

Biblical Unity or Papal Conformity?



By Michael de Semlyen and Richard Bennett

Papal Penitence

On Sunday, March 12, 2000, the first Sunday of Lent, the Pope presided over a solemn ceremony called “The Day of Pardon” in St. Peter’s Basilica, Rome, in which he asked God for forgiveness for the historical wrongs of the Roman Catholic Church (RCC). The ceremony was presented as another profoundly significant event in the RC Church’s “Millennium Jubilee Holy Year” and a further step, unprecedented but necessary, in the process of unity. It was a modern media event staged for maximum impact to encourage “unity”. The impression given is that it is a genuine attempt to wipe the slate clean and to apologize for the past wrongs of the Church.

Careful examination, however, shows that the Pope’s “Day of Pardon” was in fact not an apology, but rather a day of deception. In this service, the Pope continually prayed, purportedly as a Christian, while never admitting any of the horrendous sins of the Church of Rome. An egregious example from the prepared text that was used is found in Section III, “Confession of Sins Which Have Harmed the Unity of the Body of Christ”.¹ The set prayer of the representative of the Roman Curia was as follows, “Let us pray that our recognition of the sins which have rent the unity of the Body of Christ and wounded fraternal charity will facilitate the way to reconciliation and communion among all Christians.” This was followed by silent prayer, and then the prayer of “The Holy Father” addressed to the “Merciful Father”,

Merciful Father, on the night before his Passion your Son prayed for the unity of those who believe in him: in disobedience to his will, however, believers have opposed one another, becoming divided, and have mutually condemned one another and fought against one another. We urgently implore your forgiveness and we beseech the gift of a repentant heart, so that all Christians, reconciled with you and with one another will be able, in one body and in one spirit, to experience anew the joy of full communion. We ask this through Christ our Lord.”

If the Pope and the Roman Curia were really serious about their prayer offered to Holy God, they must face the fact that condemning curses of their Council of Trent were not mentioned nor repented of, including the condemnation of the Biblical Gospel and historical biblical Christianity,

which led to the wholesale slaughter of millions of Christians during the 667 years of the Inquisition, and which have never been revoked, Vatican Council II notwithstanding. If this prayer were answered, it would be necessary to dismantle the RCC with its false gospel, papal infallibility, and "irreformable"² ways, which clearly the Pope and his Curia have no intention of doing.

"The Week of Christian Unity"

The gathering of mainstream churches at St. Paul's Basilica in Rome earlier this year is thought to have been the largest assembly of Christian leaders with a Pope since the Vatican Council II in the early 1960s. On January 18th, the Tuesday of the week which had been designated 'The Week of Christian Unity' in the 'Holy Year, 2000', leaders representing four fifths of Eastern Orthodoxy gathered alongside Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists and Pentecostals. They were participating in celebration of the opening of the 'Holy Door at St. Paul Outside the Walls'. Archbishop George Carey, Primate of the Church of England, and Metropolitan Athanasius, representing Bartholomew, Patriarch of Constantinople and head of the Orthodox Church, knelt on either side of Pope John Paul II before the newly opened door. Only one cushion had been provided as it was thought that only the Pope would kneel, but when they both fell to their knees, too, the Pope called out, "Unity! Thank you!" It was a highly symbolic moment.

The Pontiff had every reason to express his gratitude to the Churches represented and the two men flanking him. After all, in May 1999, the joint Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC) had issued a statement "recognizing the Pope as the overall authority in the Christian World" and describing him as "a gift to be received by all Churches", (a gift yet to be accepted by the Synod of the Church of England and the wider Anglican Communion, however). Five months later in October, 1999, on Reformation Day, the Roman Catholic and Lutheran Churches had signed a joint declaration announcing that their opposing views on justification have been reconciled.³ With this declaration of reconciliation and unity, the way seems clear for the Lutherans to join the Anglicans in accepting Papal primacy. The frosty relationship of earlier years with the Russian Orthodox Church has warmed up, and a Papal visit to Moscow and a meeting with Patriarch Alexy II is being discussed. Pentecostals and Charismatics have accelerated their Rome-ward journey and Evangelical leaders who have signed ECT ("Evangelicals and Catholics Together") have led very large numbers of Evangelicals to kneel before the open "holy" door that the Roman Catholic Church offers them.

The Pope's words that day were couched in the language associating equality with freedom. Carefully concealed in his response was the non-negotiable agenda of the Roman Catholic Church, for rather than looking for unity based on truth, the Papacy, as ever, is seeking to secure conformity through compromise. The "ecumenical dialogue" referred to by the Pope during the January 18th ceremony, is clearly governed by a special set of rules. Vatican Council II's postconciliar Document No. 42 on ecumenism states that "...dialogue is not an end in itself...it is not just an academic discussion."⁴ Rather,

"ecumenical dialogue...serves to transform modes of thought and behavior and the daily life of those [non-Catholic] communities. In this way, it **aims at preparing the way for their unity of faith in the bosom of a Church one and visible.**"⁵

That the papacy expects this process of dialogue to take time to accomplish its stated aim of bringing all Christian churches under its authority is clear when she says,

"...little by little, as the obstacles to perfect ecclesial communion are overcome, **all Christians will be gathered, in a common celebration of the Eucharist [the Mass] into that unity of the one and only Church.**...This unity, we believe, dwells in the Catholic Church as something we can never lose."⁶

The "little by little" approach of the Vatican II document are now giant steps.

How many present at the January 18th gathering understand what is really happening? The Pope's official position is that "ecumenical encounter is not merely an individual work, but also a task of the [RC] Church, **which takes precedence over all individual opinions.**"⁷ Thus the opinions of others present on January 18th are "individual opinions" and worthless. The final goal of any dialogue with the RCC is, first and foremost, "unity" in a visible and specific ritual. Under the authority of the Roman Catholic Church, "all Christians will be gathered, **in a common celebration of the Eucharist** into that unity of the one and only Church...unity we believe dwells in the Catholic Church as something she can never lose." She could hardly state it more clearly.

Unity: True and False

Very different from this man-made spurious unity is the true unity of believers in Christ. The foundation of Christian unity is the position of believers "*in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ.*"⁸ The Lord's prayer in John 17:21 for unity is answered in the life of an individual who is justified by God's saving grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. The fact that the Lord Jesus Christ prayed for unity means that unity of believers is actual. God, the Father of His people, Who before the world existed chose the believers to be in Christ His Son, justified them through His righteousness, and upon saving them, places them in Him, and will preserve them in that unity unto the culmination of all things. Believers are placed into the unity which is in Christ Jesus, a unity which they themselves did not establish, but which they are commanded to maintain. In the words of the Apostle Paul, they are "*to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*"⁹

True Ecumenism

The same Apostle shows clearly the ground of true unity. "*There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*"¹⁰ Believers, therefore, who adhere to God only

and His Written Word, as did the Lord and the Apostles after Him ('Sola Scriptura') are one in body, in Spirit, and in truth. They are saved before the all-Holy God by grace alone ('Sola Gratia'), through faith alone ('Sola Fide'), and in Christ alone ('Solo Christo'), and all glory and praise is to God alone ('Soli Deo Gloria'). These five biblical principles together show the foundation of true unity in the Lord. They have helped the persecuted church through the centuries to hold fast to the simplicity of the Gospel. True ecumenism is fellowship or working together in adherence to the five basic biblical principles that maintain the foundation of true unity in the Lord. To the degree to which these key basic biblical standards are embraced, true unity will be evident.

False Ecumenism

On the other hand, false ecumenism, typically institutionalised, is the joining together for common causes of professing Christian groups, when in fact one or more of the parties involved are unconverted. While purporting to confess the Lord Jesus Christ according to the Scriptures, for the most part the five biblical principles that display the basis of true unity in the Lord are compromised. The extent to which these principles are not upheld usually shows the inclination of the church or group to submit to Rome.

The World Council of Churches is such an institution. Within it, there is no agreement on any of the five principles that demonstrate the fact that the foundation of true unity is in the Lord Jesus Christ alone. The Pope and his Church, likewise in apostasy from the true Gospel, are also without any of the five biblical standards. Counterfeiting the body of the Lord Jesus Christ, they are intent on finding successful ways to bind all to the very visible, active and attractive pontifical throne.

Pope Defines Conformity

In his official letter, "That they May Be One", the Pope defines full unity,

"The Catholic Church, both in her praxis and in her solemn documents, holds that the communion of the particular Churches with the Church of Rome, and of their Bishops with the Bishops of Rome is, in God's plan, an essential requisite of full and visible communion."¹¹

To arrive at that point of full unity, a different set of five principles must be adopted—principles that actually deny all five parameters of biblical truth. According to the Pope, "It is already possible to identify the areas in need of fuller study before a true consensus of faith can be achieved:

- (1) the relationship between Sacred Scripture, as the highest authority in matters of faith, and Sacred Tradition, as indispensable to the interpretation of the Word of God;
- (2) the Eucharist, as the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ, an offering of praise to the Father, the sacrificial memorial and Real Presence of Christ and the sanctifying outpouring of the Holy Spirit;
- (3) Ordination, as a Sacrament, to the threefold Ministry of the episcopate, presbyterate and diaconate;

- (4) the Magisterium of the Church, entrusted to the Pope and the Bishops in communion with him, understood as a responsibility and an authority exercised in the name of Christ for teaching and safeguarding the faith;
- (5) the Virgin Mary, as Mother of God and Icon of the Church, the spiritual Mother who intercedes for Christ's disciples and for all humanity."¹²

The Pope's objective in declaring his five principles is that a ubiquitous visible conformity to the Church of Rome should be forged in accordance with and manifested through her institution alone. Thus the Pope decrees,

"...it is now necessary to advance towards **the visible unity** which is required and sufficient and which is manifested in a real and concrete way, so that the Churches may truly become a sign of that full communion in the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church **which will be expressed in the common celebration of the Eucharist.**"¹³

The RCC is attempting to forge a man-made unity, visible by means of an institution to which all must conform. Such a conception stands in direct contradiction to the reality of believers who, having been placed invisibly in Christ by God, are to maintain the bond of unity given them by the Holy Spirit.

External Unity to be Attained by Power and Penalty

What is this conformity now so passionately advocated by the Pope? How would it be applied in practice? From all previous experience, and the official teaching of the same Pope in his Canon Law, those fully participating will be obliged to submit their faculties of both mind and will to 'the Holy Father' [the Pope], to his decrees, and to the dogma of his Church. Thus present day Roman law decrees,

Canon 752 "A religious respect of intellect and will, even if not the assent of faith, is to be paid to the teaching which the Supreme Pontiff or the college of bishops enunciate on faith or morals when they exercise the authentic magisterium even if they do not intend to proclaim it with a definitive act..."

In this official law Rome enunciates, in clearer terms than any cult states, the necessity of suppressing one's God given faculties, that of mind and will. This is not only demanded, the new Canon Law, the 'Papal Code' codified by the present Pope, includes a section entitled "Punishment of Offenses against Ecclesiastical Authorities and the Freedom of the Church". Under the heading, "The Punishment of Offenses in General", the Inquisition appears again as from old times, for Canon 1311 states,

"The Church has an innate and proper right **to coerce** offending members of the Christian faithful by means of penal sanctions."¹⁴

A brief acquaintance with history readily reveals that coercion is a term that the Roman Church understands very well. Naturally, when ushering all comers into her big tent, she makes light of its implications; but when once again in direct control of the levers of political power (which may well be

provided by the fast advancing European super state), Canon 1311 could acquire that same notoriety as those that have so darkened the pages of history.

It is important to remember always that the Roman Papacy is an absolute monarchy and also a secular government. Enormously wealthy, it has territorial sovereignty, its court, nobles, and diplomatic corps; its detective force and secret service; its laws, advocates, and system of jurisprudence as well as prison; taxes, bank, foreign treaties and concordats, enormous political influence, ambitious plans and policies, all as much as any secular kingdom. And it still has the Inquisition, now styled the Office of the Doctrine of the Faith, headed by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger.

Bride of the Lamb Understands Apostate Church

Believers of old were clear to call the Roman Catholic Church's imposed conformity "Satan's seat" or the Antichrist. This was known and spoken of even through the Middle Ages by Dante Alighieri (d. 1321), John Wycliff (d. 1384), John Huss (d. 1415), Savonarola (d. 1498), and William Tyndale (c. 1536). So Rome's conformity was described as Antichrist from the time of Reformation by Martin Luther (d. 1546), Nicholas Ridley (d. 1554), John Bradford (d. 1555), and John Foxe (d. 1587), and in more recent times by Isaac Newton (d. 1727) and Jonathan Edwards

(d. 1758). Now as the "Holy" Roman Empire revives in the European Superstate, can believers afford to remain ignorant of both history and Biblical prophecy as understood throughout the centuries? Confident believers of old saw that unity is in Christ and, consequently, warned of the conformity with Rome. They both knew the true church in Christ, and recognised the apostate Church in Rome. Understanding that unity with the Roman Catholic Church always meant submission to her traditions and finally obedience to her Pope, they rejoiced that their unity was in the Beloved, rather than dallying with sin.

Pope Identified

Extravagantly, apparently without trembling, the Pope has again fulfilled the Lord's prophetic Word (II Thessalonians 2:3-12) depicting the Man of Sin and Son of Perdition. The sitting Pope purports to take for himself a Divine position. Thus in Section III of the prepared program for the "Day of Pardon", "The Holy Father" is mentioned eight times. Nonetheless in the RCC, this title does not denote the All Holy One in heaven, but rather the sitting Pope. Seen in the light of Scripture, the RCC Pope who claims to be Christian, clearly is one "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God" (v. 4). The Pope of the RCC goes further when by taking to himself the title of "The Vicar of Christ", he presumes to take the place of Christ Himself, teacher, shepherd, and priest. This also is clearly tantamount to "as God sit[ting] in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God." The assertion is not simply made, for the Pope's law gives it teeth in exacting submission of mind and will and promising punitive action against those who fail to obey, as Canon 752 and 1311 document. He is the worst and greatest enemy of Christ who under the

pretence of service to Christ, presumes to undermine His unique offices by covertly usurping His position and power.

C. H. Spurgeon clearly understood these things. His timely words still apply,

Since he was cursed who rebuilt Jericho, much more the man who labours to restore Popery among us. In our fathers' days the gigantic walls of Popery fell by the power of their faith, the perseverance of their efforts, and the blast of their gospel trumpets; and now there are some who would rebuild that accursed system upon its old foundation. O Lord, be pleased to thwart their unrighteous endeavours, and pull down every stone, which they build. It should be a serious business with us to be thoroughly purged of every error which may have a tendency to foster the spirit of Popery; and when we have made a clean sweep at home we should seek in every way to oppose its all to rapid spread abroad in the church and in the world.¹⁵

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1 www.vatican.va/jubilee_2000/jubilevents/events_day_pardon

2 "This infallibility, however, with which the divine redeemer wished to endow his Church in defining doctrine pertaining to faith and morals...the Roman Pontiff...enjoys...when...he proclaims in an absolute decision...For this reason his definitions are rightly said to be irreformable by their very nature..." No. 28, Lumen Gentium, in Vatican Council II The Conciliar and Post Conciliar Documents, Austin Flannery, Ed., 1981 ed. (Northport, NY: Costello Publ. Co., 1975) p. 380.

3 See Richard Bennett's analysis, "The Roman Catholic-Lutheran 'Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification': A Denial of the Gospel and the Righteousness of Christ".

4 Flannery, No. 42, "Reflections and Suggestions Concerning Ecumenical Dialogue", S.P.U.C., 15 August 1975, p.549.

5 Ibid., pp. 540-1. Bolding in any quotation indicates emphasis added in this paper.

6 Ibid., p. 541.

7 Ibid., p. 545.

8 1 Thessalonians 1:1.

9 Ephesians 4:3.

10 Ephesians 4:4-6.

11 Ut Unum Sint, "That They May Be One: On Commitment to Ecumenism", John Paul II (Washington, DC: United States Catholic Conference) Publ. No. 5-050, Para. 97.

12 Ibid., Para. 79.

13 Ibid., Para. 78.

14 Code of Canon Law, Latin-English Edition (Washington, DC: Canon Law Society of America, 1983).

15 Morning and Evening, on Joshua 6:26

Billy Graham and His Friends – A Hidden Agenda? By Dr. Cathy Burns



A friend recommended me to check out a book by Dr. Cathy Burns, *Billy Graham And His Friends – A Hidden Agenda?*. I never heard of her or her book before. I found her website, [Liberty to the Captives](#). The titles of the articles look very very good! Her bio on the site says:

Dr. Cathy Burns has a degree in Bible Philosophy and has spent the past 19 years doing extensive research on the New Age movement and related subjects. She has written many articles, tracts, and booklets on various subjects, including nine other books: *Hidden Secrets of Masonry*; *Hidden Secrets of the Eastern Star*; *A One World Order Is Coming*; *Mormonism, Masonry and Godhood*; *A Scriptural View of Hell*; *Alcoholics Anonymous Unmasked*; *Pathway to Peace*; *Secure in Christ*; and *Masonic and Occult Symbols Illustrated*. Her name is listed in *Who's Who in Religion*, *Two Thousand Outstanding Intellectuals of the 20th Century*, *Five Hundred Notable Women*, *Outstanding People of the 20th Century*, *Who's Who in the East*, *Who's Who in America*, *World Who's Who of Women*, *Dictionary of*

International Biography, Two Thousand Notable American Women, etc.
She has also done radio interviews in the United States and Canada.
(Ref: https://libertytothecaptives.net/about_dr_burns.html)

Cathy Burns' bio is also on the [Chick Publications website](#). I believe she is a sincere Bible believing follower of Jesus Christ. Just reading the first chapter of her book tells me so.

The emphasis in **bold** are from the author, and taken from the [the PDF file I got the text from](#).

This is only *part* of chapter one of her book. I don't want to violate the copyright law. You can [buy the book from Amazon](#).

1 . LETS MEET SOME OF BILLY'S FRIENDS

Billy Graham is one of the best-known as well as one of the best-loved individuals of the 20th century. He has been in the listing of "most admired men" for 36 consecutive years—more than any other person. Chuck Colson states that he is the "greatest evangelist of this century—perhaps the greatest since Paul..." Others refer to him as "the world's best-known evangelist," "the world's most beloved evangelist," "the most honored evangelical alive," "the nation's pastor," or "America's pastor."

Knowing that Graham was so well respected and revered, and hoping to help our community hear the gospel of Jesus Christ, I took the responsibility for trying to bring Graham's films to our school— and succeeded. Even though I was still in high school, I felt a burden to reach out to others and tell them about Jesus. At that time, I thought Graham's films would be one of the best methods available and I was even one of the counselors after the film was aired. Since that time, Graham's popularity has only increased.

Little by little I started hearing about some aspect of Graham's ministry with which I didn't agree, but I'd just shrug my shoulders and ignore it. Eventually, those "little things" started to add up to quite a large number of difficulties. As I started to research some of these issues, I found more and more—and even more problems— problems far worse than I could have possibly imagined. I started noticing Graham's own words in his autobiography and compared that with other sources. I read many biographies on Graham—most of which were authorized by Graham himself and/or published by Graham's ministry (under World Wide Publications). Since I'd been researching the New Age and related movements for the past 19 years, I noticed some names with which I was familiar. As I continued to dig and research, unbelievable associations were uncovered— and some things started to fall into place. I started to understand many things I had not comprehended before. I am now sharing this extensive research with you—and hope you will continue to **do your own research** as well.

This first chapter, especially, may be a little difficult to read and digest, but I feel it is necessary in order to lay a framework for the succeeding chapters. This was not an easy book to write but, as I think should be

evident, it has been extensively researched and documented. Many people will not like what has been uncovered— but I believe the truth should be shared with others. Many will want to hold to their cherished beliefs (no matter how false they are)— but I just ask you to read it and then check out the facts for yourself.

Remember, it is better to be disturbed by truth than to be deceived by falsehood. Proverbs 27:6 notes: “Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.” Galatians 4:16 asks: “Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?”

Since he is esteemed and revered in the eyes of so many, I think it’s very important to look at Billy Graham himself, some of his close friends, as well as some of those he invited to share the platform with him at his Crusades. While I’m sure that Graham would not be in agreement with the views (political, spiritual, or even otherwise) of all those encouraged to sit on his platform, his words of praise for many of them certainly give the impression that he considers these people to be fellow Christians and individuals to be respected and admired. It is one thing not to make a disparaging remark about someone; it is quite another thing to heap praise on a person.

It is obvious that someone in Graham’s position does not want to be “negative” about people because he would lose many friends, but does he need to unnecessarily brag up people who are flaunting open sins? For instance, on *Larry King Live*, Graham said that although he has been friends with Bill Clinton for years, he has not and would not bring up the issues of homosexuality or abortion to him. Graham said that if he did that, he “would not be invited back to the White House.” (As John 12:43 says: “[T]hey loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.”) Silence in a case like this is bad enough, but a few months later, in an interview with *U. S. News and World Report* on May 3, 1993, he said about Clinton: “I am quite impressed with his charisma and with some of the things he believes. If he chose to preach the gospel instead of politics, he would make a great evangelist.” He also said: “From a biblical point of view, we should be **headed in the direction of goodness and righteousness, away from crime and immorality** and towards one’s neighbors who are in need. **I’m encouraged by the emphasis President Clinton and Hillary are putting on that.**”

Graham says Bill and Hillary are leading us in the direction of goodness and righteousness, yet Clinton was recently photographed at a Democratic fund-raiser with Hugh Hefner, the founder of *Playboy*. The photo then appeared in the May 2000 issue of *Playboy*. This is hardly a righteous influence! Clinton had also “appointed over a score of homosexuals to his staff.”

Graham also said that he forgives (and seems to excuse) Clinton’s sexual misconduct: “I forgive him. Because I know the frailty of human nature, and I know how hard it is, and especially a strong, vigorous, young man like he is; he has such a tremendous personality. I think the ladies just go wild over him.” It’s great to have man’s forgiveness, but that is not sufficient. Clinton needs to ask for God’s forgiveness for only God can cleanse the heart.

In Graham's autobiography, *Just As I Am*, he mentions that he was with President Clinton on May 1, 1996. He states: "It was a time of **warm fellowship** with a man who has not always won the approval of his **FELLOW CHRISTIANS** but who has in his heart a desire to serve God and do His will." [Emphasis mine throughout.]

"At a luncheon for 500 newspaper editors at their annual convention in Washington, D.C., Graham said that the President's personal life and character are 'irrelevant.' At the luncheon...**he promoted Clinton as a man of God**. He explained that he and Clinton had been close friends for many years and stated, 'I believe Bill has gone to his knees many times and asked God to help him.'"

The praises flow both ways, however. At a dinner in Washington with about 650 people in attendance, Clinton praised both Billy and Ruth Graham.

When people consider someone like Clinton (who is a sex pervert, pro-homosexual, pro-abortion, etc.) to be a Christian, we are in desperate spiritual trouble! When someone like Graham does so, we are even in a more profound dilemma since multiplied thousands look up to Graham as a spiritual advisor and man of God.

JOHN FOSTER DULLES

Let's meet another one of Graham's friends: John Foster Dulles. It was **Dulles who was involved in helping to open doors for the 1954 Graham Crusade in London**.

In *A Prophet with Honor*, which Billy Graham had asked William Martin to write, we find: "Secretary of State John Foster Dulles...would also be 'using his considerable prestige to help by writing letters to all of his friends and contacts in England.' Perhaps at Dulles's recommendation, American ambassador to Great Britain, **Winthrop Aldrich, promised his assistance as well.**"

Aldrich, by the way, was a brother-in-law to John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Many people know who John Foster Dulles was but for those who don't, **Dulles was a founder of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR)** (Note from me: According to Myron Fagan, [the CFR is the American branch of the Illuminati](#)) and a relative (through marriage to Janet Pomeroy Avery) to the Rockefeller family. He served as a **chairman of the board of the Rockefeller Foundation and the Carnegie Endowment**. It was Dulles himself who chose **Communist** Alger Hiss to be president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. We need to remember that the kind of peace the Carnegie Endowment has in mind is different from the peace that you have in mind. This organization said: "[W]e shall have peace through constant warfare!" Not a very peaceful peace, is it?

Dulles and Hiss were friends for a long time. Furthermore, **"Mr. Dulles and Mr. Hiss worked together in The Federal Council of Churches** and...both were chairmen of important committees of the Council."

"In September 1916, [President Woodrow] Wilson appointed a 'brain trust' of 150 to draw up a charter for **world government**. The League of Nations Covenant was prepared for a new **socialist one-world** to follow WWI. The group included college professors, graduate students, lawyers, economists and writers. Individuals on the committee included Walter Lippman (columnist), Norman Thomas (head of the American **Socialist** Party), Allen Dulles (later head of CIA), **John Foster Dulles** (later Secretary of State) and Christian A. Herter (former Secretary of State)."

Dulles advocated "global interdependence" and was also a founding member of the United Nations (UN) and helped to prepare the United Nations Charter which states: "The present Charter represents a conscientious and successful effort to create the best **world organization** which the realities permit." Dulles wrote: "I have never seen any proposal made for collective security with 'teeth' in it, or for '**world government**' or for 'world federation,' which could not be carried out either by the United Nations or under the United Nations Charter."

"The founders of the UN were 16 Communists led by Alger Hiss, and 43 members of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR).

"Since the UN was founded, to produce peace for all the world, there have been 157 wars [up to 1991]. The UN has yet to prevent a war, stop a war or win a war. On key issues the UN has voted against the U. S. about 85% of the time."

The story of the land where the UN is situated is interesting, too.

"The UN stands on a piece of land called by the **Manhattan** Indians, Turtle Bay. Their legend was that **floods of blood would drench that place** but that there would come a time when many tribes will meet here to make peace. It happens that for many years the slaughter houses of Manhattan stood here and floods of blood were lost by hundreds of thousands of animals. When Mr. John Rockefeller bought the land, he got the slaughter houses destroyed and offered the grounds to the UN, the meeting place of many tribes. One could also add that the UN was bom from the blood of the 30 million humans who died in World War II. These are the Earth vibrations noticeable at the UN."

Dulles had been hired by Joseph Stalin to act as Russia's legal council in the United States and he was also closely associated with J. R Morgan. Morgan "was instrumental in forcing our country into World War I. He and his associates funded the Bolsheviks and the Nazis, and he helped organize the Council on Foreign Relations. Occult writers tell us he based his investment strategy on astrology."

"John Foster Dulles and Allen Dulles became senior partners of Sullivan and Cromwell. That firm was chief legal counsel to J. Henry Schroeder Bank **which helped finance Hitler's rise to power** initially aided by the Warburg-controlled Mendelsohn Bank of Amsterdam. Chase National, Equitable Trust, Mechanics and Metals, Bankers Trust and Kuhn Loeb & Co. financed Germany's launching of World War I on the basis of a deal made with Kaiser Wilhelm through their agents— the Warburgs."

SIX PILLARS OF PEACE

It was **John Foster Dulles** who dominated the **Federal Council of Churches** (FCC) which had been founded, in part, by the **Communist Harry Ward** in 1908. In fact, **John D. Rockefeller, Jr.** was among those who **helped to finance the Federal Council of Churches**. For many years no conference or meeting of the Council was complete without an address by Dulles or one of the Rockefellers.

Since Dulles was involved in both the United Nations and the FCC (later renamed the National Council of Churches), it's no surprise to see the following news item: "Christians should vigorously support efforts to strengthen the United Nations—even at the risk of leaving the United States outvoted, the National Council of Churches decided last night."

In Dulles' book, *War or Peace*, he stated:

"The churches took a strong lead in favor of international organization. The Federal Council of Churches of Christ in Commission on a Just and Durable Peace, of which I [Dulles] was chairman. Our Commission held its first full meeting in September, 1941, just after the promulgation of the Atlantic Charter. We immediately launched a campaign to educate United States public opinion to the **need for world organization**. Most of the Protestant churches of the country set up 'study groups' on **world order**. The Commission conducted 'national missions on world order' which took leading ministers and laymen to the principal cities of the United States. It issued a 'Six Pillars of Peace' statement which set out briefly and cogently the **need for world organization** and the tasks it should assume."

"John Foster Dulles and his many supporters in the church now took their case to the nation. Beginning with a convocation in the **Cathedral of St. John the Divine** in New York, they fanned out across America, ultimately visiting 102 cities."

The report:

"**called for a world government** of delegated powers, strong immediate limitations on national sovereignty, international control of all armies and navies, an international court with adequate jurisdiction, a **universal system of money**, progressive elimination of all tariff and quota restrictions on world trade, **an international bank, and worldwide freedom of immigration.**"

It was **Dulles** who was instrumental in getting the FCC to support the United Nations as well as its UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) program. "Skull and Bones member Archibald MacLeish wrote the UNESCO Constitution and several Freemasons helped create the organization." MacLeish belonged to the Council on Foreign Relations. He, along with Adlai Stevenson, "worked to establish the United Nations and drafted the preamble to its charter." "A fervent international, MacLeish strongly advocated One Worldism...." He was also cited for being involved in at least 12 Communist front organizations and/or activities. In fact, his "FBI file ran to over six hundred pages." He "argued vigorously for a left-wing press in the United States, if only because it advanced views contrary to

those of the majority.”

Dulles was former President Eisenhower’s Secretary of State and in 1950, when the Federal Council of Churches changed its name to the National Council of Churches, **Rockefeller** donated a large parcel of land for its headquarters. It was Eisenhower who laid the cornerstone for the National Council of Churches (NCC) in Masonic style.

Interestingly, President Eisenhower read a prayer at his inauguration in January 1953. When copies of the prayer were checked it was discovered that he had not mentioned the name of Jesus Christ in the entire prayer (just like in Masonry). In the Masonic Lodge the chaplains are repeatedly told not to pray or end their prayers in the name of Jesus.

By the way, the NCC just happens to be across the street from the Rockefellers’ Riverside Church and the two buildings are connected by an underground tunnel. Also, Rockefellers gave a \$50 million endowment to Riverside Church. “To symbolize the interdenominational spirit and its further reconciliation of religion and science, the tympanum arching the main portal contained the figures of non-Christian religious leaders and outstanding heroes of secular history, Confucius and Moses, Hegel and Dante, Mohammed and even the dread Darwin.” Also, this “church building sports stone statues of Gargoyles on its Cathedral as well as statues of the Merovingian King Clovis....John D. Rockefeller, Jr. is chairman of the Building Committee.”

Another famous building with gargoyles is **St. John the Divine Church**. One author reveals:

“Grotesque-looking gargoyles are chiseled from stone and set in place on the Cathedral, jeering down and sticking tongues out at the onlookers. Funding for the two-century-long project has been supplied through gifts, including some quite large—like the one for over a million dollars from international financier and philanthropist **J. P. Morgan**.”

Gargoyles “are weird stone figures, half-human and half-animal or half- bird, placed on the edges of cathedrals, palaces, and other buildings.”

“Riverside was previously pastored by **Harry Emerson Fosdick**. This was the same Fosdick who was accosted by William Jennings Bryan for heresy—denying the virgin birth.” Fosdick declared: “**Of course I do not believe in the Virgin Birth, or in that old fashioned substitutionary doctrine of the Atonement; and I do not know any intelligent Christian minister who does.**”

“Bryan and the fundamentalists tried to excommunicate Fosdick but who do you suppose came to Fosdick’s defense?—none other than John Foster Dulles!”

GRAHAM FOLLOWS NCC WITH GREAT INTEREST

Fosdick belonged to at least **7 Communist** front groups. He claimed that “Jesus was as much ‘divine’ as his own mother.” He was also a leader in the **National Council of Churches**. Additionally, Fosdick wrote articles for Margaret Sanger’s Birth Control Review.

In spite of the apostasy in the leadership of the NCC, **Graham** visited the NCC headquarters on August 27, 1991 and remarked: "There's no group of people in the world that I would rather be with right now than you all. Because I think of you, I pray for you, and **we follow with great interest the things you do.**" Graham's connections to the NCC go back to at least **1958**.

Getting back to John Foster Dulles: Not only did Dulles play a large role in the Federal Council of Churches, but he was also involved with the World Council of Churches (WCC). At one of the WCC's meetings, Dulles said: "There is no inherent incompatibility between the Christian view of the nature of man and the practice of economic communism or state socialism."

"It should be recognized, he suggested, that the long-range social ends which Soviet leaders professed to seek were in many respects similar to the ends which Christian citizens sought—'a higher productivity of labor, abolition of exploitation of man by man, **"from each according to his abilities, to each according to his needs."**' There was nothing in these long-term ends, he thought, irreconcilable with what Christians wanted. 'Most of them have been sought by Christians long before there was a Communist party,' he declared."

REDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH

As early as 1939 **Dulles said** that there must be **"some dilution of sovereignty,"** and **"the establishment of a common money."**

On October 28, 1939 Dulles proposed "that America lead the transition to a new order of less independent, semi-sovereign states bound together by a league or federal union."

As mention, in 1942 **he was the chairman of a meeting of the Federal Council of Churches (FCC)** **"which called for a world government,"** etc.

"The report also called for **world-wide redistribution of wealth**. It held that a 'new order of economic life is both imminent and imperative.' **It accepted Marxian concepts** by denouncing various defects in the profit system as being responsible for breeding war, demagogues, and dictators."

Dulles also stated:

"The fundamental fact is that the nationalist system of wholly independent, fully sovereign states is complete in its cycle of usefulness....Today, more than ever before, are the defects of the sovereign system magnified, until now it is no longer consonant with either peace or justice. It is imperative that there be a transition to a new order. This has, indeed, become inevitable; for the present system is rapidly encompassing its own destruction. The real problem is not whether there will be a transition, but how can transition be made, and to what" [Emphasis in the original.]

In one of the statements he authored for the Federal Council of Churches, Dulles wrote:

"...Communism as an economic program for social reconstruction has points of contact with the social message of Christianity as in its avowed concern for

the underprivileged and its insistence on racial equality...neither state socialism nor free enterprise provide a perfect economic system; each can learn from the experience of the other...the free enterprise system has yet to prove it can assure steady production and employment...."

In *War or Peace*, Dulles wrote: "Fundamentally, world peace depends upon world law, and world law depends upon a consensus of world opinion as to what is right and what is just."

Dulles, along with John D. Rockefeller III, "created the Population Council, in November 1952. They warned of the need to stop expansion of the world's non-white population." Dulles was also among several Council on Foreign Relations members who **knowingly brought Communist Fidel Castro to power in Cuba.**

Remember, this is the same **John Foster Dulles** who was instrumental in getting **Billy Graham** open doors for a crusade in London in 1954 and "**who designated himself a Christian Communist.**" Could Dulles have sincerely been interested in having the Gospel preached? It doesn't seem likely! I might add that Dulles "also gave him a bit of political advice, perhaps hoping Graham would not make statements that ran counter to U. S. foreign policy."

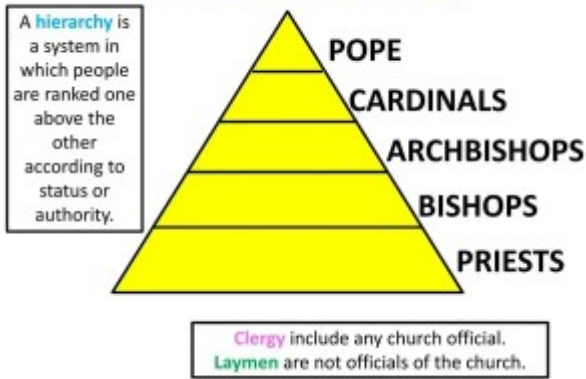
TEMPLETON PRIZE

Billy Graham is so popular that he was selected as the recipient of the Templeton Prize in 1982. In the address that Templeton gave during this ceremony he said: "Every person is created by God, is a child of God and the Holy Spirit dwells within **each** human being." He continued:

"This afternoon, His Royal Highness Prince Philip presented the Templeton Prize for 1982 to the Reverend Dr Graham, founder of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. Evangelism is a duty for every person who worships **God in any form.** Dr Graham has originated more new ideas in evangelism than any living person. He has given the Church around the world a new hope and has contributed vastly to the wider vision and meaning of evangelism. **His co-operation with all denominations** to involve the statesmen of the world in evangelism has left an indelible mark on Christian history."

Hierarchies and Heretics

II The Church Hierarchy



This article is from *The Converted Catholic Magazine* and was written just after World War II ended in 1945. I never knew about the relationship between ritual and hierarchies of power before. This is what the Roman Catholic Church has and what Hitler and other dictators imitated.

FEW AMERICANS connect the Fascist tyranny with ritual and dogma. Yet it was by means of these that Mussolini, Hitler and their imitators put it over on the peoples of Europe.

Ritual divides people by establishing hierarchies of powers that lord it over the masses, and dogma makes heretics of all who do not conform to regimented beliefs. Side by side with hierarchies and heretics there is created the idea of a cruel God, the opposite from the God and Father of us all as taught by Jesus Christ.

The God that can salve the hurt soul of humanity today is that God and Father of us all, who is supremely concerned with human brotherhood, with the reign of justice and love on earth, not with the forms and rituals and the arbitrary dogmas of the Middle Ages.

Emphasis on the forms of worship as of divine origin and appointment has divided mankind into hostile, hating groups, and prevented combination and cooperation for the common good. The year 1945 should see the end forever of the uniformed hierarchs of the Nazi Fascists and their plan of dividing and regimenting mankind. We hope it will also see the beginning of the Christian religion of universal brotherhood under the loving God and Father of us all.

[The Secret Power Of The Jesuits By J. J. Murphy](#)



A short history of the Jesuit Order which sheds light on what the Jesuits are doing today.

[The Roman Catholic Agenda Embedded in the Manhattan Declaration](#)



The Roman Catholic Church-State's primary goal is to make enforceable its claim that it is the only true church of Jesus Christ and its pope, the claimed "Vicar of Christ" has the right to judge everybody, as he did during the Middle Ages.

[An Overview of the History of the Papacy – By Richard Bennett](#)



Because of the fascination of the world with the office of the Pope and his power, it is important to study the topic historically and in the light of Biblical truth. This article is an overview of the history of the Papacy from its inception to rule of Pope John Paul II. A biblical analysis of the basis on which the Office of the Papacy claims to be the Rock of Matthew 16:18 is found on our Webpage: www.bereanbeacon.org

Early church at Rome

The church at Rome was in the beginning a community of brothers and sisters, guided by a few of the brothers. The four Gospels and letters of the Apostles settled the great questions of doctrine. A pompous title and position of one man lording it over the others did not exist, as such is forbidden by the Holy Scriptures. The lives of the believers and the doctrine taught were in accord with the Lord's words, "*One is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.*"¹ The Scriptures, however, warned that from the midst of the brotherhood would arise a power that would attempt to destroy the Gospel and the simple brotherhood of believers. This was nowhere more graphically fulfilled than in the rise of the Office of the Papacy out of the church that had been established in Rome.

Gradual rise of Papal Rome

The respect enjoyed by the various Christian elders in the second century was roughly proportionate to the rank of the city in which they resided. At that time, Rome was the largest, richest, most powerful city in the world, the queen of the Imperial Roman Empire. If Rome was the queen of cities, why should she not be the one to have a bishop to be the king of bishops? Thus, even when pagan Rome fell to the barbarian nations, some of the political esteem that she had won from the nations of the earth remained. The Barbarian overthrow of the Western Roman Empire was succeeded by the gradual rise of Papal Rome. Gradually, bishops from different parts of the empire, seeing themselves as above ordinary elders, yielded to the bishops of Rome some portion of the honor similar to that which the world gives to a prince. From this approbation, the Bishops of Rome began to demand submission as the

third, fourth, and fifth centuries passed. In these centuries also, as the true Gospel was watered down, there came in its place the growth of ritualism in the churches, in which true worship of God and the inner conviction of the Holy Spirit was replaced by ceremonialism and idolatry. Pagan practices took on a veneer of Christianity. The clergy-laity division of the people of God became the accepted base. This further devolved into a hierarchy of the ruling clergy. By the end of the fifth century, the early ministers of the Gospel, who had taught the Scripture, had become replaced by a sacrificing priesthood in which the priest presumed to mediate between God and men. The church was no more the fellowship of believers under Christ Jesus, but rather an institution dominated by a hierarchy, with the most powerful individual being the Bishop of Rome.²

Bishop of Rome becomes the Pope

The power of the Bishop of Rome ascended as the imperial power of the Emperor declined. Edicts of the Emperor Theodosius II and of Valentinian III proclaimed the Roman bishop "as Rector of the whole Church." The Emperor Justinian, who was living in the East in Constantinople, in the sixth century published a similar decree. These proclamations did not create the office of the Pope but from the sixth century there was such advancement of power and prestige that from that time the title of "Pope" began to fit the one who was Bishop of Rome.³

Fraudulent documents aid rise of Papacy

It was not until the middle of the eighth century that serious contentions were made claiming the transfer of power and authority from the Emperor Constantine to the Bishop of Rome. The *Donation of Constantine* was purported to be the legal document in which the Emperor Constantine donated to Sylvester, the Bishop of Rome (314-335), much of his property and invested him with great spiritual power and authority. The vastness and splendor of the inheritance allegedly given by Constantine to Sylvester in the spurious document is seen the following quotation from the manuscript,

"We attribute to the See of Peter all the dignity, all the glory, all the authority of the imperial power. Furthermore, we give to Sylvester and to his successors our palace of the Lateran, which is incontestably the finest palace on the earth; we give him our crown, our miter, our diadem, and all our imperial vestments; we transfer to him the imperial dignity. We bestow on the holy Pontiff in free gift the city of Rome, and all the western cities of Italy. To cede precedence to him, we divest ourselves of our authority over all those provinces, and we withdraw from Rome, transferring the seat of our empire to Byzantium; inasmuch as it is not proper that an earthly emperor should preserve the least authority, where God hath established the head of his religion."⁴

The *Donation of Constantine* was probably forged a little before A.D. 754. Of it, Wylie says, "In it Constantine is made to speak in the Latin of the

eighth century, and to address Bishop Sylvester as 'Prince of the Apostles, Vicar of Christ'. During more than 600 years Rome impressively cited this deed of gift, inserted it in her codes, permitted none to question its genuineness, and burned those who refused to believe in it. The first dawn of light in the sixteenth century sufficed to discover the cheat. In the following century another document of a like extraordinary character was given to the world. We refer to the Decretals of Isidore. These were concocted about the year 845. They professed to be a collection of the letters, rescripts, and bulls of the early pastors of the Church of Rome...The writer, who professed to be living in the first century, painted the Church of Rome in the magnificence which she attained only in the ninth, and made the pastors of the first age speak in the pompous words of the Popes of the Middle Ages. Abounding in absurdities, contradiction, and anachronisms, it affords a measure of the intelligence of the age that accepted it as authentic...It became the foundation of the canon law, and continues to be so, although there is not now a Popish writer who does not acknowledge it to be a piece of imposture."⁵

As early as 865, Pope Nicholas drew from these forgeries a way to demand submission from bishops and princes. The arrogance of the popes grew from this time onward. Popes became intoxicated with their own pride; some in their teens and twenties lost their senses in drunken immorality.⁶ The infamous women of history, Theodora and Marozia, for many years governed the papal throne. That unholy See, pretending to rise above the majesty of kings and bishops, was sunk in the dregs of sin. Theodora and Marozia installed and deposed at their pleasure those who sat in the pretended chair of St. Peter. For two centuries, the Papacy was one wild arena of disorders as the most powerful families of Italy disputed and fought over it like a possession.

Lusts of the mind

The year 1073 was a turning point from the centuries of gross immorality. Rigorous discipline filled the papacy. Reaching above the lusts of the flesh, the lusts of papal minds began to clutch at the things of God. Pope Gregory VII, the noted Hildebrand, ambitious beyond all who had preceded him, took to himself the idea that the reign of the Pope was but another name for the reign of God. He resolved never to rest until he had subjected all authority and power, both spiritual and temporal, to the "chair of Peter". Hildebrand's successors continued his project, and strove by trickery, by arms, by crusades and by anathemas, to place the world under the scepter of the papal throne. For two centuries from the time of Hildebrand's reign, the papacy increased in power and glory, and was maintained by thousands of destroyed lives, many deposed kings and princes, many sacked cities, and many fields deluged with blood.

Popes Innocent III (1216) and Boniface VIII (1303) put the final touches to Papal triumph in spiritual and temporal power. Seventy-five popes, one after another, from Pope Innocent Pope Pius VII, approved of torture, murder, and burning at the stake, and the confiscation of property of believers in the horrific centuries of the Inquisition.⁷ Many of those slain were true Bible believers.

"The most ghastly abomination of all was the system of torture. The accounts of its cold- blooded operations make one shudder at the capacity of human beings for cruelty. And it was decreed and regulated by the Popes who claim to represent Christ on earth. In 1252 Pope Innocent IV solemnly authorized it. Confirmatory or regulatory decrees about it were issued by Alexander IV, Clement IV, Urban IV and Clement V."⁸

The Papacy had become *"drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus."*⁹ No other kingdom or power has ever drunken so deeply of this blood as had Papal Rome. Thus as streams are traced to the fountain, so is the Papacy traced to the prophecies of Scripture, which correctly interprets the Papacy. This is *"the same horn [that] made war with the saints, and prevailed against them."*¹⁰ *"And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations."*¹¹

The Papacy and Modern Times

A partial list of the successes of the Papacy under Roman Catholic dictators in twentieth century includes: Adolf Hitler in Germany, 1933-1945; Benito Mussolini in Italy, 1922-1943; Francisco Franco in Spain, 1936-1975; Antonio Salazar in Portugal, 1932-1968; Juan Peron in Argentina, 1946-1955; Ante Pavelic in Croatia, 1941-1945; and Engelbert Dollfuss and Kurt von Schuschnigg in Austria, 1932-1934. The Vatican's legal agreement with those nations is well known; few, however, see the Nazism of Germany and the Fascism of Italy, Spain, Portugal, Croatia, and Latin America as consequences of the Papacy's economic and social teachings, and legal agreements between the Vatican and these nations.¹² The Crusades and the 605 years of the Inquisition have stopped, but the power of the Papacy to influence and to control governments, social, economic, political life and the destinies of peoples, has continued.

Power through law

What had looked like a mortal wound to Papal power took place in 1798.¹³ A general of Napoleon's army entered the Vatican, removing Pope Pius VI from his throne; and so it was that Popedom lost its basis as a civil power. Pope Pius IX, not having territorial or civil power, sought to re-establish the Papacy. An internally important part of his design brought about the declaration of Papal infallibility. With remarkable ingenuity against not only the Scriptural absurdity of the concept, but also in spite of the historical fact of heretical popes, this was made doctrine at Vatican Council I in 1870. Further, the Papacy re-established itself internally by re-organizing Roman Catholic law into the 1917 *Code of Canon Law*.¹⁴ The apparent mortal wound of 1798 was to be healed in 1929 when under Mussolini, the Vatican was again recognized as a civil power and seated on all seven hills. The concordat with Mussolini was just the beginning of many civil concordats, one of the most infamous being that between Pope Pius XII and Adolf Hitler.¹⁵ The Papacy had again consolidated its power from within by the 1917 *Code of*

Canon Law and from without by legal concordats with the various nations. Thus the Vatican, with its own citizens as part of sovereign nations across the world and with her civil agreements with the same nations, has a double cord of power. The individual Catholic, fearing for his salvation, and laden with his first allegiance being to "holy Mother Church" is a pliable pawn in the hand of the Papacy.¹⁶

The major change of direction made visible by Vatican Council II (1962-1965). That council moved from separation from other religions to false ecumenism, not only with the religions of the world, but also with Bible believers in particular. "Separated brethren" was a new term for those always considered heretics, while the pagan religions of Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism now became accepted ways to God.¹⁷ This new approach was established by the RCC to win the world to herself by means of dialogue, the rules and goal of which she has carefully spelled out in her post-Conciliar Document No. 42 on ecumenism, which states that "dialogue is not an end in itself...it is not just an academic discussion."¹⁸ Rather, "ecumenical dialogue...serves to transform modes of thought and behavior and the daily life of those [non-Catholic] communities. In this way, it **aims at preparing the way for their unity of faith in the bosom of a Church one and visible.**"¹⁹

The Pope's official position is that "ecumenical encounter is not merely an individual work, but also a task of the [RC] Church, **which takes precedence over all individual opinions.**"²⁰ The Papacy expects this process of dialogue to take time. The Roman Catholic Church's stated aim of bringing all Christian churches under her authority is clearly her goal. She says,

"...little by little, as the obstacles to perfect ecclesial communion are overcome, **all Christians will be gathered, in a common celebration of the Eucharist [the Mass] into that unity of the one and only Church....**This unity, we believe, dwells in the Catholic Church as something we can never lose."²¹

Pope John Paul II, while initially having been thought to be liberal and modern, consolidated further the dictatorial powers afforded him by the 1917 Code of Canon Law and by his purported infallibility, bequeathed him by Vatican Council I. This he did by revising the 1917 Code, making it even more conservative than it had been, and has been careful to appoint new bishops in line with his centralized way of thinking.

Like another Hildebrand, John Paul II is determined to build, by both Church and civil law, the structure by which the Papacy can again at the appropriate time wield might and power among the nations.²² This same Pope John Paul II has been adamant in his efforts to update the laws of the Roman Catholic Church. Since the days of Hildebrand, popes have seen the necessity of making iron and inflexible church laws before attempting to control her subjects and those not Catholic by compulsion and violence, if necessary. In 1983, John Paul II's revision of the 1917 *Code of Canon Law* added to the Roman Catholic laws, for example, "The Church has an innate and proper right to coerce offending members of the Christian faithful by means of penal sanctions."²³

Examination of these laws shows them to be even more absolute and totalitarian than those of the past. If one rejects submission of his intellect and will to the Pope, or some of the other laws of the Papacy, Canon 1371, Para. 1 states that "The following are to be punished with a just penalty: 1 a person who...teaches a doctrine condemned by the Roman Pontiff...." Canon 1312 outlines specified penalties that are to be carried out, "Para. 2. The law can establish other expiatory penalties which deprive a believer of some spiritual or temporal good and are consistent with the supernatural end of the Church." The perverse vindictiveness of these laws contravenes the repeated Scriptural commands to be not despotic, as are the rulers of this world. From the creation of the Papacy in the sixth century, its heart has been that of law and force. Grace and the Gospel have been superseded by decrees and coercion. A veneer of Christianity has always been upheld, yet this surface ritual religion has always repressed and persecuted true godliness. The history of the Papacy shows that unequivocally it is a power structure built on forgeries, craft, persecution, a false gospel, church law, civil power, and concordats. Nonetheless, the Papacy for most of its history has succeeded in deluding millions. Present day Catholicism continues to insist that its Papal Office is of God, and the world for the most part bows down before her shrine and her Christ, the Pontiff himself.

References

1. Matthew 23:8.
2. See J. A. Wylie, *The History of Protestantism*, originally published in 1878 (Kilkeel, N. Ireland: Mourne Missionary Trust, 1985) Vol. I, Book I, pp. 3-14. See also J. H. Merle D'Aubigne, *History of the Reformation in the Sixteenth Century, A New Translation* (New York: John B. Alden, Publisher, 1883) Book I, pp.1-34.
3. D'Aubigne, Book I, p. 81.
4. Quoted from copy of the document in Pope Leo's letter in Hardouin's Collection, Epistola I., Leonis Papoe IX; Acta Conciliorum et Epistoloe Decretales, tom. 6, pp. 934; Parisiis, 1714. The English reader will find a copy of the pretended original document in full in *Historical Essay on the Power of the Popes*, Vol. II, Appendix, Tr. from French, London, 1838
5. Wylie, Vol. I, p. 29-30. See also Roman Catholic historian Ignaz Von Dollinger, *The Pope and the Council*, Auth. Tr. from German, 2nd ed. (London: Rivingtons, 1869) Sect. 7 "Forgeries", pp. 94-142.
6. Peter De Rosa, *Vicars of Christ: The Dark Side of the Papacy* (New York, NY: Crown Publishers, Inc., 1988) p. 47-56.
7. De Rosa, p. 175.
8. William Shaw Kerr, *A Handbook on the Papacy* (London: Marshall, Morgan & Scott Ltd., 1950) p. 239.
9. Revelation 17:6.

10. Daniel 7:21.

11. Revelation 13:7.

12. For fuller documentation of this see John W. Robbins, *Ecclesiastical Megalomania: The Economic and Political Thought of the Roman Catholic Church* (Unicoi, TN 37692-0068: The Trinity Foundation, 1999) ISBN: 0-940931-52-4.

13. "Edward King, insightful in 1800 wrote about this defeat as the mortal wound or end of Pontifical Power, "THIS IS THE YEAR 1798.—And just 1260 years ago, in the very beginning of the year 538, Belisarius put an end to the Empire, and Dominion of the Goths, at Rome...He had entered the City on the 10th of the preceding December, in triumph, in the name of Justinian, Emperor of the East: and had soon after made it tributary to him: leaving thenceforward from A.D. 538 NO POWER in Rome, that could be said to rule over the earth, excepting the ECCLESIASTICAL PONTIFICAL POWER." Remarks on the Signs of the Times (Philadelphia ed., 1800) pp. 18-19 in LeRoy Edwin Froom, *The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers* (Washington, DC: Review and Herald, 1950) Vol. II, p. 767.

14. RC writer John Cornwell states, "At the turn of the century [1900], Pacelli [later Pope Pius XII]... collaborated in redrafting the Church's laws in such a way as to grant future popes unchallenged domination from the Roman center. These laws, separated from their ancient historical and social background, were packaged in a manual known as the Code of Canon Law, published and brought into force in 1917. The code, distributed to Catholic clergy throughout the world, created the means of establishing, imposing, and sustaining a remarkable new 'top-down' power relationship. As papal nuncio in Munich and Berlin during the 1920s, Pacelli sought to impose the new code, state by state, on Germany..." *Hitler's Pope: The Secret History of Pius XII* (New York, 1984: Viking, 1999) p. 6.

15. Cornwell, p. 7 "In 1933 Pacelli found a successful negotiating partner for his Reich Concordat in the person of Adolf Hitler. Their treaty authorized the papacy to impose the new Church law on German Catholics and granted generous privileges to Catholic schools and the clergy. In exchange, the Catholic Church in Germany, its parliamentary political party, and its many hundreds of associations and newspapers 'voluntarily' withdrew, following Pacelli's initiative, from social and political action. The abdication of German political Catholicism in 1933, negotiated and imposed from the Vatican by Pacelli with the agreement of Pope Pius XI, ensured that Nazism could rise unopposed by the most powerful Catholic community in the world..."

16. See RC author Cornwell and Presbyterian author Robbins.

17. No. 56, *Nostra Aetate*, 28 October 1965, Austin P. Flannery, Ed., *Vatican Council II: The Conciliar and Post Conciliar Documents* (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B Eerdmans Publ. Co., 1975, 1984).

18. Vatican 11 documents, No. 42, "Reflections and Suggestions Concerning Ecumenical Dialogue", S.P.U.C., 15 August 1975, p. 549.

19. Vatican 11 documents, No. 42, pp. 540-1. Bolding in any quotation indicates emphasis added in this paper.

20. Vatican 11 documents, No. 42, p.545.

21. Vatican 11 documents, No. 42, p. 541.

[Have You Been Hoodwinked by Israel?](#)



Christians should NOT support the modern state of Israel. Its government is officially antichrist. The children of Abraham are those who belong to Jesus Christ.

[Science vs. Evolution](#)



When I was a kid I dreamed of being a scientist someday. It turns out I wasn't good enough in mathematics to become one. I respect true scientific researchers, people like Dr. James Tour for example. He's an American chemist and nanotechnologist, a Professor of Chemistry, Professor of Materials Science and Nanoengineering at Rice University in Houston, Texas. And he'll tell you in his podcasts he loves Jesus more than anything! He was raised Jewish and came to know Jesus as his Messiah through the witness of a fellow

student when he was a teenager. And I have a personal friend who's a scientist and a Bible-believing Christian, Dr. John Gideon Hartnett of [Bible Science Forum](#).

Contrary to what some Christians are saying, there is such a thing as true science. And what is true science? It's the study of the laws and principles of God's creation! And there are pseudosciences, science falsely so called as it says in 1 Timothy 6:20:

O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

The teaching of Darwinian evolution is one of them. And who teaches it? Secular scientists who are mostly atheists.

Another pseudoscience is flat-earth. Who teaches that? Sad to say, many Bible-believing Christians do. They fell for a [CIA psyop](#) that is set to discredit their testimonial for Christ. I already wrote a lot about [why I don't believe the earth is flat](#) on this website, and so I won't get into it now.

Darwin's evolution has *hindered* true science and tainted many branches of it. Just off the top of my head, the branches of science it has tainted are number one, biology, and also geology, anthropology, ecology, psychology, medicine, and any other study that has to do with mankind and life. Evolution has surely tainted cosmology and astronomy as well.

Science is knowledge and knowledge can be used for both good and evil. As Christians, we want to use what we know for God's kingdom. Science has brought us technology, and technology has made our lives easier. If you don't think so, wait till the power goes out and you lose your phone and Internet connection. This is what I experience for a whole day from time to time in the Philippines. And technology from science has brought us the Internet which makes it far easier and far less expensive to share the Gospel and the truth of the Word of God to the world.

Below is an article one of my former pastors wrote about Darwin's evolution.

It's so ridiculous for man to not believe in God!—Because man can't help but believe in God if he just looks at Creation! If you're not an absolute fool, if you have a reasoning mind at all, all you have to do is look at the Creation to know Somebody had to design it, pattern it, and put it together and make it work like it does!

Why, the simplest country boy out in the country can just look around out in the country at the Creation God made and SEE that there's a God!—It's obvious that all that didn't just happen by accident! It's as plain as day that Somebody had to plan it and figure it out, because God's beautiful Creation works so beautifully, so systematically, so perfectly—Creation, so-called Nature, is not just natural—God made it! It's created! It's all supernatural! It's all miraculous!

If you haven't got enough sense to know there's a God, then just look at His

Creation! Just look at the sea, the sky, the clouds, the mountains, the valleys, the trees, the flowers, everything! They're all virtually shouting, "There is a God! Look what He made! Look what a beautiful World He made for you to live in!"

I can prove from the Bible that these scientists and teachers and evolutionists and all who claim not to believe in God are LIARS!—They do believe in God. Only an absolute fool, an imbecile, an insane idiot, somebody who's not quite straight in the head would actually in his heart believe there's not God!—Maybe these "smart" people are that demented! God's Word says the smart ones, if they don't glorify God, become fools. The Bible says, "The fool hath said in his heart, 'There is no God'!" (Ps.14:1) Now a lot of people will say with their mouth, "There is no God," but all the time in their heart they know there's a God!

In fact, most people who CLAIM they don't believe really DO believe, but they're in rebellion against God! They don't want to know Him and they don't want to confess that He exists, because if they do, then they have to recognize Him!—And if they recognise Him, then they have to admit that they owe Him some kind of acknowledgement and obeisance and obedience.

The greatest proof of the existence of God is His Creation! That's why Evolution is so evil, and Devil-inspired, because it tries to explain away Creation by saying that it just happened by accident and it threw itself together! Isn't that ridiculous?

"For the INVISIBLE things of Him from the creation of the World are clearly SEEN, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse!" (Ro.1:20) His invisible existence is manifest or proven by the things you can see, His Creation.—The existence of our invisible God is proven by His visible Creation!

And THAT'S why the World wants to reject Creation and say it's all just a meaningless chaotic evolution!—Because if the World and its inhabitants are God's Creation, then they're His property—and if they're His property, then He's got the right to be Boss—and they don't want God to be Boss! Therefore "they did not like to retain God in their knowledge", in their education. (Rom.1:28)

"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools!" (Rom.1:21,22) They got so smart that they could do without God and the Bible, and so they became what?—Fools!—Absolute fools, who "changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator!" (Rom.1:23,25)

So why did the Devil and man cook up this ridiculous, idiotic scheme of evolution?—To try to get rid of God and the knowledge of God, "as they did not like to retain God in their education." And since they threw God out and

they threw Creation out and they threw the Bible out, they had to cook up something new! They didn't want the truth anymore, so they had to figure out some big lie!

Evolution is the craziest, hardest thing in the World to believe!—That it all just happened by accident, that it all just kind of fell together. Dr. Robert A. Millikan, the great physicist who developed the splitting of the atom, said,

“If you'd say that this watch just put itself together, invented itself, you'd be crazy! And just as there had to be a watchmaker behind the synchronized perfection and order of every watch, so there had to be a Creator behind the perfect synchronized perfection of the Universe!”

Yet this evolutionary doctrine of delusion has become the general theme of modern so-called science! Evolution is now referred to as the “great principle” of biology. But a principle, according to the dictionary, is a foundation, truth or fact—the basis of other truths. And if you know anything about evolution at all, you know that it has never been proven to be either a truth or a fact, much less the foundation or basis of other truths!

There is no absolute proof for evolution! It has to be believed, therefore it's a faith, *therefore it's a religion*! Even the high priest and founding father of this false faith, Charles Darwin himself, confessed that “the belief (note the emphasis on belief) in natural selection (evolution) must at present be grounded entirely on general considerations...When we descend to details, we can prove that no one species has changed ... nor can we prove that the supposed changes are beneficial, which is the groundwork of the theory.”—Ha!

So **evolution is really a RELIGION of UNBELIEF in God!** And that's its whole purpose: To eliminate faith in God and to foster the false doctrine of devils that the Creation created itself and God had nothing to do with it, so there doesn't need to be a God—it could have happened without Him!—What an idiotic and ridiculous lie!

And even if you don't believe the Bible, honest scientists have figured out that if evolution actually took that many millions of years, we would be ten miles deep in evolutionary fossils, missing links, instead of having to search the World over trying to find one! And nearly every one of those crazy fossils that were supposed to be the missing links have now been debunked!—Some of them were even confessed fakes, like Piltdown Man, Java Man, etc.

“In the beginning, God,” not chaos, not some nebulous cloud of gases, but “in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth!”—The first verse of the first chapter of the first book of the right Book, praise God! Now either you believe that, either you believe what God's Book says, or you're going to take what some liar says!

"And GOD created man in His Own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them." (Gen.1:27) He didn't look like some ape-man or monkey, or some fish or bird.—He created man like Himself, God! And God formed man out of what?—Previous forms?—Apes?—Beasts?—Birds? "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." (Gen.2:7)

Creation is the premise and preface and basic foundation of the entire Bible! If you don't believe this, you won't believe anything! Because when you doubt one word in the Bible, you'll soon doubt the whole Bible! Why?—What happens in a court of law with the testimony of a witness when one thing he's said is proven to be a lie?—They throw his entire testimony out, including the true things he said, because they can't believe it and every word will be in doubt. If he lied about one thing, maybe he lied about another! And that's the way it is with the Bible!

Jesus said, "Had ye believed Moses (who compiled the Book of Genesis, ye would have believed ME. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe My Words?" (Jn.5:46,47) Now, what's the first of Moses' writings, upon which all five books are based?—GENESIS!—"In the beginning ... ," all about Creation and the beginning of God's dealings with man.

If they had believed that book of Genesis all about Creation and God, then they would have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior! What, then, did the Devil know he had to do to prevent people from believing in Christ? He knew he had to destroy their belief in the writings of Moses and in the book of Genesis in particular, in the Creation, the glorious Creation! And how'd the Devil do that?—By what doctrine, what big lie?

EVOLUTION!—That was his greatest lie and greatest manufacture and most clever piece of teaching! Evolution!—As ridiculous and idiotic as anything you could possibly study, because it has NO foundation in fact whatsoever; there's NO evidence for it; no discovery has been made to prove it! As one of its top exponents, Margaret Mead, the famous anthropologist, wrote in her own introduction to her textbook on anthropology:

"We as honest scientists must confess that science has yet to discover one single iota (tiny speck) of concrete evidence to prove the evolutionary theory!"

Darwin's evolution is science falsely so-called, pseudo-science, of which St. Paul warned dear Timothy, "Beware of the lies of science falsely so-called!" (1Tim.6:20) Because once you reject the truth about Creation, about God, about Jesus, and about happiness and the proper rules of life and love, there's nothing else to believe but lies and the Devil!

If the Devil always came around with hooves and horns and a long tail and a pitchfork in his hand, he wouldn't be half as dangerous as the way he really comes around: In the form of some smooth-tongued professor in today's modern universities, teaching courses that are nearly all lies, phoney lies, very

little truth to them!—Pure vain imaginations, somebody's dreams—nightmares! They, as Jesus said, are blind leaders of the blind, and He said they're both going to fall into the ditch! "The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken, lo, they have rejected the Word of the Lord, what wisdom is in them?" What wisdom is in them?—Without God's Word there is no wisdom, no knowledge that amounts to anything or is worth anything! (Mt.15:14; Jer.8:9)

The Bible prophesies that in the Last Days, "the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine (the truth); but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears (ears that want to be tickled with lies!); And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables!" (2Ti.4:3,4) This time has come, and these days are here, and their ears have turned from the truth and are turned unto fables!—Like evolution!

"Because they received NOT the LOVE of the TRUTH, that they might be saved, for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth!" (2Th.2:10-12) And if you don't like the truth, you've only got one alternative—a lie!—And damnation!

DO YOU BELIEVE IN GOD? Look at the World, look at the beautiful trees, look at the flowers, look at the sea, look at the sky!—Does God love you?—You can see it and you can feel it in the beautiful World He's given you to live in!

GOD is the only One Who can give MEANING to the Universe and purpose to the planets and love to our hearts and peace to our minds and health to our bodies and rest to our spirits and happiness to our lives and joy to our souls and the wisdom to know that "the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom" and "the wisdom of this World is foolishness with God"! (Pr.9:10; 1Cor.3:19) Take Jesus and His Truth today!

[The Importance of Christians and Churches Speaking Out About Cultural and Civil Problems](#)



There are not many churches and pastors who talk about cultural and social issues from the pulpit, topics such as the wars America has been involved in, the southern border crises, the evils of the LGBTQ agenda, the genocide Israel is committing in Gaza, etc. The only ones I know of in the USA besides the Christians in this interview are Chuck Baldwin of Liberty Fellowship in Montana, Michael Hoggard of Bethel Church, Missouri, Steven Anderson of Faithful Word Baptist Church in Tempe, Arizona, and John MacArthur of Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, California, who defied the governor of California by disregarding the COVID-19 lockdown mandates. I'm sure there must be many others, but obviously, they are way too few because the churches in America have *not* had the effect on society today they used to have up to the 19th century.

The transcript and video below is an interview led by two leaders of an organization called, [Our Country Our Choice](#) (OCOC), Colonel (retired) Douglas Macgregor and Pastor Casey (that's the only name given.) They discuss current events with a pastor, [Gary Hamrick of Cornerstone Chapel](#). I deem them all to be solid Bible Believing Jesus Christ following Christians.

Transcript

Gary Hamrick: It's unfortunate but a lot of times Christians today feel like they're not supposed to get involved in politics in any way shape or form. The fact of the matter is **the First Amendment was given to us to keep government out of the Church, not the Church out of the government.** And so unfortunately too many Christians have been sitting on the sidelines, and a lot of pastors have been encouraging them to sit it out. The result is, that we have a country in which many of us are not liking the direction (it's going).

And we always understand that in the big picture of things, of course, the enemy is at work. And the Bible tells us the world is going to get more corrupt and more evil as we get closer to the return of Christ. But, at the same time, the Church should be that restraining force against evil in our world. If we sit it out then evil will just run rampant.

That's why Christians are supposed to be involved. Because why? Jesus told us to be salt and light! And salt and light means you penetrate the darkness as light, and you flavor the world as salt.

And so unfortunately too many Christians have been sitting it out, and too many pastors think that you shouldn't get political. My response is, look, all these issues that we're looking at today when everything from the whole transgender sexual identity confusion, the thing about same-sex marriage and abortion and all these issues, I mean, these are issues that the Bible speaks about. So **when the government has gotten involved in these issues of life and liberty and sexuality, they've crossed into our lane.** And so **the Church needs to be engaged to be a voice of reason and a restraining force against evil in our world today.**

So that's my basic take on why Christians should be involved because there's a mandate to be salt and sight and to not sit it out, to be a restraining

force against evil in our world.

Pastor Casey: Fantastic! Well-spoken. In fact, God's moral law does restrain evil. One of the things that we like to say here at OCOC is that the truth will set you free but you must speak. And so the truth will set you free, but when we speak God's moral law, it has a restraining factor. Thou shalt not lie, and thou shalt not kill, those things that God has established from the very beginning. When we speak those things, it helps not only to restrain evil but to guide Christians. It also is a conviction factor.

When we talk about the Gospel, it brings the lost under conviction and they see that they are sinners in need of a savior. Tell us briefly about the Gospel before we move on to the next subject if you don't mind.

Gary Hamrick: Well, the Gospel is central to what what we're about. I mean, it's the good news of Jesus Christ, putting your faith and trust in what Christ did for us.

The beautiful thing about Christianity is that it's different from all other world religions. All other world religions put the burden on you to try to get up to God. Christianity tells us, the Gospel tells us, that God came down to us. And He took on flesh and died for our sins. And so our faith and trust are in Him as our Lord and Savior.

And that's important to add to, and I'm glad you asked the question because sometimes I'll get accused of, "You're putting government above God." Not at all. We believe the central message of Truth is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. But at the same time, Martin Luther once said, "If you preach the Gospel in all aspects with the exception of the issues which deal specifically with your time, you are not preaching the Gospel at all." Jesus is central to everything we're about, and from Him, all other things flow.

Pastor Casey: Well said! Thank you very much. In regards to Christian participation in the Gospel, I think nothing else needs to be said. And now I'm really interested in how we can encourage perhaps a mindset towards these endless wars. You said on your website that you're a News Junkie and I'm sure you've seen the colonel and his contributions, so you guys dialogue a little bit in regards to the two front wars that are going on and why and all of these things that us as Christians need to be educated on how we view these types of things to be able to help steer our country in the right direction.

Gary Hamrick: Well Colonel, I'm going to defer to you to answer that question first.

Col. Douglas Macgregor: Well, to go back a little bit, you know the whole point of the (US) Constitution if you read through the statements of the people that wrote it up, was to leave us in the maximum freedom possible. And that's really the idea. The Constitution is all about *what the government cannot do*. It doesn't say what we must do, it says this is what the government cannot do to *you*. And we forget that. And increasingly we're dealing with people in Washington who are desperate to fundamentally change us. They want to change us by bringing in millions and millions of people

whom we know nothing about, who are not coming to become Americans. That's all nonsense. They're coming to jump into the giant consumption machine and profit. We know that. And of course, our rule of law has been largely destroyed as a result of this sort of thing.

The issue is fundamentally this: The wars that we've been involved with, certainly since the Korean War, are almost universally things that we started. I'd say that perhaps the Persian Gulf Wars are one exception. We essentially responded to something that had happened in the region. Our goals were limited, and we went and then we left. All of the other wars have involved precipitating hostility for reasons removed from the interests of the American people because a small number of people in Washington made decisions that it was in our interest to do something without ever consulting us.

No one declares war. There are few if any debates anywhere about what we should or shouldn't do. Everyone seems to be very anxious to bomb and sanction repeatedly. If we take Christianity seriously, I don't think Jesus would tell us to sanction and bomb everyone into submission.

But I don't hear enough from Christians about that. Why are they not standing up and questioning the wisdom and the conduct of these wars? How many people have we killed unnecessarily? How much have we destroyed unnecessarily? And at the same time, is this a distraction so that we pay no attention to what's being done to us by our own government here at home? So why don't you think about that and tell us what your views are?

Gary Hamrick: The debate I suppose is over America's vital interests in the world and whether or not we should get involved in certain wars to protect those vital interests. And at times I'm a little fuzzy on what's our vital interests. I don't know, sometimes when I see us engaged in different wars, the one thing that troubles me is you mentioned the border.

The border is a huge crisis right now. And you're right, it's not people coming over necessarily to find a new beginning. I think a big concern for me at least is the potential for terrorism and terrorist cells to be coming into the United States through a very porous southern border in particular. I just heard yesterday that even the northern border has more terrorists on the watch list. And so, we have to protect our borders.

By the way, God's not opposed to borders. He kind of divided up the nation of Israel to the 12 tribes of Israel. And they had borders in which to live and the nations had borders. And so that's pretty biblical.

I've been concerned with how much money are we sending to the war in Ukraine that could be put into protecting our own borders. So there does seem to be a conflict of how we're spending our resources for some of these battles compared to what we need even to protect our own home front.

Col. Douglas Macgregor: Yeah, I agree. If I could just mention that the border crisis should be deemed as a war, and it is because it's one-sided and we're not coming to the forefront there. And so if we were taking it

seriously, and we were to dispatch our military or our army over there, and put a stop to the cartels, to put a stop to all of the traffickings, to put a stop to all of the ridiculous rapes and child abductions, and this is a crisis and it's definitely been ignored to a big extent. I would really love to see Christians say, "We've had enough. We've got to stand up for what's right."

Gary Hamrick: I just had a friend who went down to the southern border to personally eyewitness some things, and he said he saw three buses unload of military age-fighting Chinese men! Now, why are three busloads of military-age Chinese young men coming across our border? Not for good reasons, I guarantee you.

Col. Douglas Macgregor: That's right. And by the way, a number of those are, I'm told, people that were actually sought in China for various criminal activities. Some of them were involved in the shadow banking industry with financial crime. This is a huge issue right now in China. They're really going to town, so to say, against senior party members and bureaucrats who have cheated and stolen vast sums of money. And these are probably some of those people. That's the biggest problem.

A friend of mine who is from El Salvador sent me an email last night and he wrote, "Don't people understand that a lot of the men who are from Latin America who want to join the US military, I know where they're from, they're MS-13 (an international criminal gang)! They're joining the Army or the Marines so they can get some experience, then get out and continue their criminal activities here with citizenship. This is a catastrophe for us. He pointed out that it has taken him six years to become an American citizen. So he was very upset about this whole thing.

I find people who have come here legally are among the most strident opponents of illegal immigration. And too many Americans are too busy watching the latest football game and following Taylor Swift's affairs to pay attention to what's really important. We have got to get their attention, and I don't know what it's going to take.

Well, would you stop for a second and tell us in your estimation what you think we could do? We're an organization that is not satisfied with simply complaining, we want to take action. We want to cooperate with people, particularly with churches across the country. And by the way, we are not exclusively a religious organization. You don't have to be a Christian per se to be a member of OCOC. We just regard those (Christian) values largely as essentially founding values of the country. I know it's not popular to say that but that's true. But the point is, how do we get more churches, more organizations, and people who are similarly minded as we are to join us? We welcome any suggestions you have in any context that you want to suggest to us after the program.

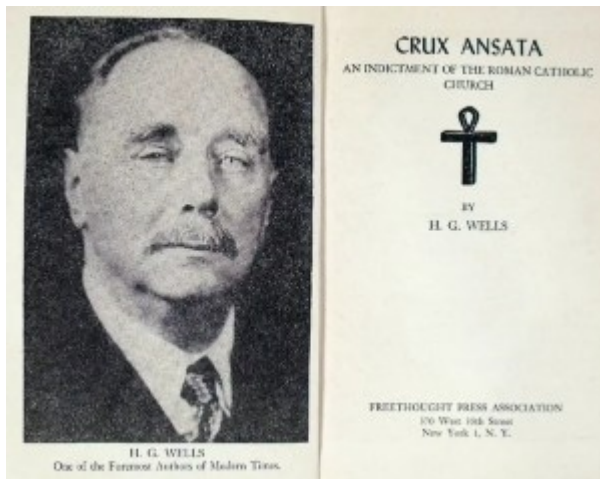
Gary Hamrick: I would be glad to share some of that with you. One of the things that I'm most concerned about is the lack of involvement of the local church in important civil and cultural issues, let alone governance. It's because there's silence in the pulpits! When pastors are not helping their

people to become engaged in the issues of the day, they're not going to see the need and importance of doing so.

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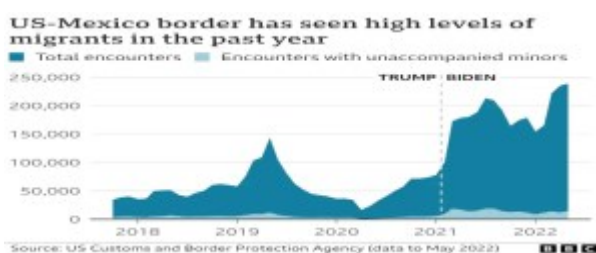
The above are the most important points in the video, about half of it. Please listen to the entirety below.

Book Review: Crux Ansata– An Indictment Of The Roman Catholic Church, By H. G. Wells



H. G. WELLS, world-known author and historian, gives us in this latest book his frank convictions about the meddling, reactionary policies of the Roman Catholic Church.

Main Points of the US Border Crisis – A Planned Foreign Invasion



The article I transcribed on January 20, [The US Border Crisis – A Planned Foreign Invasion](#) is a long read, and that may discourage some people from reading it all. Because I consider what Doug Thornton has to say is vital for Americans to know, I compiled its main points in this post to make it only 1/10 of the length of the previous post.

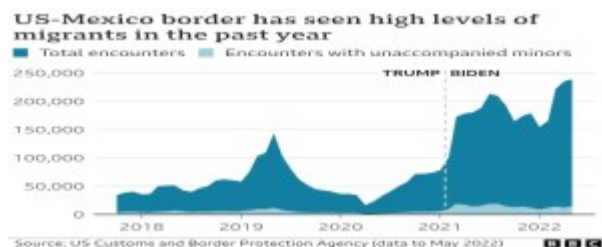
For the record, I do not advocate acts of violence against government officials. I do not own a firearm, but neither do I live in America anymore. I'm not against getting a firearm if I live in an area of high crime. I believe one of the main reasons why America has not yet fallen into total tyranny is because of the Second Amendment of the Constitution, the right to bear arms. I believe if the government outlaws guns, only outlaws will have guns. And I can tell you for a fact, that this is the situation in Japan! Though the average Japanese citizen was disarmed long ago, the Japanese mafia – the Yakuza – have guns. They use them to shoot each other, rival gangs.

Doug Thornton is the host of a podcast called American Vendicta. He is also a retired US Marine and a former federal police officer who worked for the Department of Homeland Security for 10 years. He worked for the Federal Protective Service as the uniform law enforcement side of the federal government. Many times he went down to the border to assist units from Border Patrol and CBP (Customs and Border Protection) for their border operations. The following quotations are all from Mr. Thornton. I slightly rewrote some of the things he said to make them clearer.

- The last 10 years we've had a million people yearly cross the border either illegally or coming through here and just slipping the system, then that's easily 10 million people. But what we typically say is for every million we don't catch. There are two to 3 million that get by. So if we take that estimate and then we flip it on its head, We're easily in the last decade at 30 to 40 million people undocumented.
- Many of them are multiple-time felons pedophiles, torturers, rapists, human traffickers, gun traffickers, terrorists, known cartels, and known gang affiliates like the MS 13 (an international criminal gang).
- You also then have other problems like diseases that come across. But one of the things that seems to slip the mind of Congress, though they know, is the amount of terrorism that comes across the border, the amount of known terrorism that's being found coming across the border that the FBI blatantly turns the other way.
- One of the simple forms of having a definition for invasion is an untold amount of people being granted access into the country against the will of the people there to deteriorate the laws and the customs and procedures of the people. Now, after that, if you are in the legislative system or the executive branch you will fully allow that to happen, knowing that you're bringing disease, crime, terrorism, and sex slave trafficking to include many children trafficked, not just into America, but from America, and then out of America, **then you would be more defined as a traitor by that term.**
- You take these people from socialist communist countries and they're men of fighting age. And they are bussed here. They didn't walk. They did not walk here. They were bussed here. Who bussed them? George Soros.

- The cartel is a Fortune 500 company. And we've known it. We've watched them. We monitor them. We observe them. They'll send us sometimes at these border patrol checkpoint stations, they'll send us an 18-wheeler filled with weed. You can smell it coming over the bridge. Then the dogs hit on it. And then we have a merry time tearing the truck apart. And it sucks us all in. And **meanwhile, the truck full of fentanyl goes this way. Or a truck with a nuclear missile goes this way. We won't know because we're so busy with checking out the 18-wheeler filled with weed.**
- If Donald Trump doesn't get re-elected, do you think the average person in America is going to sit back and not complain about it? And then from there, do you think there's a small group of people who aren't going to take up arms about it? January 6 was a precursor to what 2024 is. If you think of it as this, January 6 was planned in 2016. If that's true. Then 2024 was planned in 2020 in 2021 with January 6. So I believe that they are planning and building up the pressure building in the pot for a violent reaction from the people.
- And the Vatican plays a large part in it, Chris. You know this, we have NGOs, nongovernment organizations on the border that are helping affiliates, they're trying to bring these people coming across the border, who are not all Christians. They're bringing these people across the border and then they're funneling them all over the United States.
- You have entities like almost every Catholic Church, then to include the Red Cross that are all sponsored by the Vatican, and controlled by the Vatican. They are the main culprits and moving people. It's always been a Catholic Church that shows up somewhere at midnight with a van when we got, a busload or two of the illegals. And then they come and pick them up and they drive them away because they are helping the government with re-purposing these people, bringing them to other places.
- So if the government fails us, and they're obviously failing us for a reason, I don't care what Congressman comes out and grandstands for five minutes about how bad the border is. The majority of Republicans and Democrats are doing this.
- And Canada has its bigger point to play in this as well. This is also happening in Canada. Most people don't know this. You can take a flight from Mexico, direct flight into Canada, and then just walk right across the border.
- Mass migrants aren't going to South America to stay. They're all being sent to America. It's to destabilize. There can be no other reason except to destabilize the economy, rattle up the people, and destroy the inner workings of our government, especially by creating social disorder like crime.
- The inevitable goal is the invasion of America. Why stage a war, why float across an invasion force of people? If I was a diabolical person and I wanted to take down America, this is what I would do. I would pay your politicians to allow my army to come across. And it's so hard and too obvious to bring my army from Beijing and from St. Petersburg and Moscow over to Mexico, then we'll just hire our friends in South America, who are all on our side, and we'll send them up first. And that'll be the initial force. All you need is an initial force of people.

The US Border Crisis – A Planned Foreign Invasion



Retired US Marine and a former federal police officer Doug Thornton exposes the sinister reason behind the US border crisis. A must read!

Five Things to Watch for in 2024



This article is a partial transcription of an audio on Christian J. Pinto's [Noise of Thunder Radio program](#).

My wife and I like to listen to Chris Pinto. He's a solid Bible-believing Christian, a former Catholic like we were who is very knowledgeable about the Counter-Reformation and the evil-doings of the Jesuit Order. However, we don't agree with him about his support of Israel in the latest Israeli-Hamas war in Gaza. Of course, any nation has a right to defend itself, but the way Israel is bombing Gaza indiscriminately, bombing hospitals and churches, killing media personnel, women and children, is not what I would call "self-defense." I would call it war crimes, ethnic cleansing and genocide. According to the testimonials of former IDF soldiers, the IDF purposely left that part of the border with Gaza unguarded so that Hamas would invade and do what they did so Israel could have the excuse to do what they are doing now!

In Chris Pinto's 2004 documentary, Megiddo – The March to Armageddon (Adullam Films), he stated that the 1948 restoration of the State of Israel was the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. I sure don't agree with him on that. All the prophecies of the restoration of Israel back to their homeland in the book of Ezekiel were fulfilled by King Cyrus telling the Jews they could return to their homeland if they wanted to. By the time of Christ, they were firmly

settled back in the land God formerly gave them. In the documentary, I heard one Zionist preacher say, "If Israel is defeated by her enemies, you can throw your Bibles away!" Such a presumptuous and arrogant statement! It's outrageous for any Christian to say that! What people should say when things don't go the way they think the Bible says is: "My interpretation of Scripture must therefore be wrong! Does the Bible actually teach that doctrine? Or did I get it from some dispensational Christian Zionist preacher who got it from the Dallas Theological Seminary that got it from C.I. Scofield who got it from John Nelson Darby who got it from Edward Irving who got it from Jesuit Manuel Lacunza, a Roman Catholic who worked to undermine the Protestant Reformation? Yep, that's where I got it from, not from the inerrant Word of God."

All that being said, we like Chris Pinto's take on everything else.

Transcript

Okay, praise the Lord you guys and welcome. I'm Chris Pinto. This is Noise of Thunder Radio.

Today on the show we are going to talk about five things to watch for in 2024. If you are an American, if you're a member of Western civilization, and I would argue if you are a God-fearing Bible-believing Christian, these are things you should watch for in 2024.

Now, why do I think this is important? Well, I think it's very important because society and the Western world and our country, the United States of America, if people are not aware of the danger, the rising danger that we are in the middle of right now, then you're just not paying attention, whoever you are, you're not paying attention. And it's why we have to pay attention to things like what happened to the countries of Western Europe during World War II.

I've mentioned on this program before, that one of my favorite foreign films is called KATYN, about the Katyn Forest Massacre based on actual events. It was a history I grew up hearing about from my grandfather Ziggy, Zygmunt Zadarowski, who I've talked about on the program before, who was a World War II veteran. His country, Poland, was turned upside down, practically overnight. There was a peace treaty declared by Hitler with Neville Chamberlain and so on. And so everybody's declaring, "Hey, we're all going to be at peace. Everything's going to be great!"

And then the invasion of Poland happened sometime afterward. And Poland, the people of Poland, were turned upside down overnight. And when you watch the beginning of that film, Katyn, you just watched the first five or ten minutes of it. And you've got all these civilians wearing ordinary clothing, just running. And they're carrying suitcases and bags, and they've got their young children. And why? Because their country's been invaded by the Nazis on one side and by the Communists on the other, the Soviets. And everything changed very, very quickly.

There's another film that was done not long ago by Angelina Jolie, called

"First They Killed My Father" about the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. I would recommend watching the first 15 minutes of that film because you see a family there at the beginning. And again, this is all based on a true story, based on a book written by a woman who was a young girl when all of this happened to her country. At the very beginning, you see a Cambodian family, but they are very Westernized. That's obvious that they were Westernized because of the way that they dress, the things that they're doing are very much like what goes on in the West. And then what happens is very rapidly, suddenly, everything changes. These guys with guns come riding in, and they're having a celebration briefly, and then right after them comes the Khmer Rouge, the Communists. And they were there, of course, for the killing fields of Cambodia. But everything changes in a moment. Everything's turned upside down. And they're told, pack your bags, get your things. Everybody's got to clear out of the city in 10 minutes. I mean, it's very fast.

And you see it at the very beginning when the Khmer Rouge come in, one of the first things they do is gather everybody's guns. Everybody's firearms. They disarm everybody. And of course, you're wondering as an American, if you're an American, you're watching this happen and you're thinking, "Why didn't anybody resist these guys? Why didn't anybody try to fight back or whatever?" But for whatever reason, they did not. They allowed themselves to be disarmed. They allowed themselves to be rounded up and then taken on a forced march and everything went downhill from that point onward.

So what's happening in our country right now with things like this massive flood of illegals coming into our country? I mean, this is unheard of. It's unprecedented. What's happening? We've never had anything like this happen in our history, where there's a massive flood of illegal criminals jumping the border. Meanwhile, we've got politicians like Nikki Haley, who claims she's some kind of Republican and some kind of a patriot, but she's saying it's wrong to call them criminals because supposedly they're just coming here for a better life. That is what we're told, even though the guys that work down there will tell you in a hot minute that most of those coming across the border are fighting-age men. They're not necessarily women and children. Very, very few women and children, mostly fighting-age men, and thousands, who knows how many thousands, of Islamic jihadi are crossing the border.

All right, so these are not in any particular order. The five things to watch for in 2024.

Number 1: The After effects of illegal immigration

But since we've already introduced the idea, I'm going to say number one is the aftereffects of illegal immigration. And it's already started. We've been hearing stories, but here's one of the latest. This is published on a number of different websites. I'm just going to read a few lines from the Geller report, Pamela Geller's website, where it says New York City students are forced to go remote as the city houses migrants in schools. So in New York City, they are now putting the kids out of their public schools. Kids can't go in the schools now because they are making room for the illegal immigrants. We've already heard stories about them doing this at the hotels. People can't check into the hotel because they're putting all these illegal

migrants into the hotels. The government is doing it at taxpayer expense.

All right, so here's just a part of this story.

Quote, "Students at a Brooklyn high school were kicked out of the classroom to make room for nearly 2000 migrants who were evacuated from a controversial tent shelter due to a monster storm closing in on the Big Apple."

And then you've got people complaining about it. People are saying things like, "They're not vetted. A lot of them have criminal records and backgrounds and we don't even know." The people in New York are obviously very concerned about this. And this is going to reach a breaking point at some point. I think New Yorkers are going to decide that they've had enough.

This massive inflow of illegals is just going to make things worse. And we've got repeated warnings from people who work on the border, people like Doug Thornton, who I interviewed, many of you heard that interview. If you haven't heard it go to our website at noiseofthunderradio.com and look in the archives back a couple of shows and you can listen to it. Very, very important interview. But they've been warning that there will likely be another 9-11 type event. This is what the guys down on the border are saying, the guys who I think are loyal patriots. They're warning because they're watching thousands upon thousands of illegals who are coming from the Middle East, who are Muslims, who are Islamists, rushing into our country, unvetted. And they believe that these guys have an agenda. It's just a matter of time. That's why it is important to pay attention to, at a variety of levels, the aftereffects of illegal immigration.

Now, I want to play very quickly and then we're going to move on to the number two issue. Right now we're talking about illegal immigration. I want to play this audio. This is from Joe Biden. This is Joe Biden even before he became president, before he was installed in the White House, talking about the massive flood of immigrants into our country. Listen.

"Folks like me who were Caucasian of European descent, for the first time in 2017 will be an absolute minority in the United States of America. Absolute minority. Fewer than 50% of the people in America from then on will be white European stock. That's not a bad thing. That's a source of our strength."

So that again was a video featuring Joe Biden. This is back when Biden was vice president. This was in 2015. It's a C-SPAN video.

And sitting right next to Biden, of course, is another Jesuit, Mayorkas. If you don't know that Mayorkas is a Jesuit, yes, he is also a Jesuit. And what they're doing is we're going to show you in our new film, American Jesuits, which yes, folks, we are still pushing and working to get this project completed. But the information is so important. It is impacting what is going on in our country right now. This massive flood of immigrants into our country. This is part of the Vatican's plan has been for more than a hundred years. And we're going to show it to you. And it's happening right now. We're sitting here watching the fulfillment of what we were warned about back in the 1800s.

Number 2: The rise of Islam in Europe and North America

Number two, we're going to say the rise of Islam in Europe and North America. And this, I think, is a very good segue because Islam and immigration, both legal and illegal immigration into the West, is something that is becoming an increasing problem.

I want to play now some audio. This is from FBI director Christopher Ray. Christopher Ray, let's go to the person who's seen as the senior source in our government on this. And this is Christopher Ray with the FBI warning about the potential for Islamic terror attacks on American soil. Listen.

"The reality is that the terrorism threat has been elevated throughout 2023, but the ongoing war in the Middle East has raised the threat of an attack against Americans in the United States to a whole other level. But it's not just Hamas. As the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism, the Iranians, for instance, have directly or by hiring criminals mounted assassination attempts against dissidents and high-ranking current and former U.S. government officials, including right here on American soil, the cyber targeting of American interests and critical infrastructure that we already see conducted by Iran and non-state actors alike, we can expect to get worse if the conflict expands as will the threat of kinetic attacks.

Al-Qaeda issued its most specific call to attack the United States in the last five years. ISIS urged its followers to target Jewish communities in the United States and Europe. Hezbollah has publicly expressed its support for Hamas and threatened to attack U.S. interests in the Middle East. Here in the United States, our most immediate concern is that violent extremists, individuals or small groups will draw inspiration from the events in the Middle East to carry out attacks against Americans going about their daily lives."

All right, so again, that is and was Christopher Ray, director of the FBI. So that's about as official as a warning can get. But of course, that warning does not really come from him. It does. But it's something that loyal American patriots who are boots on the ground, who were eyes and ears down at the Mexican border and have been down there for years, this is something they've been warning about for years.

So that is certainly an important issue. The rise of Islam in Europe and North America. Now that's really a warning for North America and the United States in particular.

(Station break)

The documentary film, American Jesuits, is going to be very, very powerful, especially for people who know nothing about the Jesuits, they'll be able to have a very solid understanding of why the order is a danger both past and present. Because we bring things current. We bring things so current. And I'm going to talk more about this, but Vivek Ramaswami, we've just learned Ramaswami is a Jesuit. But yes, he's Jesuit-educated. And we'll talk more about that as the show goes on. But anyway, we are going to show people why

this is an important issue, why the Jesuits and the counter-reformation are important in our world today and why we as Christians living in America need to harken to the warnings from scripture, of wolves and sheep's clothing, and two, the many, many warnings of our ancestors for the past 200 years warning us about the Society of Jesus, the so-called Society of Jesus, the Jesuit order.

Okay, so number two on our list is the rise of Islam in Europe and North America. In Europe, if you go to the RARE Foundation, R-A-I-R foundation.com, they've got a series of articles right now warning. There is a series of articles about thousands of German women raped by refugees since 2015. This is just in Germany. Now, we've talked about the rape gangs in England in the UK over the past 20 years. Reportedly, have assaulted and violated more than a million English girls, 11, 12, 13 year old girls over the past 20 years. And that number is now much worse. But they're saying that in Germany, two gang rapes happen per day against the women in Germany, two per day. You have in France on New Year's Eve, a disabled woman was violently beaten and raped in an elevator. That's one of the stories.

Another story is, weaponized prayer, Islamic displays of territorial dominance. Whenever you see those images of hundreds and sometimes thousands of Muslims bowing down in prayer in a public place, they go into cities like Paris, London, Rome, etc. where this article says, people have observed a uniquely Islamic display of dominance over the local population. This display has a veneer of religious observance as people are clearly engaged in Islamic prayer. However, since there are always mosques available or private spaces within which these observances could be done, one has to conclude that the purpose is clearly other than mere observance of Islamic prayer requirements.

So in other words, what they're saying is that the Muslims will deliberately go into public places where people normally are walking up and down the road and this kind of thing. And they will block everything with their Islamic prayer because it's one of the ways. It's kind of a form of intimidation and psychological warfare to say basically Islam is taking over. That's why they do it. And they're doing it in these cities all over Europe. Do you know that these Islamic street prayers are actually a confrontation and a statement? The Muslims are asserting their supremacy implicitly demanding that everyone else who wants to pass along the street has to accommodate them. This is a manifestation of the old Islamic dictum that quote, "Islam must dominate and not be dominated." Now, there's no question that this is happening. There's no question that it is that you've got millions of Muslims now in the United Kingdom and they are pursuing more and more acts of aggression so that Islam will eventually dominate England in the whole UK.

Number 3: World War III

Okay, so that's two. Number three, in my opinion, World War Three, is kind of odd, you would think that would either be number one or number five, right? But we're just going to, we're going to make it number three, World War Three, the situation with Ukraine, Russia, and Israel. Notice what's happening, you have all of these conflicts and these entanglements where the United States is being blamed by Russia for our support of Ukraine. And now

we're being blamed by the Islamic element out there because of our support of Israel, the state of Israel.

Number 4: The resurgence of COVID-19

Okay, so number four, the resurgence of COVID-19, the resurgence of COVID-19. There are repeated warnings that they are going to try to bring back mask mandates, that they're going to try to bring back lockdowns and all this other kind of stuff. Illegal immigration should inform every American, of the fact that they brought in millions and millions of unvetted, untested people that they know are going to have various viruses and things like that. And the fact that they've exercised no caution at all about this should be everything that we need to know that an attempt, a future attempt at some kind of lockdown and social distancing and this kind of thing is all just a show. It's a sham. It's, about power and control.

If they were really concerned about the spread of viruses and this kind of thing, they would never allow millions and millions of unvetted people to come running across our border. They just would not allow it. But that's what should tell us that among many other indicators.

But yes, the resurgence of COVID-19, it is entirely possible that there will be COVID 2.0 and they're going to attempt to impose some kind of COVID tyranny. Now, we were warned about this last year that this was going to happen. And we didn't really see much of anything happen in the months that followed. We were warned that in the fall, beginning in the fall in November, December, here just a few months ago, that this was going to happen and it didn't happen. I think there is a lot of pushback and I think that Americans and freedom-loving people all over the world should continue to push back in a, you know, peaceful, protesting, exercising the First Amendment to the full extent so that the powers that be understand that society is not going to cooperate with all this lockdown stuff. And, if enough people are sounding the alarm and making noise, then it's very likely that these globalist powers will back down because they are somewhat pragmatic, I believe.

Of course, I believe the chief counselors are Jesuits. We're going to show you that in the new film because we're going to have a whole section on COVID-19 and the Jesuit order because the connections are undeniable, undeniable. But the Jesuits are very pragmatic, very pragmatic. So they'll back down. That doesn't mean that they're going to quit. Don't misunderstand. It doesn't mean that they're going to quit in terms of their globalist ambitions, but they'll sort of back off a bit because they don't want to push the envelope too far. That's what I think. I could be wrong. We'll have to wait and see. But yes, it's definitely something to look out for. The continued corruption of the medical industry for the purpose of using the medical industry for medical warfare against the people in our country, which I honestly believe is what's going on. Medical warfare, biowarfare, they're calling the vaccine a bioweapon. You've got people, a very official people calling the COVID vaccine a bioweapon.

So we've got to pay attention to this and be on the lookout in 2024. It'll be very interesting to see if more COVID tyranny rears its ugly head.

Number 5: The 2024 presidential race

Now, the number five issue. That was the number four resurgence of COVID-19. Number five, the big issue is going to be the 2024 presidential race.

For the office of the president of the United States of America, there's no question that's going to become, I believe, I think, unless something catastrophic something or other that happens. I think the presidential race with everything going on with President Trump, everything going on with Joe Biden and all these candidates.

Nikki Haley is getting a lot of attention, but we think Nikki Haley is a globalist. We do not believe she is a true conservative Republican. And we think she's a globalist. And then you have Vivek Ramaswami, Ramaswami, who's getting a lot of attention, a lot of the conservatives seem to like him. And we've had a friend, in fact, Steve Matthews from the Trinity Foundation, who appears in our new film, forward to me, a story about Ramaswami that he graduated from St. Xavier High School. And what he is, St. Xavier High School won't remove Vivek Ramaswami from the Board of Trustees. He's not only a graduate, this is a Jesuit-run private high school in Cincinnati, or in the Cincinnati region, it says, won't remove the presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswami from its Board of Trustees. The board's chairman said Wednesday. Apparently, his conservative comments are considered controversial. Some of the St. Xavier High School alumni are calling for the school to oust Ramaswami from its 25-member board of trustees. So, bear in mind, he's not just a graduate of this Jesuit high school. He's not just an alumnus. He is a member of its Board of Trustees. So, he's, again, this is a more solid Jesuit connection. Lots of people graduate from their schools. Not all of them have this kind of close association. And of course, Ramaswami is a Hindu, and he has a Hindu view of Jesus, which quite frankly is perfectly acceptable with the Jesuit order because it all fits in with what they wrote and communicated in Vatican Council II.

Do I think Ramaswami would make a good president? He might be better than Joe Biden, but I still would not want to see him in the White House. He has a very clear Jesuit connection. He's being supported on the conservative side of things. I think he is a, you know, it's, it's kind of like the order is trying to control both sides of the argument. Some people say the same thing about President Trump because Trump went to Fordham University. He did not graduate from Fordham. He was only there for two years, and he left and went to a different university. I've never thought that President Trump was, quote, a Jesuit. I've never seen him that way. I don't think he really represents the Jesuit agenda. The only thing that the main, well, the two main things with President Trump that are troubling for me is one, the fact that he gives any support to LGBT politically. That's one, and two, his support for the vaccine. And he continues to support the vaccine. Now the one possible, you know, upside of all of that is that he has also called in his campaign.

For an investigation into the health of children in particular, you've got so many kids being diagnosed with autism and these other conditions and a lot of people are pointing to the vaccine industry and the medical industry overall.

If there is a second Trump administration and they do a sincere investigation into the medical industry, that would be a very needed and I think positive thing. And I say, if, quote, unquote, if we'll have to wait and see what happens and just pray for the Lord's help and guidance for our country and our people in the days ahead.

I wanted to play a brief clip here as we round this out. So that's all five issues. The five things to watch for, in my opinion, in 2024. Illegal immigration, the rise of Islam, World War Three, the resurgence of COVID-19 and number five, the 2024 presidential race, all of that will be forthcoming in 2024.

Also, Simon Roch I should mention, even though I didn't play this part of his interview, he goes out of his way to tell us that his organization is an exclusively Christian organization, that they are Christians, and they do not seek to have non-Christians come and join with them or anything like that. They are very boldly, unapologetically Christian in their worldview and in their approach to everything they're doing, praise the Lord!

Christians need to become more partisan for Christianity and not allow the globalist influence to convince you that you're supposed to be defending atheism and Islam and all of these other alternative beliefs. We're really not called to defend the non-Christian beliefs of the world. Remember, the commandment of God, according to the Apostle Paul, is that God commands that all men everywhere repent and turn away from the idols of the world and put their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Indeed, as Peter said, He is Lord of all.

We are not called to tell everybody else who has an alternative belief that their belief is somehow or other equally valid or anything like that. No, we are called to communicate the Word of God and God's command that all men everywhere repent and put their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord.

[The US Federal Reserve System Changed the Definition of Money](#)



This is a transcription of a talk by [Kirk Elliott, Ph.D.](#), the founder of Sovereign Advisors, a consulting firm that helps investors with wealth management.

The “Federal Reserve” or FED as it’s called, is a misnomer. It’s not a part of the American federal government, and there’s no reserve. It’s a private monopoly on money creation granted by the U.S. Government. It’s a corporation of banking cartels. To learn more about that, please read [The Creature from Jekyll Island by G. Edward Griffin](#).

Transcript

Before I can give a solution, I have to kind of show where we’re headed and how quickly, because they have mapped out the timeline now. It’s not us. And it’s here. And it’s right now.

Central bank digital currency has the ability to cut you off from buying or selling if your ideology doesn’t match up with theirs! These are their words, not mine. This started in August of 2019.

So [Federal Reserve docket OP – 1670](#). What is it? What does it say? I’m going to read it exactly so I don’t misquote it.

“The main economic attributes of a technically effective currency rests on three functions: as a unit of account, a store of value and as a medium of exchange.”

That’s what money actually is. So you have something you can trade back and forth with each other. It has a store value and a medium of exchange.

But, they added a fourth definition of money at the Federal Reserve. And that is the fourth definition of money as a means of social control.

It has nothing to do with fixing the System. In their own words, “Money is a means of social control.”

If you really wanted to control a person, you cut them off from buying or selling, their ability to live. Now you control that person. Now you’ve got a whole world, or in America, 330 million economic slaves. Right?

On Nov. 8th 2019, a patent was filed 62-758430. Who did this? Visa! The credit card company. What is their patent? Basically, it talks about how in this patent, they want to change money from paper to digital money. And every new digital currency that’s created, they’re going to take out a paper currency unit. Why? Because you can’t track private paper money. You can go to a farmer’s market. You can go anywhere. Nobody knows that you’re spending money if you use paper. But they can track everything if it’s digital. So to bring in a digital system, they have to get rid of the old. They’re getting rid of their private-based currency.

Now, it goes a little bit further. March 23, 2020, HR 6321. Okay, Maxine

Waters is responsible for this one. So financial protections and assistance for Americans, consumers, states, businesses, and vulnerable populations act. And this is what this is called. So what is it? It's direct stimulus payments for families, for renters. It's a social credit score for universal basic income!

Now, what is required for that? Number one, a digital dollar. Number two, a digital dollar wallet. Number three, a member bank that will actually accept digital dollars. So here's the thing. If you want to receive the government stimulus, you have to have a digital dollar. There is no other option.

Now extend that out a little bit further. If you want social security, well, they've already passed a bill that says if you want stimulus, what about social security? What about government pensions? What about any kind of government payment for retirement, anything? If you want it, you have to be part of that Beast System. And it's already.

As I read through the Bible as a kid and as an adult, it's like, how in the world could this Antichrist and the Mark of the Beast happen? People knew that it was coming. So in this sense, it's like, oh, it clicked, it makes sense. Even Christians, if they say, "I don't get my retirement? I don't get any payments unless I take the system? Well, I guess I might as well take the system," right?

I believe that it is the Book of Revelation actually happening. Yeah, I mean, if it looks like a duck, smells like a duck, walks like a duck, it's probably a duck, right? And these are in their own words, the ability to cut you off from buying or selling if they don't like your ideology. I don't know what else it is.

So then, here's when the rubber hits the road. March 6, 2022, executive order 14067. Biden penned it. Basically, that says, we're going to have central bank digital currency in America. March 29th, 2022, they start to talk about the ideology. Dr. Pippa Malmgren at the World Government Forum in Abu Dhabi. What did she say? She said, "Programmable money is the core of central bank digital currency." Programmable! Meaning, if we don't like you, we can flip the switch so you can't actually have your money. That's what programmable money means.

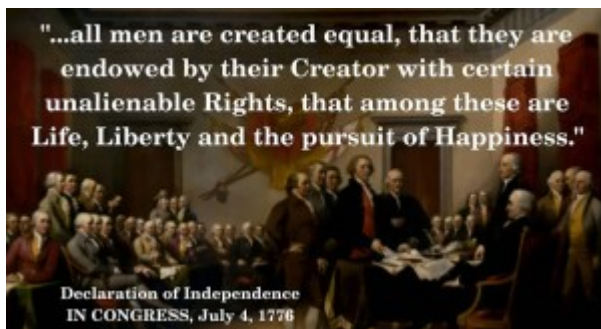
Then you go to March of 2023, the United Nations, our common agenda policy brief, right? So here's where the UN General Secretary says, "I propose that the General Assembly provide the Secretary-General and the United Nations system with a standing authority to convene an operationalized, automatically in an emergency, platform, in the event of a future complex global shock of sufficient scale severity and reach."

They're telling you we're going to use a crisis to do this. So what was that first crisis? COVID. What's the second crisis? Bank failure. What's the third crisis? Is it something worse than going on a health scare? A war? A war. I mean, so here's where they tell us. They tell us what could trigger it. I'm not making stuff up. I just read what they say.

So, you go to the next paragraph in this agenda policy brief, what could trigger the emergency authority? A major climatic event, a future pandemic risk, a global digital connectivity disruption, a major event in outer space, and a generic unforeseen risk like a solar flare.

So here's what it says at the end of it. It also states that while the emergency authority would have an initial finite lifespan, the UN could be able to extend it indefinitely.

Freedom And The Protestant Ethic



This article is from a PDF file on LutheranLibrary.org. It was published by The Converted Catholic Magazine. I think many Americans today don't realize the liberties they enjoy today came from Bible believing Protestant Christians.

ROMAN CATHOLICS are not aware that the great fundamental principles of American freedom – equal rights in a free State, equal privileges in a free church, and equal opportunities in a free school – are the heritage of Protestantism.

Rev. Dr. Alfred G. Walton, speaking in the Baptist Church of the Redeemer, Brooklyn, N. Y., stressed this fact as follows:

"The founding of the American Colonies was an outgrowth of the spirit of the Protestant movement which began in the sixteenth century. The Pilgrims and the Puritans who settled in New England laid the foundations of a new freedom and a new government, the spirit of which was rooted in the religious freedom which they sought. Out of that conception came the ideal of democratic government. Protestantism exalted the individual and the individual's right to think for himself and to act for himself.

"Standing for self-government in the Church as over against the government of the State or ecclesiastical authority, there developed the idea of self-government in other fields.

"The whole life of America has been built around this ideal of freedom. It has elaborated itself in a multitude of ways, in freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of the press and freedom of conscience... Whenever we acknowledge any form of freedom, we are sharing in the heritage of the

Protestant movement.”

Japanese Doctors Warn About the Side Effects of the COVID-19 Vaccines



This is a transcript of a press conference called by Japanese physicians. Throughout the decades when I lived in Japan, it's been my observation that most Japanese are honest people and are not easily deceived by the media. When they encounter difficulties, they'll do an honest investigation of the problem and won't be easily swayed by others.

Transcript

We are the General Incorporated Association of the Vaccine Injuries Study Group. We now have this press conference to report on the results of our study since its establishment. My name is Takeguchi, and I will be moderating the conference.

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to express my condolences to those who have passed away due to health issues after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. Furthermore, I extend my best wishes to those who have suffered health issues and those who are currently struggling with symptoms.

(Next speaker)

A systematic review of the literature has revealed some surprising facts. Thousands of papers have reported side effects after vaccination, which affect every organ without exception, ranging from ophthalmology (the diagnosis and treatment of eye disorders) to general medicine, to psychiatry. We have compiled this information into a paper that was published yesterday.

These documents have been preliminarily investigated by a group of volunteer physicians. They saw how many cases have been reported by Japanese academic societies. This kind of reporting on drug side effects or the like is unprecedented.

As my specialty is cancer, chemotherapy drugs are plagued with side effects, but the patterns are known and predetermined. The patterns of side effects

caused by this (COVID-19) vaccine are not determined. They can occur throughout the body. Multiple diseases can occur simultaneously. Doctors have never seen such a thing. This is the candid opinion of the medical profession.

Japanese doctors are also trying hard, but they face various obstructions. There's this sentiment of 'Why report something like vaccine damage?' There are interferences in reporting. Such actions themselves hinder academic freedom, and in some academic departments, censorship is taking place such as in conference presentations and publications of academic papers. This is happening globally. Some journals are effectively practicing censorship.

We are working on a paper that is expected to be published soon. Once published, we will be able to report in detail. For example, the age-adjusted mortality rate for leukemia has increased, and there are significant findings of breast cancer, ovarian cancer, and so on. We will share the relevant information with everyone as we advise and request the government on how to proceed.

Next, Prof. Yasufumi Murakami, the director in charge of the testing method development working group, will explain the progress of the test development and future outlook.

Prof. Yasufumi Murakami: Thank you, everyone. One thing I want to say initially is that it is clear how the adverse effects occur, which is still having many victims today. **I believe the vaccine should be stopped immediately.**

The mechanism by which adverse effects occur is well understood; **the spike [protein] is toxic.** It's very clear what happens when you administer a toxic gene to a human. Another point is that the Lipid nanoparticles, they are also toxic.

The major problem is that we are injecting two toxic substances into people, one of which is that human cells are producing spike proteins. Since the immune system will attack this, it causes very violent reactions. Some cases occur within one or two weeks after injection, but there are also many cases that appear after one or two years.

Additionally, there is indeed such a thing as good and bad antibodies in humans, and an antibody called IgG4 actually suppresses immunity. Usually with vaccines, if an IgG4 antibody is induced, it is considered a failure. However, with the current messenger-type vaccines, a significant amount of IgG4 is being induced. When this happens, it plays tricks on various immune functions. Therefore, we want to thoroughly investigate what ratio of Japanese people are experiencing this. We aim to carefully examine what level of IgG4 reacts with the spike protein that is present in each individual.

Of course, the problem is, we already understand these factors. Vaccines that have failed are still being administered, and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare recognizes these failed vaccines. So I would like to stop them immediately, but even though I speak out against the vaccine in various

places, they don't stop administering them at all. So we will clearly present evidence and publish it in articles one by one.

New speaker: So, we are working with Dr. Fukushima to create this database, and so far, about 201 types of diseases and 3,071 papers on side effects have been reported. **It is unprecedented in human history for a single vaccine to have this much literature out on it.** With this, we plan to present it to the nation and the Japanese government in the form of solid science that no one can dispute.

In the next slide you will find diseases of the heart, kidney, thyroid, diabetes, liver, skin, eyes, blood, nerves, systemic diseases, brain, and lungs, diseases across all medical fields have been reported as Prof. Fukushima states. The characteristic of the side effects of this vaccine is that they occur simultaneously within entire families.

As for the data, when diseases such as those of the heart, kidney, endocrine, and liver occur simultaneously with the range in which they occur, a tremendous number of papers are reported with many pages.

New speaker: Mental disorders, psychiatric symptoms, depression, mania, and anxiety, came up in abundance. It's endless. It's about understanding why this is happening. That's why, actually, with broader keywords, for example, not just COVID-19 vaccines but also SARS-CoV-2, messenger RNA vaccines, and the like, when you separate it out into various keywords, more and more results come up. So this is just a part of it. Even with what Dr. Inoue introduced earlier, it's just a part of what has been done with the PubMed database. There are things that won't be caught by PubMed. So like "Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD)", it's not caught, next slide.

However, there are such peer-reviewed papers out there from Dr. Montagnier who discovered HIV and received the Nobel Prize. It's a persuasive paper. But it disappeared. He was cautious from the beginning.

About the spike protein sequence, within the genes, you know, he was warning that if there's a prion-like (pathogenic type of misfolded protein) sequence, it could be very dangerous. Many scientists were warning about it. I too said it could be hazardous because of the possibility of prions. I discussed it with prion experts.

So, if you inject the vaccine into the muscle, it will be taken up by the surrounding cells. People who know nothing about medicine and biology don't think about such specific things, which is why they say it's an mRNA vaccine. However, if you know biology and medicine, such specific things don't happen. That is what we call off-target. Out of control beyond the target. It doesn't know where to go. If it goes into the bloodstream, it goes to the brain, liver, and kidneys. What if it went everywhere? That's something people don't think about. This off-target problem hasn't been solved.

And even if that is solved, there are still many problems. Because these nanoparticles, which were inflammatory earlier, are environmental issues, especially plastic nanoparticles, which are the world's number one problem.

They enter the brain. However, those who don't know anything say, "It's plastic, so it won't be digested, so it's okay to eat." They pretend to know, but it doesn't get digested. The person has no idea how toxic organic substances are attached to the surface of those plastic nanoparticles. So, with fragments of such knowledge, they exaggerate things and think they can go with this. They say, "I know! This is good!" So, honestly, they need to go back and redo from middle school biology to high school and university entrance exams.

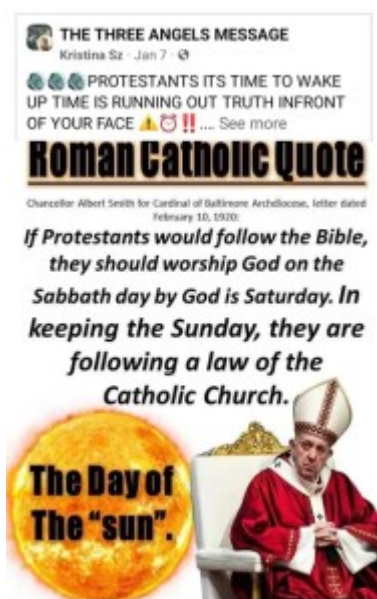
As I mentioned earlier, medicine is still immature. Basically, we don't understand much about the principles of life. Now, this kind of thing has happened, so, turning adversity into fortune, we should learn again here what happens instead of saying, "Go for it, go for it" with the vaccines. Well, it's like, ignorance is bliss. That's what this world is about. **Taking vaccines has become a kind of faith. Vaccines centers, they're like a weird cult. They're now basically fallen into an infinite hell.**

Simply thinking that things can be understood with fragments of knowledge is a mistake.

(End of transcript.)

If you are Japanese or understand the Japanese language, [click here to listen to the press conference](#).

[False Doctrines from the SDA Church on Social Media](#)



The Sabbath was a day of rest and not specifically designated as a day of worship! In the books of Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy, there are 8

verses with the words Sabbath and rest. The word worship is not in any of them.

Hurt and Bitterness—By Bill Gothard



William W. Gothard Jr. (born November 2, 1934) is an American Christian minister, speaker, and writer, and the founder of the Institute in Basic Life Principles (IBLP), an independent fundamentalist Christian organization. His conservative teachings encourage Bible memorization, large families, homeschooling, aversion to debt, familial patriarchy, the submission of wives to husbands, and modest attire. At the height of Gothard's popularity during the 1970s, his Basic Youth Conflicts seminar was regularly filling auditoriums throughout the United States and beyond with attendance figures as large as ten thousand and more for a one-week seminar. (from Wikipedia)

I attended Bill Gothard's Basic Youth Conflicts seminar when I served in the USAF when stationed in Sacramento, CA., circa 1972. I probably didn't get as much out of it as I should have because I felt I was forced to attend the seminar by the Navigator leadership, the non-denominational Christian fellowship that led me to Christ. I didn't always agree with what Bill Gothard was teaching. I was deceived then by Pentecostal pastors who told me I didn't need to study the Bible as much as the Navigators told me to study it or memorize so many Scriptures as the Navigators encouraged me to memorize. The Pentecostals told me all I needed was the infilling of the Holy Spirit. This supposed shortcut to spirituality was in *direct contradiction* to what the Navigators were telling me, namely, there is no shortcut! I rejected the Navigator's view of how to grow spiritually the time, but guess what? After a couple of decades of the school of hard knocks, I learned the Navigators and Bill Gothard were right. It was only through decades of Bible study, Scripture memorization, listening to the right people, experience, and guidance of the Holy Spirit that I came to know I know today.

The Scripture that comes to mind about this subject is what Jesus told His disciples.

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: *the words* that

I speak unto you, *they are spirit*, and they are life. – John 6:63

The Lord blessed Bill Gothard with good health. At the time of this post, he's 89 years old.

Hurt has got to be one of our major problems today. You can get hurt so badly that you cut yourself off from feeling altogether. I've met girls who've said, "Hey, I've been hurt too many times. I'm never going to love anybody again. Forget it." So you get hard and cynical. That's one way people deal with pain—they just withdraw themselves so that they won't be hurt again. But when you come to Jesus, God heals your heart and He takes the cynicism out of your life. You can once again open your heart to others and love again.

Even Christians can get hurt. It's not wrong to be hurt, but the way you deal with your hurt makes all the difference in the World. Being hurt is a big enough problem in itself, but if that hurt is not handled in the right way, bitterness will set in. In the end it is bitterness, not "being hurt," that will destroy you.

RECOGNIZING BITTERNESS

It is really not that complicated to recognize bitterness. Let's think of some of the characteristics of an extremely bitter person:

1. They show a lack of concern for others. A bitter person cares very little about anybody else.
2. They're sensitive and touchy. For instance, if a bitter person walks into a room where two other people are talking, and those people get quieter as he walks in, the bitter person thinks, "They're talking about me."
3. They become very possessive with just a few friends, and rarely ever have any really close friends. They also have an unnatural fear of losing their friends.
4. They tend to avoid meeting new people.
5. They show little or no gratitude at all.
6. They will usually speak words of empty flattery or harsh criticism.
7. They hold grudges against people, often for a long time. They find it extremely difficult to forgive.
8. They often have a stubborn or sulking attitude.
9. They are usually unwilling to share or help anybody.
10. They end up experiencing mood extremes—very high and happy one minute, and the next thing you know, they're so low they can reach up and touch bottom.

(Editor's note: Although these symptoms often indicate bitteresses, they can also result from other causes as well.)

BITTERNESS: THE SEED OF HELL

One of the bad things about bitterness is that it doesn't stop. It keeps getting worse. It may only start as a little seed of hurt, but then it grows and festers into a very dangerous thing. Many people can be hurt by one person's bitterness. (See Heb.12:15 .)

THE “FILING CABINET OF YOUR MIND”

In bitterness, you focus on what that “horrible person” has done to you. You make a filing cabinet with their name on it, saying, “Rotten Things This Person Has Done To Me.” Now this is a big filing cabinet, and every time that person does even the smallest thing that hurts or bothers you, you file it in with the rest of the hurts. Usually we have more than one filing cabinet.

One of the causes of continual or persistent bitterness is that we try to balance out the guilt with blame. We say, “Well, I’m wrong, but they’re worse. I have a good reason to be bitter. You don’t know what they did to me!” That’s how we try to ease our conscience.

Many people use bitterness for revenge. That’s why we hold on to it sometimes. “I’ll show you, and you’re really going to be sorry.” But who is sorry first? You’re the one who’s killing yourself! You are not only hurt spiritually and emotionally, but physically as well. Bitterness and resentment often bring on all sorts of medical problems, such as ulcers and high blood pressure. People who carry deep bitterness around can’t even enjoy a great meal. They sit down to eat, but all they can think of is the person who hurt them—they might as well be eating cardboard.

GETTING OUT OF THE BITTERNESS TRAP

The Lord’s Prayer says, “God, You forgive me the way I forgive others.” The thing that causes hurt to develop into bitterness is failing to respond to the help God can give at that time of being hurt. To forgive someone doesn’t mean pretending you’re not hurt. That isn’t Christianity—that’s insanity. You need to be honest with yourself and admit that you’ve really been hurt. But how do we overcome our hurts? Here are some basic steps.

Pray, and ask God to forgive you for your bitterness and unforgiving spirit. This is not a complicated thing, but it may be costly. You may need a bit of time on your own. Take time to actually write a list of how you have hurt God and others, and let the Lord break you. Ask God’s forgiveness for these things one by one.—And when you get finished, take the list and rip it up. It’s a good feeling. Burn it if you like.

Destroy your files. Remember that list of things that others have done to hurt you? Open the filing cabinets of your mind, take out all the files, and get rid of them. Tear up your list and burn it. You must release it all to God. Forgiveness is opening the filing cabinet before God and clearing the debts. “I’m not going to hold this against them anymore. I’m not even going to keep a record of it.” No record. That’s what God does with you. Do you want Him to remember and recall all the debts He has cleared you of? Of course not, so you do the same. The Bible says, “For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.”—Mat.6:14,15 . It’s a choice you must make in response to God’s offer of forgiveness to you. What will you do?

Bitterness: Weeding Out the Poisonous Root



—BY Jim Henry

I read this article long ago some in the 1980s. It helped me greatly to overcome the grudges and bitterness I used to have toward various people for their perceived wrongs against me. If you have bitterness in your heart toward anyone, I urge you to read it! When I was bitter toward a person, it was like a spiritual acid in my soul. I learned over time to forgive others as Christ has forgiven me. I've realized how sinful I have been in the past in my attitudes words and deeds toward some people, and knowing that humbles me greatly. I can say now by God's grace I'm free from the past and have my eyes only on the present and future, praise God!

I'm not sure who the author of this article, Jim Henry is. There's a Baptist pastor by that name. It could be him.

Bitterness is that hateful, spiteful sourness in the heart that creeps in when you have been, or think you have been, maliciously wronged. I looked up the word in a dictionary, and it was defined as a sharpness affecting the taste, the feelings, or the mind. It comes from an old English word that meant "sharpness to the taste."

If you've ever had a difficult experience with someone who made you mad, and you resented it, held on to it—you know how bad it tasted spiritually, and in your mind it raised hateful feelings and thoughts. That is bitterness, and God's Word has something to say about it.

RECOGNIZING BITTERNESS

How does bitterness show itself?—In at least three ways.

One kind of bitterness is directed against God. You can become bitter against God in the loss of a loved one, when a friend swindles you out of money, when the boss passes you over for a promotion you really deserved and gives it to someone else, or when your husband walks off and leaves you for another woman.

You are angry, and you say, "Lord, if You love me so much, why did this happen? If You answer prayer, why didn't You answer mine? Either You are not

powerful enough, or You didn't care enough. Either way, I am angry with You!"

A second kind of bitterness is against other people. It can be there in a child who decides to rebel against his parents, to run away from home because he believes they are unfair to him. It can be there in a wife who says, "I'll have a nervous breakdown if my husband keeps treating me like this, and I'll get even with him."

It might be a person who says, "OK, if I forgive them for what they did to me, that wouldn't be fair. They don't deserve to be forgiven. I'm going to carry this a little longer and maybe somehow along the way they'll see what it has done to me, and something will happen to them."

You and I cannot afford the luxury of holding on to bitterness and resentment against others, because it only becomes the root of other problems.

Your bitterness can also be directed against yourself, and show itself in an inability to forgive yourself, even though God has forgiven you. You carry that load until you say, "I deserved it, but I'm strong enough to take it, and I'll just carry this thing and deal with it myself." Self-centered pride latches onto your heart and you refuse the forgiveness of God and others.

This can also cause you to live in self-pity. You say, "OK, I deserve this. God's trying to punish me. I shouldn't have done this or that, and now I deserve what I'm getting, and I'm just going to have to be a martyr and carry it." So you trudge along in life nursing bitter resentment and a grudge against God or someone else. You carry it until you make life miserable for yourself and everyone around you. Why? Because you never dealt with your bitterness. The Bible says, "Watch out for such bitterness!" ("Look diligently"— Heb.12:15 .)

BITTERNESS BEGINS UNSEEN

Not only am I to "look diligently" for bitterness, but because it may be unseen, I may not be aware of it; and being unaware of it, I may be especially liable to its danger.

Look what the Scripture says: "See to it that no one misses the grace of God, that no bitter root grows up..." Now, where is a root? Usually under the ground. You don't see it, but it's there. I have some weeds in my yard, growing through everything—even bricks! There are roots down there somewhere. They cause weeds to grow, whether there's shade or sunshine—I can't get rid of them. I don't see the roots, but the evidence is everywhere.

Bitterness can be an unseen enemy, growing like a tumor in your mind and in your spirit. The Bible says we should look out for it. Just because we don't see it, doesn't mean it's not there.

Bitterness is the unharvested fruit of anger, and in time it will show itself. As Numbers 32:23 says, "Be sure that your sin will find you out."

BITTERNESS SPRINGS UP & CAUSES TROUBLE

The Bible warns that the root of bitterness will spring up, and when it does, what does it do? Cause good things to happen? No! Cause joy? No! Cause love? No! Cause peace? No! "See to it...that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble!"

Bitterness, improperly handled, causes trouble—and it does so in at least two ways.

First, it causes physical problems. In his book "None of These Diseases," S. I. McMillan says, "Anger, unhandled, will show itself in at least 50 diseases."

Dr. Norman Wright, a professor of psychology at Biola University and a Christian writer, agrees with McMillan. God has constructed us, says Dr. Wright, with a tube about 30 feet long that begins at our throat and runs to our rectum (the alimentary canal). That long tube, disturbed by bitterness and anger, produces things like colitis, diarrhea and ulcers. (Editor's note: Of course, such ailments often result from many other causes besides bitterness or anger.) When we are angry and do not handle it properly, there are physical consequences.

Bitterness can also show itself in our mental condition. Bitterness is really displaced anger. We can be angry at other things, other people and other objects, not knowing it comes from bitterness. All our energy and mind are set in an anger-mode, and we're affected mentally. There is no joy, no creativity, no positive power flowing through our lives because there is resentment there.

We are also affected spiritually when bitterness is not resolved. How? By an inability to accept God's Love. It can cause you to doubt your relationship to God. Ray Burke has written a book called Anger-Diffusing the Bomb, and in it he says that each time he dealt with those who doubted God's Love for them, somewhere along the line he discovered they harbored bitterness against God, themselves, or someone else. When this bitterness was dealt with and resolved, their ability to accept God's Love and forgiveness returned.

HOW DO WE OVERCOME BITTERNESS?

The good news is that anyone can overcome a bitter spirit. God encourages us to deal with it. He says in Ephesians 4:31, "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger..."

The Bible is so practical and clear that if we take what God teaches us about overcoming bitterness and apply it, we can be free of the bondage of bitterness.

BITTERNESS TOWARD GOD

Begin by dealing with any bitterness toward God. The following steps may help.

First, trust God's wisdom. This doesn't mean you should believe that everything that happens on Earth is good. Sin is in the World. Satan is still the prince of the air. Yet I must believe that God allows things to happen that He may not like, and which we may not like. But in His wisdom, somewhere down the line, God will turn it around for good for His children, according to His promise in Romans 8:28 .

Second, I have to ask God what He's trying to teach me through this. The Bible says we're the disciples of Jesus. What is a disciple?—A learner. The Bible says the Father is the teacher, and we are disciples. We are learners. The experiences of life are teaching experiences. Sometimes we are so anxious to get to our destination that we forget how much joy can be ours along the way. When bitterness comes and you are tempted to be angry with God, ask Him what He is trying to teach you.

Third, apply one of God's promises to your situation.

Fourth, reject self-pity. Have you ever been a victim of the "Poor Me Syndrome"? Perhaps you know someone else who always seems to be saying, "Poor me, just look what's happened to me." No one likes being around such a sad-sack for very long, because it's no fun. So don't get into that syndrome.

Fifth, put time into proper perspective. Every difficult experience you may be dealing with now, circumstances that tend to make you angry and bitter, will in time pass away.

Sixth, be quick to give thanks. I've learned a little chorus recently, and I start singing it almost from the time I wake up in the morning: "It's amazing what praising can do." The song goes:

It doesn't matter when things go wrong,
Jesus fills my heart with a song.
It's amazing what praising can do.

You can't be bitter against God and praise Him at the same time. You can't be blessing Him while you're also shaking your fist at Him. So the Bible says, "In all things, give thanks."— 1Th.5:18 . Learn to give thanks unto the Lord and praise His Name, and it's really amazing what praising can do.

BITTERNESS TOWARD YOURSELF

Many times we get angry with ourselves. It shows up in many forms—we feel rejected, we wallow in self-pity, and our self-image is poor.

It may be because of some sin or failure of yesteryear, something that, if we had it to do all over again, we wouldn't do for a million dollars; but we did do it, and we're having trouble forgiving ourselves.

How do I deal with that?

I begin by confessing my sin to the Lord, and believing His promise: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"— 1Jn.1:9 . Then once I know God has

forgiven me, I can forgive myself.

BITTERNESS TOWARD OTHERS

How do you deal with bitterness against others? One thing you must do is to keep your anger temporary. In Ephesians 4:26 God tells us we should not let the sun go down on our anger. If you're mad at somebody today, you should get it settled before the sun goes down. If it goes down and you don't deal with it, it will simmer all night, and tomorrow there's a good chance you'll be twice as angry and bitter about it as you are today. Washington Irving said that a tart temper is the only thing that doesn't mellow with age. So deal with your anger before the sun goes down. Keep a short account.

Another crucial area is the tongue. The Bible reminds us that though the tongue is a little instrument, it causes a lot of problems. You can't get into trouble for something you didn't say. That's why it's so often best to mentally stamp "N.C." on things you hear or observe. Do you know what that is? "No Comment." You can keep out of trouble that way. Watch your words. A sharp tongue is a tool that grows keener with use. Watch it.

We can also pursue peace. "Make every effort to live in peace with all men."—Heb.12:14 . "Seek peace and pursue it."— 1Pet.3:11 . We must chase after peace, like a dog after a fox! Go for it! In Philippians 4:5 we are commanded, "Let your gentleness be evident to all." Be gentle—not to most people, or to some, but to all of them. Live gently. Pursue peace.

Also, if you know someone is harboring anger, hurt or bitterness towards you because of some wrongdoing on your part, you can take the positive step of initiating reconciliation. In Matthew 5:23-24 , Jesus says that if you come to Him with your offering in hand, and then remember that a brother has something against you, leave your offering, go to your brother, and make your offering after you're reconciled with your brother. So the Lord not only tells us to go to others when we're bitter or unforgiving towards them, but He covers both angles and also tells us to go to those who are bitter or angry towards us.

There's something else: Forgive and forget. How can you forget something negative that's stuck in your mind? The Bible says God remembers our sins no more. So how can God forget something when He is omniscient? How can He know everything and still forget? Here's the secret: When you forgive and forget, the forgetting means that you, like God, don't hold that wrongdoing to the offender's account. God forgets the charge against us; He remembers it no more. Oh, He knows about it, just as you do, but He will never bring it up again. That's what we are to do. Don't fish in the pond of history. Leave it there.

Sometimes we are like the man who came running into the office of a marriage counsellor. "Sir, you've got to do something about my wife. Hurry! She's historical, she's historical!" The counselor said, "Now, wait a minute. You mean she's hysterical." He said, "No! She's historical! She's bringing up everything from the past!"

Some people can go back and reel off in chronological order everything that a person has done against them during their entire relationship. If you forgive a person, forget their offenses and never bring them up again. Don't dwell in the past and don't let the past dwell in you.

Robert E. Lee, after the Civil War, visited a home in Kentucky. The lady of the house pointed to a limbless, battered tree trunk standing on the front lawn, and said, "Before the Union army came through here, that was a beautiful, magnificent magnolia tree. Then they blasted it with their artillery, and that's all that's left. What do you think about that?"

She expected the general to sympathize with her and criticize the Union Army. But instead, he looked at her and said one sentence: "Cut it down and forget it."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you have some trees of bitterness standing in your life? Bitterness toward God? Toward others? Toward yourself? Cut them down and forget them.

Resolve to deal with your bitter spirit. "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."— Eph.4:31-32 .

[The Excellency of Christ Part III By Jonathan Edwards](#)



Continued from [part II](#).

I would now show how the aforesaid teaching is of benefit to us, in that

- A) it gives us insight into the names of Christ in Scripture,
- B) it encourages us to accept him as our Savior,
- C) it encourages us to accept him as our Friend.

A) From this doctrine we may learn one reason why Christ is called by such a

variety of names, and held forth under such a variety of representations, in Scripture. It is the better to signify and exhibit to us that variety of excellencies that meet together and are conjoined in him. Many appellations are mentioned together in one verse Isaiah 9:6.

"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

It shows a wonderful conjunction of excellencies, that the same person should be a Son, born and given, and yet be the everlasting Father, without beginning or end, that he should be a Child, and yet be he whose name is Counsellor, and the mighty God; and well may his name, in whom such things are conjoined, be called wonderful.

By reason of the same wonderful conjunction, Christ is represented by a great variety of sensible things, that are on some account excellent. Thus in some places he is called a Sun, as Mal. 4:2, in others a Star, Numb. 24:17. And he is especially represented by the Morning star, as being that which excels all other stars in brightness, and is the forerunner of the day, Rev. 22:16. And, as in our text, he is compared to a lion in one verse, and a lamb in the next, so sometimes he is compared to a roe or young hart, another creature most diverse from a lion. So in some places he is called a rock, in others he is compared to a pearl. In some places he is called a man of war, and the Captain of our Salvation, in other places he is represented as a bridegroom. In the second chapter of Canticles, the first verse, he is compared to a rose and a lily, that are sweet and beautiful flowers; in the next verse but one, he is compared to a tree bearing sweet fruit. In Isaiah 53:2 he is called a Root out of a dry ground; but elsewhere, instead of that, he is called the Tree of Life, that grows (not in a dry or barren ground, but) " in the midst of the paradise of God." Rev. 2:7.

B) Let the consideration of this wonderful meeting of diverse excellencies in Christ induce you to accept of him, and close with him as your Savior. As all manner of excellencies meet in him, so there are concurring in him all manner of arguments and motives, to move you to choose him for your Savior, and every thing that tends to encourage poor sinners to come and put their trust in him: his fullness and all-sufficiency as a Savior gloriously appear in that variety of excellencies that has been spoken of. Fallen man is in a state of exceeding great misery, and is helpless in it; he is a poor weak creature, like an infant cast out in its blood in the day that it is born. But Christ is the lion of the tribe of Judah; he is strong, though we are weak; he hath prevailed to do that for us which no creature else could do. Fallen man is a mean despicable creature, a contemptible worm; but Christ, who has undertaken for us, is infinitely honorable and worthy. Fallen man is polluted, but Christ is infinitely holy; fallen man is hateful, but Christ is infinitely lovely; fallen man is the object of God's indignation, but Christ is infinitely dear to him. We have dreadfully provoked God, but Christ has performed that righteousness which is infinitely precious in God's eyes.

And here is not only infinite strength and infinite worthiness, but infinite condescension, and love and mercy, as great as power and dignity. If you are

a poor, distressed sinner, whose heart is ready to sink for fear that God never will have mercy on you, you need not be afraid to go to Christ, for fear that he is either unable or unwilling to help you. Here is a strong foundation, and an inexhaustible treasure, to answer the necessities of your poor soul, and here is infinite grace and gentleness to invite and embolden a poor, unworthy, fearful soul to come to it. If Christ accepts of you, you need not fear but that you will be safe, for he is a strong Lion for your defense. And if you come, you need not fear but that you shall be accepted; for he is like a Lamb to all that come to him, and receives them with infinite grace and tenderness. It is true he has awful majesty, he is the great God, and infinitely high above you; but there is this to encourage and embolden the poor sinner, that Christ is man as well as God; he is a creature, as well as the Creator, and he is the most humble and lowly in heart of any creature in heaven or earth. This may well make the poor unworthy creature bold in coming to him. You need not hesitate one moment; but may run to him, and cast yourself upon him. You will certainly be graciously and meekly received by him. Though he is a lion, he will only be a lion to your enemies, but he will be a lamb to you. It could not have been conceived, had it not been so in the person of Christ, that there could have been so much in any Savior, that is inviting and tending to encourage sinners to trust in him. Whatever your circumstances are, you need not be afraid to come to such a Savior as this. Be you never so wicked a creature, here is worthiness enough; be you never so poor, and mean, and ignorant a creature, there is no danger of being despised, for though he be so much greater than you, he is also immensely more humble than you. Any one of you that is a father or mother, will not despise one of your own children that comes to you in distress: much less danger is there of Christ's despising you, if you in your heart come to him.

Here let me a little expostulate with the poor, burdened, distressed soul.

1. What are you afraid of, that you dare not venture your soul upon Christ? Are you afraid that he cannot save you, that he is not strong enough to conquer the enemies of your soul? But how can you desire one stronger than "the almighty God"? as Christ is called, Isa. 9:6. Is there need of greater than infinite strength? Are you afraid that he will not be willing to stoop so low as to take any gracious notice of you? But then, look on him, as he stood in the ring of soldiers, exposing his blessed face to be buffeted and spit upon by them! Behold him bound with his back uncovered to those that smote him! And behold him hanging on the cross! Do you think that he that had condescension enough to stoop to these things, and that for his crucifiers, will be unwilling to accept of you, if you come to him? Or, are you afraid that if he does accept you, that God the Father will not accept of him for you? But consider, will God reject his own Son, in whom his infinite delight is, and has been, from all eternity, and who is so united to him, that if he should reject him he would reject himself?

2. What is there that you can desire should be in a Savior, that is not in Christ? Or, wherein should you desire a Savior should be otherwise than Christ is? What excellency is there wanting? What is there that is great or good; what is there that is venerable or winning; what is there that is

adorable or endearing; or, what can you think of that would be encouraging, which is not to be found in the person of Christ? Would you have your Savior to be great and honorable, because you are not willing to be beholden to a mean person? And, is not Christ a person honorable enough to be worthy that you should be dependent on him? Is he not a person high enough to be appointed to so honorable a work as your salvation? Would you not only have a Savior of high degree, but would you have him, notwithstanding his exaltation and dignity, to be made also of low degree, that he might have experience of afflictions and trials, that he might learn by the things that he has suffered, to pity them that suffer and are tempted? And has not Christ been made low enough for you? and has he not suffered enough? Would you not only have him possess experience of the afflictions you now suffer, but also of that amazing wrath that you fear hereafter, that he may know how to pity those that are in danger, and afraid of it? This Christ has had experience of, which experience gave him a greater sense of it, a thousand times, than you have, or any man living has. Would you have your Savior to be one who is near to God, that so his mediation might be prevalent with him? And can you desire him to be nearer to God than Christ is, who is his only-begotten Son, of the same essence with the Father? And would you not only have him near to God, but also near to you, that you may have free access to him? And would you have him nearer to you than to be in the same nature, united to you by a spiritual union, so close as to be fitly represented by the union of the wife to the husband, of the branch to the vine, of the member to the head; yea, so as to be one spirit? For so he will be united to you, if you accept of him. Would you have a Savior that has given some great and extraordinary testimony of mercy and love to sinners, by something that he has done, as well as by what he says? And can you think or conceive of greater things than Christ has done? Was it not a great thing for him, who was God, to take upon him human nature: to be not only God, but man thenceforward to all eternity? But would you look upon suffering for sinners to be a yet greater testimony of love to sinners, than merely doing, though it be ever so extraordinary a thing that he has done? And would you desire that a Savior should suffer more than Christ has suffered for sinners? What is there wanting, or what would you add if you could, to make him more fit to be your Savior?

But further, to induce you to accept of Christ as your Savior, consider two things particularly.

3. How much Christ appears as the Lamb of God in his invitations to you to come to him and trust in him. With what sweet grace and kindness does he, from time to time, call and invite you, as Prov. 8:4. "Unto you, O men, I call, and my voice is to the sons of men." And Isaiah 55:1-3 "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money, come ye, buy and eat— yea come, buy wine and milk without money, and without price." How gracious is he here in inviting every one that thirsts, and in so repeating his invitation over and over, "Come ye to the waters, come, buy and eat — yea come!" Mark the excellency of that entertainment which he invites you to accept of; "Come, buy wine and milk!" your poverty, having nothing to pay for it, shall be no objection, "Come, he that hath no money, come without money, and without price!" What gracious arguments and exhortations he uses with you! "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which

is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfieth not? Hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness." As much as to say, It is altogether needless for you to continue laboring and toiling for that which can never serve your turn, seeking rest in the world, and in your own righteousness – I have made abundant provision for you, of that which is really good, and will fully satisfy your desires, and answer your end, and I stand ready to accept of you: you need not be afraid; If you will come to me, I will engage to see all your wants supplied, and you made a happy creature. As he promises in the third verse, " Incline your ear, and come unto me: Hear, and your soul shall live, and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David." And so Prov. 9 at the beginning. How gracious and sweet is the invitation there! " Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither;" let you be never so poor, ignorant, and blind a creature, you shall be welcome. And in the following words Christ sets forth the provision that he has made for you, " Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled." You are in a poor famishing state, and have nothing wherewith to feed your perishing soul; you have been seeking something, but yet remain destitute. Hearken, how Christ calls you to eat of his bread, and to drink of the wine that he hath mingled! And how much like a lamb does Christ appear in Matt. 9:28 30. " Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest to your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." O thou poor distressed soul! whoever thou art, consider that Christ mentions thy very case when he calls to them who labor and are heavy laden! How he repeatedly promises you rest if you come to him! In the 28th verse he says, " I will give you rest." And in the 29th verse, " Ye shall find rest to your souls." This is what you want. This is the thing you have been so long in vain seeking after. O how sweet would rest be to you, if you could but obtain it! Come to Christ, and you shall obtain it. And hear how Christ, to encourage you, represents himself as a lamb! He tells you, that he is meek and lowly in heart, and are you afraid to come to such a one! And again, Rev. 3:20. " Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and I will sup with him and he with me." Christ condescends not only to call you to him, but he comes to you; he comes to your door, and there knocks. He might send an officer and seize you as a rebel and vile malefactor, but instead of that, he comes and knocks at your door, and seeks that you would receive him into your house, as your Friend and Savior. And he not only knocks at your door, but he stands there waiting, while you are backward and unwilling. And not only so, but he makes promises what he will do for you, if you will admit him, what privileges he will admit you to; he will sup with you, and you with him. And again, Rev. 22:16,17. " I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth, say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will let him take of the water of life freely." How does Christ here graciously set before you his own winning attractive excellency! And how does he condescend to declare to you not only his own invitation, but the invitation of the Spirit and the bride, if by any means he might encourage you to come! And how does he invite every one that will, that they may " take of the water of life freely," that they may take it as a free gift, however precious it be, and

though it be the Water of life.

4. If you do come to Christ, he will appear as a Lion, in his glorious power and dominion, to defend you. All those excellencies of his, in which he appears as a lion, shall be yours, and shall be employed for you in your defense, for your safety, and to promote your glory, he will be as a lion to fight against your enemies. He that touches you, or offends you, will provoke his wrath, as he that stirs up a lion. Unless your enemies can conquer this Lion, they shall not be able to destroy or hurt you; unless they are stronger than he, they shall not be able to hinder your happiness. Isaiah 31:4. " For thus hath the Lord spoken unto me, Like as the lion and the young lion roaring on his prey, when a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him, he will not be afraid of their voice, nor abase himself for the noise of them; so shall the Lord of hosts come down to fight for mount Zion, and for the hill thereof."

C) Let what has been said be improved to induce you to love the Lord Jesus Christ, and choose him for your friend and portion. As there is such an admirable meeting of diverse excellencies in Christ, so there is every thing in him to render him worthy of your love and choice, and to win and engage it. Whatsoever there is or can be desirable in a friend, is in Christ, and that to the highest degree that can be desired.

Would you choose for a friend a person of great dignity? It is a thing taking with men to have those for their friends who are much above them; because they look upon themselves honored by the friendship of such. Thus, how taking would it be with an inferior maid to be the object of the dear love of some great and excellent prince. But Christ is infinitely above you, and above all the princes of the earth; for he is the King of kings. So honorable a person as this offers himself to you, in the nearest and dearest friendship.

And would you choose to have a friend not only great but good? In Christ infinite greatness and infinite goodness meet together, and receive lustre and glory one from another. His greatness is rendered lovely by his goodness. The greater any one is without goodness, so much the greater evil; but when infinite goodness is joined with greatness, it renders it a glorious and adorable greatness. So, on the other hand, his infinite goodness receives lustre from his greatness. He that is of great understanding and ability, and is withal of a good and excellent disposition, is deservedly more esteemed than a lower and lesser being with the same kind inclination and good will. Indeed goodness is excellent in whatever subject it be found; it is beauty and excellency itself, and renders all excellent that are possessed of it; and yet most excellent when joined with greatness. The very same excellent qualities of gold render the body in which they are inherent more precious, and of greater value, when joined with greater than when with lesser dimensions. And how glorious is the sight, to see him who is the great Creator and supreme Lord of heaven and earth, full of condescension, tender pity and mercy, towards the mean and unworthy! His almighty power, and infinite majesty and self- sufficiency, render his exceeding love and grace the more surprising And how do his condescension and compassion endear his majesty, power, and dominion, and render those attributes pleasant, that would otherwise be only terrible! Would you not desire that your friend,

though great and honorable, should be of such condescension and grace, and so to have the way opened to free access to him, that his exaltation above you might not hinder your free enjoyment of his friendship? – And would you choose not only that the infinite greatness and majesty of your friend should be, as it were, mollified and sweetened with condescension and grace; but would you also desire to have your friend brought nearer to you? Would you choose a friend far above you, and yet as it were upon a level with you too? Though it be taking with men to have a near and dear friend of superior dignity, yet there is also an inclination in them to have their friend a sharer with them in circumstances. Thus is Christ. Though he be the great God, yet he has, as it were, brought himself down to be upon a level with you, so as to become man as you are that he might not only be your Lord, but your brother, and that he might be the more fit to be a companion for such a worm of the dust. This is one end of Christ's taking upon him man's nature, that his people might be under advantages for a more familiar converse with him than the infinite distance of the divine nature would allow of. And upon this account the church longed for Christ's incarnation, Cant. 8:1. "O that thou wert my brother that sucked the breast of my mother! when I should find thee without, I would kiss thee, yea, I should not be despised." One design of God in the gospel is to bring us to make God the object of our undivided respect, that he may engross our regard every way, that whatever natural inclination there is in our souls, he may be the centre of it; that God may be all in all. But there is an inclination in the creature, not only to the adoration of a Lord and Sovereign, but to complacence in some one as a friend, to love and delight in some one that may be conversed with as a companion. And virtue and holiness do not destroy or weaken this inclination of our nature. But so hath God contrived in the affair of our redemption, that a divine person may be the object even of this inclination of our nature. And in order hereto, such a one is come down to us, and has taken our nature, and is become one of us, and calls himself our friend, brother, and companion. Psalm 122:8. "For my brethren and companions' sake, will I now say, Peace be within thee."

But is it not enough in order to invite and encourage you to free access to a friend so great and high, that he is one of infinite condescending grace, and also has taken your own nature, and is become man? But would you, further to embolden and win you, have him a man of wonderful meekness and humility? Why, such a one is Christ! He is not only become man for you, but far the meekest and most humble of all men, the greatest instance of these sweet virtues that ever was, or will be. And besides these, he has all other human excellencies in the highest perfection. These, indeed, are no proper addition to his divine excellencies. Christ has no more excellency in his person, since his incarnation, than he had before; for divine excellency is infinite, and cannot be added to. Yet his human excellencies are additional manifestations of his glory and excellency to us, and are additional recommendations of him to our esteem and love, who are of finite comprehension. Though his human excellencies are but communications and reflections of his divine, and though this light, as reflected, falls infinitely short of the divine fountain of light in its immediate glory; yet the reflection shines not without its proper advantages, as presented to our view and affection. The glory of Christ in the qualifications of his human nature, appears to us in

excellencies that are of our own kind, and are exercised in our own way and manner, and so, in some respect, are peculiarly fitted to invite our acquaintance and draw our affection. The glory of Christ as it appears in his divinity, though far brighter, more dazzles our eyes, and exceeds the strength of our sight or our comprehension; but, as it shines in the human excellencies of Christ, it is brought more to a level with our conceptions, and suitableness to our nature and manner, yet retaining a semblance of the same divine beauty, and a savor of the same divine sweetness. But as both divine and human excellencies meet together in Christ, they set off and recommend each other to us. It tends to endear the divine majesty and holiness of Christ to us, that these are attributes of one in our nature, one of us, who is become our brother, and is the meekest and humblest of men. It encourages us to look upon these divine perfections, however high and great; since we have some near concern in and liberty freely to enjoy them. And on the other hand, how much more glorious and surprising do the meekness, the humility, obedience, resignation, and other human excellencies of Christ appear, when we consider that they are in so great a person, as the eternal Son of God, the Lord of heaven and earth!

By your choosing Christ for your friend and portion, you will obtain these two infinite benefits.

5. Christ will give himself to you, with all those various excellencies that meet in him, to your full and everlasting enjoyment. He will ever after treat you as his dear friend; and you shall ere long be where he is, and shall behold his glory, and dwell with him, in most free and intimate communion and enjoyment.

When the saints get to heaven, they shall not merely see Christ, and have to do with him as subjects and servants with a glorious and gracious Lord and Sovereign, but Christ will entertain them as friends and brethren. This we may learn from the manner of Christ's conversing with his disciples here on earth: though he was their Sovereign Lord, and did not refuse, but required, their supreme respect and adoration, yet he did not treat them as earthly sovereigns are wont to do their subjects. He did not keep them at an awful distance, but all along conversed with them with the most friendly familiarity, as a father amongst a company of children, yea, as with brethren. So he did with the twelve, and so he did with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. He told his disciples, that he did not call them servants, but friends, and we read of one of them that leaned on his bosom: and doubtless he will not treat his disciples with less freedom and endearment in heaven. He will not keep them at a greater distance for his being in a state of exaltation; but he will rather take them into a state of exaltation with him. This will be the improvement Christ will make of his own glory, to make his beloved friends partakers with him, to glorify them in his glory, as he says to his Father, John 17:22, 23. " And the glory which thou hast given me, have I given them, that they may be one, even as we are one I in them" etc. We are to consider, that though Christ is greatly exalted, yet he is exalted, not as a private person for himself only, but as his people's head; he is exalted in their name, and upon their account, as the first fruits, and as representing the whole harvest. He is not exalted that he may be at a greater distance

from them, but that they may be exalted with him. The exaltation and honor of the head is not to make a greater distance between the head and the members, but the members have the same relation and union with the head they had before, and are honored with the head; and instead of the distance being greater, the union shall be nearer and more perfect. When believers get to heaven, Christ will conform them to himself, as he is set down in his Father's throne, so they shall sit down with him on his throne, and shall in their measure be made like him.

When Christ was going to heaven, he comforted his disciples with the thought, that after a while, he would come again and take them to himself, that they might be with him. And we are not to suppose that when the disciples got to heaven, they found him keeping a greater distance than he used to do. No, doubtless, he embraced them as friends, and welcomed them to his and their Father's house, and to his and their glory. They who had been his friends in this world, who had been together with him here, and had together partaken of sorrows and troubles, are now welcomed by him to rest, and to partake of glory with him. He took them and led them into his chambers, and showed them all his glory; as he prayed, John 17:24. "Father, I will that they also whom thou hast given me, be with me, that they may behold the glory which thou hast given me." And he led them to his living fountains of waters, and made them partake of his delights, as he prays John 17:13. "That my joy may be fulfilled in themselves," and set them down with him at his table in his kingdom, and made them partake with him of his dainties, according to his promise, Luke 22:30, and led them into his banqueting house, and made them to drink new wine with him in the kingdom of his heavenly Father, as he foretold them when he instituted the Lord's supper, Matt. 26:29.

Yea the saints' conversation with Christ in heaven shall not only be as intimate, and their access to him as free, as of the disciples on earth, but in many respects much more so; for in heaven, that vital union shall be perfect, which is exceeding imperfect here. While the saints are in this world, there are great remains of sin and darkness to separate or disunite them from Christ, which shall then all be removed. This is not a time for that full acquaintance, and those glorious manifestations of love, which Christ designs for his people hereafter; which seems to be signified by his speech to Mary Magdalene, when ready to embrace him, when she met him after his resurrection; John 20:17. "Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father."

When the saints shall see Christ's glory and exaltation in heaven, it will indeed possess their hearts with the greater admiration and adoring respect, but it will not awe them into any separation, but will serve only to heighten their surprise and joy, when they find Christ condescending to admit them to such intimate access, and so freely and fully communicating himself to them. So that if we choose Christ for our friend and portion, we shall hereafter be so received to him, that there shall be nothing to hinder the fullest enjoyment of him, to the satisfying the utmost cravings of our souls. We may take our full swing at gratifying our spiritual appetite after these holy pleasures. Christ will then say, as in Cant. 5:1. "Eat, O friends, drink, yea, drink abundantly O beloved." And this shall be our entertainment to all

eternity! There shall never be any end of this happiness, or any thing to interrupt our enjoyment of it, or in the least to molest us in it!

6. By your being united to Christ, you will have a more glorious union with and enjoyment of God the Father, than otherwise could be. For hereby the saints' relation to God becomes much nearer; they are the children of God in a higher manner than otherwise could be. For, being members of God's own Son, they are in a sort partakers of his relation to the Father: they are not only sons of God by regeneration, but by a kind of communion in the sonship of the eternal Son. This seems to be intended, Gal. 4:4-6. " God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that are under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father." The church is the daughter of God not only as he hath begotten her by his word and Spirit but as she is the spouse of his eternal Son.

So we being members of the Son, are partakers in our measure of the Father's love to the Son, and complacence in him. John 17:23. " I in them, and thou in me, – Thou hast loved them as thou hast loved me." And ver. 26. " That the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them." And chap. 16:27. " The Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God." So we shall, according to our capacities, be partakers of the Son's enjoyment of God, and have his joy fulfilled in ourselves, John 17:13. And by this means we shall come to an immensely higher, more intimate and full enjoyment of God, than otherwise could have been. For there is doubtless an infinite intimacy between the Father and the Son which is expressed by his being in the bosom of the Father. And saints being in him, shall, in their measure and manner, partake with him in it, and of the blessedness of it.

And thus is the affair of our redemption ordered, that thereby we are brought to an immensely more exalted kind of union with God, and enjoyment of him, both the Father and the Son, than otherwise could have been. For Christ being united to the human nature, we have advantage for a more free and full enjoyment of him, than we could have had if he had remained only in the divine nature. So again, we being united to a divine person, as his members, can have a more intimate union and intercourse with God the Father, who is only in the divine nature, than otherwise could be. Christ, who is a divine person, by taking on him our nature, descends from the infinite distance and height above us, and is brought nigh to us; whereby we have advantage for the full enjoyment of him. And, on the other hand, we, by being in Christ a divine person, do as it were ascend up to God, through the infinite distance, and have hereby advantage for the full enjoyment of him also.

This was the design of Christ, that he, and his Father, and his people, might all be united in one. John 17:21 23. " That they all may be one, as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee – that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou hast given me, I have given them, that they may be one, even as we are one; I in them and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one." Christ has brought it to pass, that those whom the Father has given him should be brought into the household of God, that he and his Father, and his people, should be as one

society, one family; that the church should be as it were admitted into the society of the blessed Trinity.