skins; He spoke of a farmer sowing seed and the soils that received it; He spoke of tares imitating wheat; He spoke of tiny mustard seed; He spoke of hidden treasure and a merchant finding a pearl of great value. He spoke of a shepherd losing a sheep, of a woman losing a dowry coin, and of a wayward son; He spoke of a King and his slaves; He spoke of a landowner and his tenants; He spoke of a wedding banquet and guests; He spoke of ten bridesmaids; He spoke of a creditor and his debtors; He spoke of a man from a despised race showing kindness to his enemy; He spoke of a rich fool; etc. Jesus Christ gave forty illustrations from real life to connect with His audience.

You won't find anything like that in the Koran. Mohammed knew how to be a camel trader, he knew how to be a military dictator, he knew how to fornicate with 23 women, and he knew how to torture and kill people in the most horrific fashions possible. *That* was the extent of his life experience. That's why Mohammed had to spread his religion by the sword. The Koran has nothing in it to show that Allah has any understanding of his creation at all. Outside of pagan, Arabian superstitions, there are no real-life illustrations that show how a spiritual truth is to be applied.

But not only does the Bible show an understanding of real-life experiences and problems, it also shows an understanding of *religious* life that Mohammed and the Koran are sorely lacking. The Bible gives you a list of

*priests* who provide access to God. Mohammed understood nothing of bringing someone to God outside of reciting the *Shahada* (the Moslem "confession of faith": "There is no God but Allah, and Mohammed is his prophet").

Here is Abraham, whom Mohammed said was a "Moslem." But here is a *priest* who offers Abraham bread and wine and to whom Abraham paid tithes—Melchizedek. The writer of Hebrews says: "**Now consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils**" (Heb. 7:4). Mohammed couldn't "**consider**" it or even discuss it.

The Bible tells you about priests who were in charge of national worship (Aaron), who raised Samuel (Eli), who anointed Solomon as King (Zadok), who saved Joash from a murderous queen (Jehoiada), who stopped King Uzziah when he tried to usurp the priesthood in his arrogance (Azariah), who cleared the Temple of idols (Hilkiah), etc. Where are the high-ranking religious officials in the Koran? What little there is in there was taken from the Bible, and even then, many times it was historically inaccurate, because Allah and Gabriel must have been illiterate themselves when they gave Mohammed the revelations of the Koran. A serious, historical account of religious leaders is strangely absent from the Koran. Mohammed doesn't recognize any spiritual leader but himself.

That's not all. Here is a man responsible for blighting humanity with a book where his people are com-

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# Who Was the Real Illiterate?

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 mandated to kill anyone who doesn't believe what they believe. Here is a military leader in charge of battles and taking men into combat, and he knows nothing about the instruments of war. What kind of a nut do you suppose a man would be who was a military dictator and couldn't tell you *anything* about the tools of his trade. Was he deaf, dumb, and blind the whole trip?

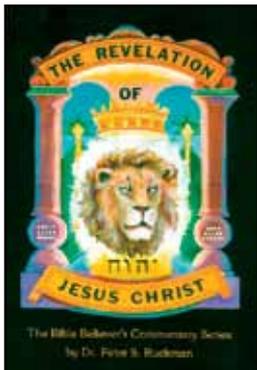
The Bible speaks of armor, axes, battering rams, bows and arrows, chariots, helmets, military engines, shields, daggers, slings and stones, spears, trumpets, goads, etc. Mo-

ammed knew nothing about such things, although he was a military dictator. He couldn't name you ten weapons his followers used to kill "infidels."

How's that for a dummy? That's more than being illiterate and not being able to read or write. That's not knowing about what in the world he's talking. That's Mohammed (or is it Allah or Gabriel) showing total ignorance of civilization, occupations, history, etc. What Mohammed did mention came out of a Book (*the Bible*) which recorded the facts 500–2,000 years before Mohammed was born.

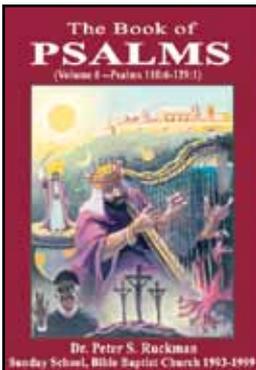
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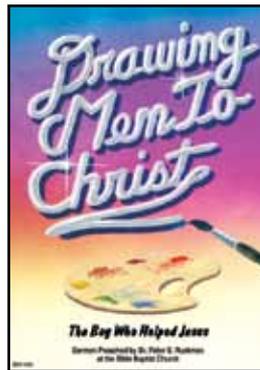
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# Deadly Diseases in the Body of Christ

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

(Part Five of Six)

We have been examining the malignancies present in the visible body of Christ in America in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. *There is no cure for apostasy.* God's chosen people in the Old Testament reached the point where God the Holy Spirit likened them to a deathly wounded, sick, pus-oozing, bleeding, helpless mass of rotting flesh (Isa. 1:5–6). The people God called out from the Gentiles **“for his name”** (Acts 15:14) started down that road between 1880 (RV) and 1901 (ASV), and the infections took hold in earnest between 1963 (NASV) and 1975 (NKJV).

American Christianity got into this condition through the work of “quack” surgeons and doctors who professed to be spiritual enough and intelligent enough to remove the King James Authorized Holy Bible from the desks, pulpits, and minds of the English-speaking peoples. They did this after the Holy Spirit revealed English would be the universal language of the last days (see our commentary on Rev. 13:1–2) and that no Bible had any **“power”** in it unless it came from a king (Eccl. 8:4). These quacks infected all their “patients” with their rotten, stinking infidelity. They put their patients on gurneys and hauled them off to the “intensive care unit” where they were reduced to the quacks’ level of arrogance and stupidity. We continue here to

examine the malignant tumors that affect the body of Christ in American Christianity.

44) *Romans 16:18*. The agents of concealment continue covering up for the Scholars’ Union and all the “good,” “godly” men in the Alexandrian Cult. In this verse, the Holy Spirit identified the preaching and teaching styles of all lying apostates. So the lying apostates who read the verse had to change **“good words and fair speeches”** to something else because **“good words and fair speeches”** were exactly how they made their living deceiving Christians and non-Christians alike. That is how they spread their deadly communicable diseases.

45) *1 Timothy 6:20*. The diseased invalids had to get rid of the word **“science,”** as the AV used the word in a *bad* sense (just as the Greek philosophers were identified as *superstitious* and *ignorant* in Acts 17:22–23). All the modern Bible critics, correctors, and revisers use “science,” “scientific Greek texts,” and “scientific study methods” constantly to reduce their readers and students to their level of ignorance. So when their pet word pops up in a negative connotation, they simply *erase it*.

46) *1 Thessalonians 5:22*. Here the 323-plus phony “Bibles,” translated by the spiritual “quacks,” tell you that it is perfectly all right to bend over and tie your shoe lace in your neighbor’s watermelon patch;

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# Deadly Diseases in the Body of Christ

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it is perfectly "chic" to sit out in front of your church and drink ice tea or water out of a Seagram's Seven whiskey bottle.

To justify hippies, tattoos, "joint" smokers, bikinis, short shorts, unisex hairdos, social drinking, "contemporary Christian music," etc., the sick revisers and translators took out the word "**appearance**" so your conscience would be as jaded and seared as theirs (1 Tim. 4:2) when you continually did things that *appeared evil* without actually *being evil*. Thus your testimony before a lost world would be killed deader than a mackerel on the beach from last month.

47) *Numbers 33:52*. Again, in order to defile and sear your conscience as much as possible (Tit. 1:15; 1 Tim. 4:2), these diseased vermin removed the "**pictures**" from the verse. *That way you could enjoy them in your living room*. To inoculate yourself against the germs being spread by the Bible revisers and their newer versions, check out Ezekiel 8:7–12; Matthew 6:23; Genesis 3:6, 20:10; 2 Samuel 11:2; and Joshua 7:21. That will give you six good scriptural reasons for leaving the pictures in Numbers 33:52 where the AV translators placed them.

48) *James 5:16*. To placate the pope and back up his miserable, antiscritptural traditions (see how they covered up for the pope in Zech. 11:17), the newer translations (ASV, NASV, RSV, NRSV,

ESV, NIV, including the "New" KING JAMES VERSION) have decided that "*sins*" should be confessed, not "**faults**." You see, the verse was talking about people confessing to *people*, not confessing *sins to God*. Confessing sins to a human priest is a Catholic virus that has infected Protestant "Bible" versions.

49) *1 Timothy 6:5*. Here the revisers, translators, and publishers of the corrupt modern versions transmit one of the most remarkable perversions of the scriptures you will find. The true reading can be found in *four ancient translations* (Coptic, Syriac, Old Latin, and Gothic), *nine uncial manuscripts* (Aleph, B, C, D, E, F, A, W, and K), *eight reliable versions* (Valera, Luther, Diodati, Karoli (Visoly), D'Almeida, Geneva, Coverdale, and the *Bishop's Bible*), and the Authorized Holy Bible of 1611 itself.

You will find the perverted reading in the ASV, RSV, NASV, Good News for Modern Man, NIV, NKJV, CEV, TNIV, and ESV. In those diseased versions, some money-mad, publicity-mad, apostate fanatic has told you that godliness is NOT gain, even though the very next verse in the same chapter says IT IS. The dirty, slimy, covetous, lying scoundrels who changed verse 5 all believed and taught that you are to judge their "**godliness**" by their financial, social, or publicity "**gain**"; that is, the proof that they are "godly" is the number of church

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# Deadly Diseases in the Body of Christ

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members they have, the number of students they have enrolled, or the size of their schools, campuses, buildings, etc. They are basically *humanistic materialists* at heart.

50) *Matthew 23:14*. The whole verse is omitted in the infected new versions, but in an "Authorized King James Version the material is given *twice* (see also Luke 20:46). The reason is "**God will shortly bring it to pass**" (Gen. 41:32).

What could be so offensive in the verse that the sick "quacks" would have to eliminate completely one of the two mentions of its truth? You see the same thing in Mark 9:43 where the modern versions get rid of two of the three mentions of the fires of hell. Someone must be "nervous in the service."

Now what's the problem here? Well, someone is receiving "**greater damnation**" for extorting money out of widows by charging them for "high Masses" where "**long prayer**" is made to get their dead husbands out of Purgatory. Who, oh who, could that be, I wonder (see our comments on Zech. 11:17; James 5:16 in this series)?

51) *Hebrews 3:16*. What?! The new versions have *all* the Jews who left Egypt perishing before they got to Canaan. Why you sick jackass! Couldn't you read Deuteronomy 4:10? Moses was speaking to *thousands* of Jews who crossed the Red Sea before they crossed the Jordan River with Joshua. What kind of education would anyone

who could read fifth-grade English have to have to understand that? Why, you wouldn't have to study Greek or Hebrew, or even graduate from high school, to get that straight. But the ASV, NASV, RSV, NIV, and the ESV didn't get it straight. **NEITHER DID THE "NEW" KING JAMES VERSION!** The spiritual syphilis must have gone to their brains.

52) *2 Samuel 21:19*. Now after seeing the stupidity of the revisers and translators in the last reference, one might ask, "How much dumber can a dumbbell get?" The answer would be found in *2 Samuel 21:19*. The incredible nin-compoops who came out with the ASV, NASV, NIV, RSV, and ESV tell you, just as serious as a heart attack, that *David never killed Goliath*, in spite of the fact that every printed edition of the Bible published since Gutenberg invented the printing press in 1456 recorded in *1 Samuel 17* that David did. But thank God for "older and better manuscripts" and the marvelous "scientific discoveries" of "good, godly scholars." The graduates of Princeton, Harvard, Yale, Louisville, Cambridge, Oxford, Philadelphia, Dallas, New Orleans, Los Angeles, Chicago, Stuttgart, etc., finally delivered us of the terrible delusion we picked up in Sunday school that David knocked Goliath's brains out with a rock and then relieved Goliath's shoulders of his head. Now we know that

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# Deadly Diseases in the Body of Christ

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"Elhanan the son of Jaareoregim" killed the giant.

"Death in the pot," man (2 Kings 4:40). Malaria, tuberculosis, the Spanish flu. In this case, more like a *brain tumor*.

53-54) *Job 19:26-27*. "How **readest thou?**" (Luke 10:26). Are you sure some demon-possessed jackleg isn't trying to infect you with spiritual GRID?

If you are reading a King James Authorized Version, Job says he will get his body of flesh **BACK** *after* the worms eat it. Furthermore, he says that his conscious "ego," known as "Job"—the same one that indwelt his body of flesh when he said verses 26-27—would see God through a man's eyes even after

those eyes had rotted in the grave for several thousand years.

Is that what your brand spanking new, "better," "clearer," "easier-to-understand" "Bible" says? Or does it say, "*WITHOUT my flesh*"? How about, "*My heart is consumed within me*"? Or maybe, "*Whom I . . . shall see, on my side*"? Had enough salmonella or E. coli for one meal? If you wrote, "Do you see that seam in the cement," the reading would be just as valid.

In our next issue, we will wrap up the rotting corpse of American Christianity, which became infected with apostasy through the "carriers" in the Scholars' Union and the Alexandrian Cult. They removed the only hope of recovery from this affliction: the Holy Bible of 1611.



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# Is He Looking?

By Robert Militello

**“And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous; I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know”** (Gen. 18:20–21).

What kind of cry or noise came up into the Lord's ears from those two wicked cities? If you happen to be in New York City on Halloween night, travel down to Greenwich Village and take in the parade of sodomites, degenerates, transgender whackos, pedophiles, and druggies. Listen to the noise that belches forth from these depraved miscreants. Remember the noise Moses and Joshua heard as they approached the camp of Israelites partying before the golden calf?

**“And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, There is a noise of war in the camp”** (Exod. 32:17).

Those who are filled with devils roar against the God of purity, virtue, and holiness. No surprise here.

Would our Christian forefathers look with approval at the “Christian” rock music used to get young people into church? What you hear at ear-splitting rock concerts and churches where Satan is the choirmaster are the same exact sounds, only the name Jesus pops up in the “churches” to fool the suckers. Lack of spiritual discernment is far and away what most characterizes the body of Christ in America just before the rapture. What passes for spiritual worship is noise, and what preaching there is refreshes

the soul like a glass of warm water in July. What does the Lord see, and will He go down to get a closer look (as if He really needed to) to justify His decision to take the church out of the world? Does He not see His beloved being wooed by this world and more ready than ever to compromise biblical standards in order to show “God's love” to everyone? What the Lord sees makes Him gag (Rev. 3:16), but who wants to consider that when saying “God loves everyone” can better demonstrate your piety and make you feel spiritual? “Make love, not war”; that's what the hippies promoted during the sexual revolution of the sixties. It was “cool” to talk about Jesus then, so long as you didn't dwell on sin, judgment, or hell.

So where are we today? The church professes Christ and holds hands with the world (see 1 Kings 18:21). Have men ever learned from history?

**“And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly”** (2 Pet. 2:6).

Will Hollywood escape the wrath of God? What do you think?

**“The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good”** (Prov. 15:3).

I thank God for America (I wasn't born here), and I thank God Mrs. Clinton lost, but America's spiritual condition is worsening. If you don't see it, you're living in a bubble. I'll give you an example.

A while back I noticed a change

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# Is He Looking?

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in the attitude of New Yorkers being handed tracts. It used to be that the vast majority of passersby would ignore you. Everyone in New York City is in a hurry, so I guess the Lord had to knock down the World Trade Center Towers to get everyone's attention. Sadly, that pause in the every-day madness of life in New York didn't last long. Now, what is changing—and I witnessed it—is the growing animosity toward street-corner evangelism. Indifference is turning into anger, and sometimes, even rage. Our society is showing the symptoms of a coming heart attack. When the arteries leading to the heart narrow because of a plaque buildup, big trouble is about to show up. Hearts are hardening in America. Our circulatory system is calcified by narcissism, covetousness, love of comfort, and disdain for the cross of Christ. Evil is coming out of the closet and often dresses up on Sundays and goes to church.

**“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people”** (Prov. 14:34).

Judgment is coming, and “Making America Great Again” is not even close to any kind of real spiritual revival.

On any given night, or day for that matter, can any Christian imagine the evil, lewdness, and spiritual defilement that the eyes of God behold? God's holiness is an attribute of His deity that has been preached on less and less over the years. Has the body of Christ allowed itself to become more accommodating of sin? What do you think? Look at Colossians 3:5–10. You wouldn't think Paul would have

to tell Christians to stop lying to each other. Colossians and the letter to the Laodiceans (Rev. 3:14–22) go hand in hand. Someone's affections are slipping toward worldliness. A holy God seems to be more loving nowadays and less likely to judge sin. This is a dangerous drift, and it is leading to an awful confrontation for many at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Our eyes are failing when it comes to God's holiness. **“Anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see”** (Rev. 3:18b).

When I read Habakkuk, especially chapter 1, I get a sense of the prophet's disgust with what he sees. Look at verses 2, 3, and 4, and note the frustration the prophet experiences. Look at verse 13—what a statement!

**“Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?”**

Stated in the vernacular, Habakkuk is asking, “How far are you going to let this go, O Holy One of Israel?” Who can see the bottom of a barrel clogged with mud, slime, and debris? We obviously can't, but the One who sees and marks every act of evil and wickedness can. What will He see on Halloween night in Greenwich Village, not far at all from where God's wrath fell on the World Trade Center? He'll see “men” grabbing each other by the genitals and “women” tongue kissing each other with a passion right out of hell. What does He see on “Fat Tuesday” night just when New Orleans

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# Is He Looking?

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praises debauchery, calling it "Mardi Gras."

While the liquor is flowing and the hormones are raging, someone stands behind a curtain, one which divides the physical world from the spiritual. Judgment, long delayed but repeatedly promised in God's word, reads itself.

**"In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote"** (Dan. 5:5).

When a holy God puts fear on a man, it is like something convulsing the body with spasms of terror never before experienced by that unfortunate soul. My dad, who saw combat in Germany, told me of men who broke down whimpering like infants while soiling their combat fatigues. This wicked world knows nothing of the terror that is about to fall after the removal of a saltless church that sickened the Lord after being snatched like Lot and his family. Millions of American Christians spent their last days afraid to talk about hell and coming judgment, but eager to say, "God loves you!" What happened to these Christian men? Did they transgender and become placid females?

**"The wicked flee when no man pursueth: BUT THE RIGHTEOUS ARE BOLD AS A LION"** (Prov. 28:1).

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

Is wickedness flourishing, or is

America becoming great again? Are you spending more time in God's word or watching the TV and computer screens? I know what rules America more than most of those in politics; do you? **"For the love of money is the root of all evil"** (1 Tim. 6:10a). Greed, greed, greed—God bless America. Me first and you next! If you think our nation will make a course correction in its spiritual life, you need a lobotomy. Get in the Book.

Jesus said, **"And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man"** (Luke 17:26). What was it like in Noah's day? **"And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth [see Psa. 92:7 again], and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually"** (Gen. 6:5).

Filthy imaginations are the devil's toilet, and not a few of God's people, thanks to the Internet, swim in there.

**"For the time is come that judgment MUST BEGIN AT THE HOUSE OF GOD: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?"** (1 Pet. 4:17).

Our God takes delight in caring for us. What He sees us do will either please Him or grieve Him. No one sees what you do in secret, but He does. Some of the mothers of my Jewish friends in Brooklyn were fond of saying, "God sees what you do." I must admit that Jewish boys then had a much greater sense of guilt than Gentile boys. No doubt, the Holy One of Israel has put something in their DNA that sets them apart. Every

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# Is He Looking?

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Christian can get that holy fear of God in his spiritual DNA by osmosis from putting God's words before his eyes. TV, computers, and smart phones will keep you breathing the atmosphere of this world, and God's holiness will drift further and further from your consciousness. This is what Paul warned about.

**“Therefore LET US NOT SLEEP, AS DO OTHERS; but let us watch and be sober”** (1 Thess. 5:6).

What is there about American culture that pleases the Lord and does not offend His holiness? How about our music, our dress, the shows we watch, and the sports and entertainment idols that capture the hearts of millions living lives of emptiness, devoid of any real joy? Our God sees in a moment what we will never see if we lived ten lifetimes and traveled across America from the Atlantic to the Pacific while never settling in any one place. We don't want to see what the Lord sees. Sadness, disgust, and profound revulsion would overwhelm us. Our minds would fail to function normally and our desire to eat would vanish if we saw just an infinitesimal amount of the evil the Lord sees in a split second of time.

Modern inventions have given us more leisure time and more opportunity for the devil to exploit the evil that exists in the human heart. For example, since the rise of social media, there has been a horrifying increase in school shootings. Is there a connection? Think of how many young people read messages on their devices that make their lives dangerously sad and lonely. Many are bullied, taunted,

and threatened while parents and school officials are kept in the dark. Evil spreads so quickly today. With bedroom doors closed and computer screens on, a world of devilment is shown to young people and our society is paying the price. Does anyone really think that by saying, “God is love” and letting your light shine, a holy God will be pacified? Must judgment come? Does the daylight say to the night stay away, or the tide roll out and not return?

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

There is a cup of iniquity being filled to the brim as you read this. Lines that kept many back from gross acts of evil are being crossed. Suicides, the ultimate act of selfishness, have increased dramatically in the past ten years. Demonic activity is surging so much so that the Vatican has ordered training for priests in the rite of exorcism. The only thing the current pope in Rome has said that has upset haters of truth is that the devil is real and wickedness has spiritual, and not just psychological, roots. Other than that, this Jesuit pope remains the darling of the New-World-Order crowd. It is the power that comes off the pages of a King James Bible that keeps evil in check. No Catholic priest or guidance counselor or psychiatrist is acquainted with this power. Evil will intensify as we near the end, and man's best efforts to check its progress will prove to be of little or no value. Paul said that **“in the last days perilous times shall come”** (2 Tim. 3:1). He was referring to **“the last days”** of the

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# Is He Looking?

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church age, not the tribulation period which will have its own collection of horrors, disasters, and human casualties in the billions. We are still in the days of preparation for the slaughter that is to come.

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

Ever wondered how Noah continued to preach judgment when, except for his family, no one believed? What kept him from throwing in the towel and saying, “I quit; let them all go to hell”? Surely, every soulwinner has experienced this. We are living in a results-oriented society, and when we see no results, we are ready to move onto other things. A carnally-minded man sees things this way. Nevertheless, if you are saved, you have the mind of Christ, and you’re told to **“walk by faith”** and **“not by sight”** (2 Cor. 5:7). Still, we want to see fruit for our labor. That’s understandable.

Once, while discussing the value of goals and achieving success with another Christian, I asked my brother about staying with a work that wasn’t growing. Would you call Jesus a successful pastor? Did He achieve results in the way we think? What about a ministry that begins with twelve, besides yourself, and after three-and-one-half years has eleven? He had negative growth, and if you consider carefully what came out of the Lord’s mouth, you’ll know why. Our Lord was all about commitment. God

must come first before family, country, friends, occupation, and your **“own life also”** (Luke 14:26). If that gets in the way of building a successful ministry, then what is success, really? What does the Lord see when He searches the hearts of His own people?

When I was a new Christian and was taught how the Lord would one day come for us, I thought about what I would be doing when He came. It was a holy fear, and I never wanted to lose it. One day, I spoke about this to an evangelical pastor on Staten Island, New York. I told him how great it was to be saved and living in the last days. He threw cold water on me immediately by telling me we have been in the last days for almost 2,000 years and that we could be here for many, many years to come. I wasn’t thrilled hearing that, but he referred to Hebrews 1:2a: **“Hath in these last days spoken to us by his Son.”** Not being familiar with God’s word and knowing nothing about how to rightly divide **“the word of truth”** (2 Tim. 2:15), I lost the wind in my sails. Thank God that didn’t last long. Now, what was the motive behind this man suppressing my zeal? Well, it didn’t take long for the Lord to show me, and this is why the Judgment Seat of Christ will be such a terror to so many saints. That’s the place where motives get naked.

This Staten Island pastor had a growing church. Many who had abandoned Catholicism were attending services there. These folks knew little of God’s word. The pastor used the NASV, a modern piece of garbage. Looking back, I see that these evan-

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# Is He Looking?

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gelical churches were nothing but halfway houses for new believers fed up with organized religion, but fearful of becoming committed Bible believers. The Lord provides places like this for millions of His children, just like a parent who puts his toddler in a sandbox so he can play. You won't grow in these places. Baby Christians in a crib are cute, but thirty years later, if they are still in a crib, they are not cute anymore—THEY ARE HIDEOUS! Are you growing in grace? Examine yourself. Well, it turns out this pastor had a big building program in the works and was going to sell it as hard as he could. He was always talking about his vision. Christians who showed great interest in the **"blessed hope"** (Tit. 2:13) were in his mind not good prospects for signing on to his vision.

Now, if truth be told, what are the real motives behind much of what we say and do? By putting the Lord's return way off into the future, plans for seeing "your vision" materialize have a much greater chance for success. Many of the folks going to this man's church were not poor. Parking lots, buildings, and landscaping cost money. Selling your vision might require you to tamp down enthusiasm that comes from expecting the Lord at any moment. How often does it happen that God's servants fall into the trap of putting their ministry before the Lord? It's a subtle deception and a very effective tool of the devil.

**"Nevertheless, I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love"** (Rev. 2:4).

Sadly, many ministers have a Catholic mindset and don't know it.

Catholics, not all, put Mary above the Lord, the created above the Creator. It's wicked; it is robbing the glory due unto the Lord exclusively. A "vision" can become an idol. If you believe the Lord is behind the rapid growth of these megachurches, get in the Book and ask the Lord to remove the scales over your eyes.

It's not just the rapid rise of evil that will bring the Lord near our planet to call His bride home. What is just as egregious, if not more so, is the devilment going on among God's people. Rebellion against God's authority has been growing steadily since 1881 with the publication of the Revised Version—a slap in the face to the One who gave us a pure text in 1611. Sincere Christian men who had a vision about how to make God's word more readable were dupes for Satan. Beware of men with visions and dreams. The minute one of these men talk about the Greek and the original manuscripts, and then correct God's word, you'll know there's a devil hiding in that man's voice box. Taking that literally may not be an exaggeration—amen?

There is a look that we will one day receive from the Lord that will be like nothing we know now. Peter got a look from the Lord after the rooster crowed. He wept uncontrollably. The purest eyes ever will look right through our souls when we stand before Him. Remember, not even **"the stars"** are **"pure in his sight"** (Job 25:5). Here's what we can expect.

**"But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a**

Continued on 36

# Is He Looking?

Continued from 35  
**refiner's fire, and like fuller's soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness"** (Mal. 3:2-3).

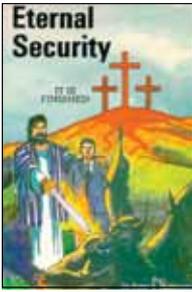
As a Catholic, I once believed in a place called "purgatory." There, after who knows how many years, I would be made clean and would then go to heaven. Now, I believe the Judgment Seat of Christ will do the necessary cleanup job. The Lord will have a church that is without **"spot, or wrinkle"** (Eph. 5:27). That Judgment Seat will be an ironing board after the stain remover has been thoroughly applied.

We carry about within our pathetic, mortal bodies the Holy Spirit of God—holy as the ground where Moses stood and was told to take off his shoes. That dirt by the bush was

made holy by the presence of the God of Israel. He lives in our spirit, and what does He see? Do you wash yourself daily with the word of God? Do you put on Christ each day and allow the Holy Spirit to feel comfortable within you? Have you opened up to Him all the rooms in your heart, or are there some closets you prefer to keep locked? Think about these things. **"Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling"** (Phil. 2:12b). Tremble now so you won't have to do much trembling when we appear before Him.

**"My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: WHEN SHALL I COME AND APPEAR BEFORE GOD?"** (Psa. 42:2).

Do you have that thirst of soul for God's presence that David had? Stay in the word and stay thirsty!



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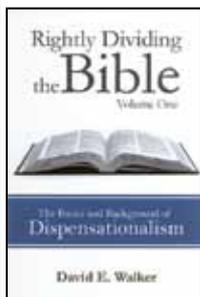


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## THE CREED OF THE ALEXANDRIAN CULT

1. There is **no final authority** but God.
2. Since God is a Spirit, there is **no final authority** that can be seen, heard, read, felt, or handled.
3. Since all books are material, there is **no book on this earth that is the final and absolute authority** on what is right and what is wrong, what constitutes truth and what constitutes error.
4. There **WAS** a series of writings one time which, **IF** they had all been put into a **BOOK** as soon as they were written the first time, **WOULD HAVE** constituted an infallible and final authority by which to judge truth and error.
5. However, this series of writings was lost, and the God who inspired them was **unable to preserve their content** through Bible-believing Christians at Antioch (Syria), where the first Bible teachers were (Acts 13:1), and where the first missionary trip originated (Acts 13:1-52), and where the word "*Christian*" originated (Acts 11:26).
6. So God chose to **ALMOST** preserve them through Gnostics and philosophers from Alexandria, Egypt, even though God called His Son **OUT** of Egypt (Matthew 2), Jacob **OUT** of Egypt (Genesis 49), Israel **OUT** of Egypt (Exodus 15), and Joseph's bones **OUT** of Egypt (Exodus 13).
7. So there are two streams of Bibles. The most accurate—though, of course, there is **no final, absolute authority** for determining truth and error; it is a matter of "preference"—are the Egyptian translations from Alexandria, Egypt, which are "almost the originals," although not quite.
8. The most **inaccurate translations** were those that brought about the German Reformation (Luther, Zwingli, Boehler, Zinzendorf, Spener, et al.) and the worldwide missionary movement of the English-speaking people: the Bible that Sunday, Torrey, Moody, Finney, Spurgeon, Whitefield, Wesley, and Chapman used.
9. But we can "tolerate" these if those who believe in them will "tolerate" US. After all, since there is **NO ABSOLUTE AND FINAL AUTHORITY** that anyone can read, teach, preach, or handle, the whole thing is a matter of "PREFERENCE." You may prefer what you prefer, and we will prefer what we prefer. Let us live in peace, and if we cannot agree on anything or everything, let us all agree on one thing: **THERE IS NO FINAL, ABSOLUTE, WRITTEN AUTHORITY OF GOD ANYWHERE ON THIS EARTH.**

This is the Creed of the Alexandrian Cult.

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